



Renaissance

Εργασία στο μάθημα των Αγγλικών

Β' τετράμηνο

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Υπεύθυνη καθηγήτρια: Μέντη Γρηγορία

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A brief introduction..

Renaissance was a humanitarian movement between the 15th-16th century in Europe. Born and developed in Italy it soon expanded to the rest European continent. The word <<renaissance>> is of french origin and it means <<rebirth>>. That period was given this title because of its main characteristic, the revival of Classical values, especially from the Greco-Roman Classical world. Many contributions to different fields, the development of sciences and arts as well as new religious and political ideas are what marked this period. After the dark years of Medieval, Europe was finally ready to blossom.



The birth and expansion of the movement

The economic growth of the Italian cities allowed the demonstration of artistic and intellectual activity which was supported by many representatives of great importance. The contribution of the universities led to a new theory about man which became the base of the new world's construction. People tended to break free from their Medieval past and flung themselves into studying the Ancient Greek and Roman language. This phenomenon was named 'Humanism'. The study of the classical world was not something new, however. But it is only in the Renaissance that the ancient values were used for the new world's construction. The invention of typography by Johannes Gutenberg, around 1450, was what drove the Renaissance and Humanism out of Italy's borders, rendered them European movements and fostered the idea of general access to knowledge

Homo Universalis



Firstly developed in Italy and inspired by Leon Battista Alberti's notion that "a man can do all the things if he will" the idea of the Renaissance man embodied the basic tenets of Humanism, which placed man in the centre of the universe and as a result his knowledge and skills had to be advanced as fully as possible. That type of man was named "Homo Universalis". The most significant and most likely the only example of such man was the well-known Leonardo Da Vinci.



The Politics

It was during this period that many important and influential political concepts, such as virtue, liberty, equality, power, republics, kingship, and tyranny began to assume the forms that remain familiar to us today

The most important political leaders of the time were:

Francesco Sforza

Cosimo de Medici

Lorenzo de Medici (Cosimo's grandson who dominated Florence after Cosimo's death)

King Henry VIII (king of England who started the reformation in England)



The Church

During the Renaissance, people increasingly began to see the world from a human-centered perspective. This had a powerful impact upon religion. Increasingly, people were paying more attention to this life rather than the afterlife. Eventually, humanism brought about a spirit of skepticism. This led to the Reformation of Martin Luther which spawned a significant number of changes in the Christian church and Europe in general. The most important representatives in this field were Martin Luther and John Calvin.



Poetry

Poetry in the Renaissance became one of the most valued forms of literature and was often accompanied by music. The poetic forms most commonly employed during this period were the lyric, tragedy, elegy or pastoral. The most important representatives were Andrea Machiavelli, Dante, Geoffrey Chaucer and Christine de Pizan



The Arts



The combined influences of an increased awareness of nature, people's turn to the revival of Classical values and the new theory of the Renaissance man led to the acme of arts (painting, sculpture, architecture, music and literature). The most important artists of the period were Leonardo Da Vinci, Michelangelo, Sandro Botticelli, Raphael and Andrea del Verrocchio.

Leonardo Da Vinci

Leonardo Da Vinci was born on 15 April 1452 near Vinci. He was apprenticed to Andrea del Verrocchio in Florence. After becoming a master in 1478 and moving to Milan in 1483 to work for the Sforza family, he started producing his own paintings. Apart from painting, he also engaged with sculpture, geology, anatomy, engineering, flight, gravity, optics and architecture. He died in Chateau of Cloux on 2 May 1519 leaving back as a heritage a huge collection of theories and paintings the most known of which are: Mona Lisa, The Last Supper, Madonna on the rocks.



Mona Lisa (1503-1506)



The Last Supper



Madonna on the rocks

Michelangelo



Michelangelo Buonarroti was born on 6 March 1475 in Caprese. As a newborn he soon moved to Florence. In 1488 he was apprenticed to Domenico Ghirlandaio. He then lived in the household of Lorenzo de Medici who was the biggest patron of the arts in Florence. In 1496 he settled in Rome. His initial works were sculpture. His popularity rose with his 'Pieta' (1497) and 'David' (1501-1504). Then in 1508-1512 he was commissioned his biggest work, the ceiling of the Sistine Chapel in the Vatican, which was immediately recognised and gave him his so wanted glory. Even though he was his main 'enemy', Michelangelo was greatly influenced by Leonardo Da Vinci. He died on 18 February 1564 in Rome. Throughout his lifetime he contributed to many architectural projects and is now rendered one of the greatest artists of the time. His most famous works are the ceiling of the Sistine Chapel in the Vatican, 'The Last Judgement', 'Pieta' and 'David'



