The Italian Renaissance Revision Checklist

| TOPIC | CONTENT | R | A | G |
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| What is the Renaissance? | The meaning of the term 'Renaissance' |  |  |  |
| Background to Italy in the 1300s |  |  |  |
| The conditions in Italy in the mid-15th century, particularly North Italy and the city states including Florence |  |  |  |
| What were the causes of the Renaissance? | Growth of cities – mercantile culture and explosions in town growth. In particular town governance and financing. |  |  |  |
| Expansion of trade – creation of Florentine and other cities’ influence in the sphere of trade. |  |  |  |
| Role of individual genius |  |  |  |
| Rise of rich powerful capitalist patrons |  |  |  |
| Technical progress (including printing) – rise of libraries, centralisation of knowledge, distribution of political and philosophical thinking. |  |  |  |
| Malaise of the Church |  |  |  |
| the importance of the role of money, patrons including the Medici, and corporate (civic) pride and identity |  |  |  |
| How far was the Renaissance a break with the Middle Ages? | Break and continuities in terms of artwork ie. Proto Renaissance of Giotto etc. |  |  |  |
| Break and continuities in terms of the role of the Church |  |  |  |
| Break and continuities in terms of political organisation – ie continued Republic of Venice or break from feudal to Republican Milan |  |  |  |
| Break and continuities in terms of artwork ie. Proto Renaissance of Giotto etc. |  |  |  |
| What were the main developments in art, architecture and sculpture? | The main characteristics, innovations and achievements in architecture, painting and sculpture; |  |  |  |
| Main artists and styles of the Early Renaissance – focus on Florence and the works of Brunelleschi, Ghiberti, Fra Angelico, Donatello, Botticelli etc. |  |  |  |
| Main artists and styles of the High Renaissance – focus on the move to Rome. Michelangelo, da Vinci, Raphael etc. |  |  |  |
| Main artists and styles of the Mannerist period |  |  |  |
| The importance of Rome; the role of the Church in inspiring and purchasing Renaissance art; the religious motives of patrons; the poor and charitable confraternities |  |  |  |
| The significance of eg, Leonardo da Vinci, Raphael and Michelangelo |  |  |  |
| What were the main intellectual developments? | Humanism and the main humanist thinkers |  |  |  |
| Early humanism vs. Neoplatonism |  |  |  |
| Causes of the growth in humanism |  |  |  |
| The impact of humanism |  |  |  |
| What was the socio-economic framework of Renaissance Italy like? | The social structure of Renaissance cities ie. role of men, women and children |  |  |  |
| The economic structure of the Renaissance – key trading centres. Main trades etc. |  |  |  |
| The role of the guilds in the economic structure |  |  |  |
|  | The economic influence of Florence and Venice |  |  |  |
| How did politics develop during the Renaissance? | The political structure of Florence, Venice, Milan and Naples |  |  |  |
| developments in political thought and ideas including Machiavelli’s “The Prince” and Castiglione’s 'The Book of the Courtier' |  |  |  |
| What role did the Church play in the Renaissance? | The importance of Rome as a cultural and religious capital – look back to rise of Rome in this respect – Constantinian Donation |  |  |  |
| The role of the Church in inspiring and purchasing Renaissance art – famous Renaissance ie. Michelangelo |  |  |  |
| The religious motives of patrons in commissioning art – how far were people motivated by the secular and how far by the religious? |  |  |  |
| The poor and charitable confraternities – comparisons with English gilds – discussion of their role, function, constitution, membership and purpose. Especially look at doctrines of Purgatory and how this may have influenced religious outpouring. |  |  |  |
| What were the main developments in warfare? | Rivalries and warfare between the Italian states including the Peace of Lodi |  |  |  |
| The French Invasion of 1494 and the ensuing Italian Wars |  |  |  |
| The impact of the sack of Rome in 1527 |  |  |  |
| the impact of war on society, economy, art and intellectual enquiry |  |  |  |
| The main technological developments in warfare |  |  |  |
| The role of mercenaries and their critics |  |  |  |
| What were the main developments in science and medicine? | The development of the scientific method and the main achievements in science and medicine – impact on society, return to Classical methodologies |  |  |  |
| The contribution of Leonardo da Vinci, Copernicus and Vesalius to this sphere |  |  |  |
| Comparative to Netherlands | the Renaissance in the Netherlands – Bosch, Brueghel and Vesalius |  |  |  |
| factors in the Netherlands that made it receptive, eg Van Eyck, trade links, patrons, intellectual developments. |  |  |  |