**The Last Judgement
(1537-1541)**

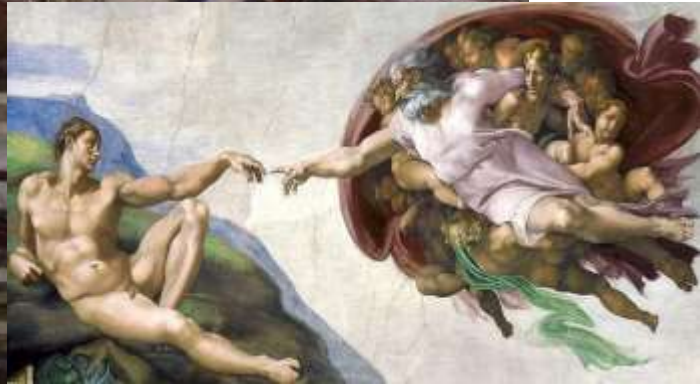
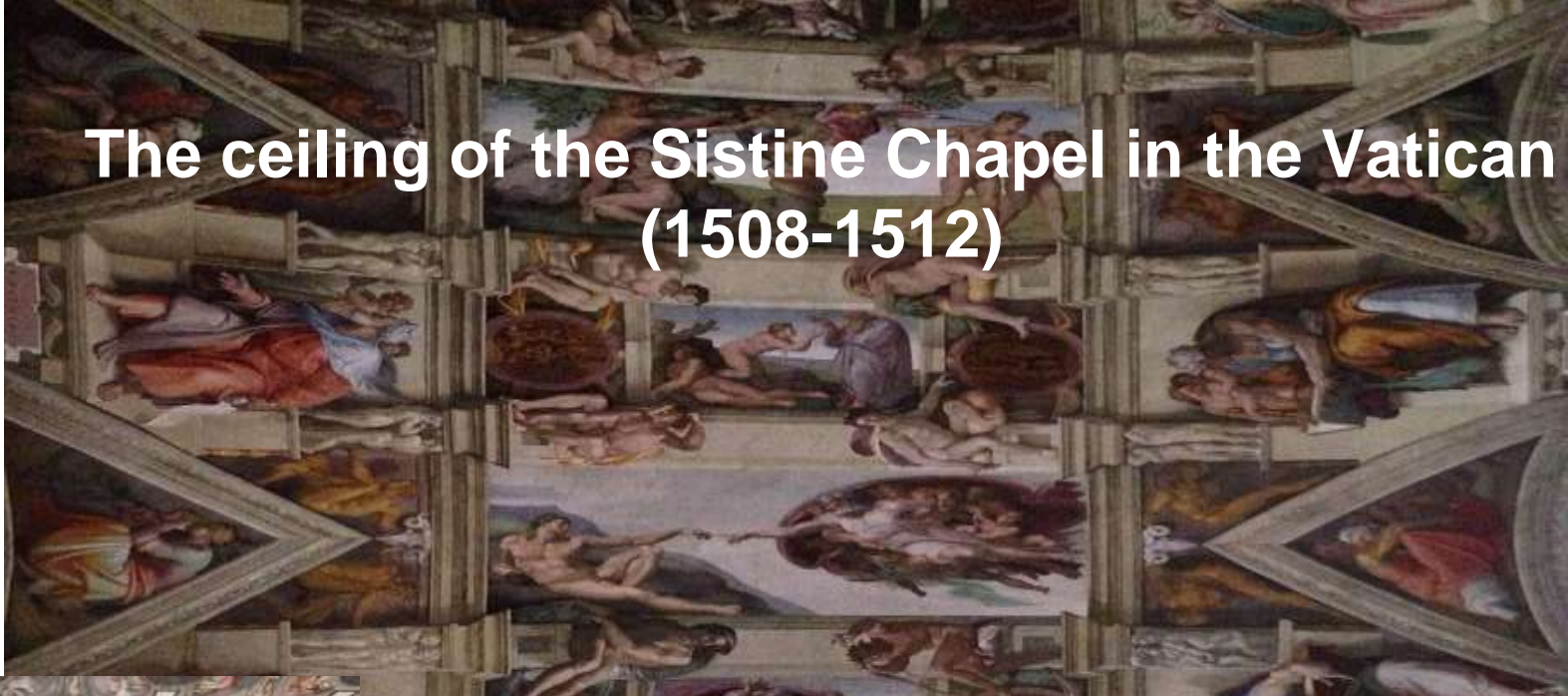


David (1501-1504)



Pieta (1497)

The ceiling of the Sistine Chapel in the Vatican (1508-1512)





Sandro Botticelli

Alessandro Filipepi was born in Florence around 1445 and began his career during the Italian Renaissance. He got his name from the goldsmith he was apprenticed to, who called him Botticelli (little barrel). After deciding to study painting, he was apprenticed to Fra Filippo Lippi. He soon became quite famous due to his charisma. His paintings are special thanks to the melancholy that they always convey. Apart from painting, he indulged himself into Neo-Platonism, which was a combination of Christian with Pagan ideas. As Sandro grew older his paintings got a religious feel.

After 1490 he started filling his works with many figures. His contribution to the Italian Renaissance was remarkable. His most important works of art are 'The Primavera', 'Pallas and the Centaur', 'Venus and Mars', 'Calumny of Apelles', 'The crucifixion', 'The Last Communion of Jerome' and 'The Nativity'



The Primavera(1477-90)



The Birth of Venus (1477-90)



**Venus and Mars
(1477-90)**



**Pallas and the
Centaur (1477-90)**



Calumny of Apelles



The Crucifixion

A close-up portrait of Raphael, showing his face and a black cap. The name 'Raphael' is written in large, bold, yellow letters across the top of the image.

Raphael

Raphael was born on 28th March or the 6th April 1483 in Urbino. He enjoyed a highly privileged upbringing because of his father's success. In 1491 he lost his mother at the age of 8 and three years later his father took his last breath as well. Even though he quickly gained his own painting style, he followed the construction method of painting of his instructor, Pietro Perugino. Eager to learn from the biggest artists he moved to Florence in 1504. He copied figures from both Leonardo Da Vinci and Michelangelo. It was in Florence that Raphael completed three large pieces: 'The Ansidei Madonna', 'The Baglioni altarpiece' and 'The Madonna del Baldacchino'. His other famous paintings are Saint Catherine, 'The Stanza', 'The School of Athens', 'Parnassus', 'The Disputation of the Sacrament' and 'Galatea'. He died in Rome on 6th April 1520, leaving a great legacy behind. His methods were extensively referred to in the training of next generations and he is now included in the three greatest masters of the time along with Leonardo and Michelangelo



The School of Athens

A large fresco by Raphael depicting various ancient Greek philosophers in a grand, classical architectural setting. The figures are engaged in various activities of study and discussion, with Plato and Aristotle at the center.



The Stanza della Segnatura

A fresco by Raphael showing a complex geometric pattern of circular and octagonal medallions, each containing a different scene or figure, set against a gold background.



The Ansidei Madonna

A painting by Raphael depicting the Virgin Mary seated with the Christ Child, flanked by two figures, likely saints, in a richly decorated setting.



The Madonna del Baldacchino

A painting by Raphael showing the Virgin Mary seated under a baldacchino (canopy) with the Christ Child, surrounded by other figures in a dramatic, dark setting.




Galatea

A painting by Raphael depicting the mythological scene of Galatea being pursued by the Cyclops Polyphemus, with other figures in a dynamic, chaotic composition.



Parnassus

A fresco by Raphael showing a group of figures, including Apollo and the Muses, gathered on a hillside, possibly representing the Muses on Parnassus.



The Disputation of the Sacrament

A fresco by Raphael depicting a complex scene of figures gathered around a table, engaged in a discussion or debate, with a central figure holding a book.

Andrea del Verrocchio

A portrait of Andrea del Verrocchio, an Italian Renaissance artist. He is depicted from the chest up, wearing a dark, high-collared garment. He has a serious expression and is looking slightly to the left. His hair is dark and styled in a short, wavy cut. The background is a simple, light-colored wall. To the left, a window or doorway reveals a landscape with a body of water and distant hills.

Andrea del Verrocchio was born in Florence in 1435. He never got married and had to financially help members of his family. Throughout his life he worked as a sculptor, a goldsmith and as a painter. He was the instructor of some great names such as Leonardo Da Vinci, Pietro Perugino and Lorenzo di Credi. Later when his pupil, Leonardo, surpassed him, he decided never to paint again as he felt embarrassed. However, his contribution to sculpture was enormous and he is ranked second only to Donatello among the Italian sculptors of the Renaissance. His methods helped other sculptors to rise. His most famous works are 'Bartolomeo Colleoni', 'Tobias', 'The Baptism of Christ', 'The Madonna with John the Baptist and Saint Donato'. He died in Venice in 1488.



The Baptism of Christ



Bartolomeo Colleoni



Tobias



The Madonna with John the Baptist and St Donato

Some famous quotations

To develop a complete mind:
Study the science of art
Study the art of science
Learn how to see.
Realise that everything
connects to everything else.

-Leonardo da Vinci

Learning is the only thing the mind never
exhausts, never fears and never regrets
-Leonardo da Vinci

The greatest danger for most of us is not that
our aim is too high and we miss it but that it is
too low and we reach it
-Michelangelo

I saw the angel in the marble and carved until I
set him free
-Michelangelo

When one is painting one does not think
-Raphael

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Σχολικό βιβλίο Αγγλικών Β τάξης ΓΕΛ Unit 3

Σχολικό βιβλίο Ιστορίας Β τάξης ΓΕΛ σελίδες 115-119

The background is a complex Baroque ceiling fresco. It features a central scene with figures in a dramatic, cloudy sky. Below the main scene, there are architectural elements like columns and a decorative frieze. The overall style is highly detailed and dynamic, characteristic of the Baroque era.

The end