

Project: People of the Renaissance, Scientific Revolution, & Age of Exploration

Directions: Below are descriptions of eight people who helped change Europe during the Renaissance, Scientific Revolution, and Age of Exploration. Read the assignments that go with each one. You will assume the roles of **any two** of these people. Circle the numbers of the ones you choose to be. After making your selections begin working on the assignments. Be sure to list your assignment choices and option choices within the assignments below.

Due Date: _____ Student Name: _____ Period: _____

Grading: Grades will be based on following directions, meeting requirements, and how well you complete the two assignments you choose.

- Project completed by due date _____ 5 points
- Assignments clearly labeled _____ 5 points
- Assignment requirements completed _____ 10 points (assignment 1)
_____ 10 points (assignment 2)
- Neatness, Appearance, Quality _____ 5 points
- This paper turned in with projects _____ 5 points
- Total: _____ 40 points Total

Assignment Choice 1: _____

Option: _____

Assignment Choice 2: _____

Option: _____

Assignment Choices

(1) **Explorer**- It is the 1500's. You have just returned to Spain from a three-year voyage around the world. Write a story (150 words or more) about your journey. Include such things as:

- (a) the number of ships and sailors that left Spain on the voyage
- (b) dates of the trip
- (c) problems faced by the crewmen
- (d) a sad event which took place during the expedition
- (e) a happy event that occurred
- (f) names of 6 places (countries, islands, continents, etc...) seen or visited along the way
- (g) kinds of products brought back to Europe from the Far East
- (h) the number of ships and sailors returning safely to Spain
- (i) accomplishments of the expedition

(2) **Artist**- During the Middle Ages, artists usually painted pictures having to do with the Bible and religion. But Renaissance painters worked on landscapes, portraits, and scenes from everyday life. Choose one of the following art projects—a, b, or c—and prepare a detailed sketch in the style of a Renaissance artist. Include an explanation of why you chose the option you did and how it fits the style of the Renaissance.

- (a) landscape- Draw any town or country scene which shows an aspect of life during the Renaissance. You may want to look in your textbook, in an encyclopedia under 'Renaissance', or on the internet for pictures that give you ideas of what to draw.
- (b) everyday scene- Prepare a sketch showing people of the Renaissance involved in an activity typical of life during the 1300's, 1400's, or 1500's. Use your textbook, an encyclopedia, or the internet as a source of ideas.
- (c) portrait- Choose a famous person of the Renaissance. Find their picture in the textbook, in an encyclopedia, or on the internet and make a drawing of that person.

(3) **Poet**- Write a poem about the Renaissance or Age of Exploration. It might be on exploration, education, science, trade, town life, farming, a famous person, or anything else typical of the period. Your poem must have at least 20 lines. The first line of the poem should rhyme with the second line, the third line with the fourth, the fifth with sixth, and so on. You can also write two ten-line poems. Feel free to use another type of rhyming pattern if you'd like.

(4) **Architect**- Architecture during the Middle Ages centered on the design of churches. But during the Renaissance, attention was also given to the design of palaces, public buildings, and homes. As an architect, it is your job to draw a building that workers will eventually construct. Make a detailed drawing of either a church, palace, public building, or home. Include a separate diagram of the building's floor plan.

(5) **Writer**- A new form of literature which appeared during the Renaissance was the 'biography,' or story of someone's life. Choose one of the following famous people of the Renaissance, and write their biography: Nicolaus Copernicus, Galileo, Joan of Arc, William Shakespeare, Niccolo Machiavelli, Johannes Gutenberg, Christopher Columbus, Leonardo da Vinci, Michelangelo, or Martin Luther. Before writing the biography, read about the person in your textbook or in an encyclopedia. Use facts from these sources in your story. (150 words or more)

(6) **Scientist**- You are a scientist specializing in 'anatomy,' the dissecting (taking apart for study) of plants and animals. In particular, you are interested in human anatomy. For some time now, you have been cutting open dead bodies to study bones, muscles, joints, and internal organs. Write a report (150 words or more) describing your most recent experiments and findings. You may want to make some sketches of bones, muscles, joints, or internal organs. (Internal organs include the heart, lungs, brain, etc.) Your report should contain information on the location and function of various parts of the body.

(7) **Sailor**- You work for a Portuguese trading company during the 1500's. Portugal controls trade between Europe and the Far East. You are a crewman on board a ship that makes two voyages each year around the southern tip of Africa to India. You have just returned from one of these trips and have decided to write a letter to your family telling about your experiences. Describe your job on board ship. Mention kinds of goods brought back from India for sale in Europe. Be sure to tell how your ship was attacked along the coast of Africa by English sea dogs (pirates) and how you were a hero in battle. (150 words or more)

(8) **Playwright**- Plays, especially those by England's William Shakespeare, were enjoyed by the people of Western Europe. Choose one of the following topics—a, b, or c—and write a short one-act play that has 4-6 characters. People you might put in your play are suggested below. Give names to the characters and make up a title for your drama.

- (a) Columbus discovers a New World. Scene: Christopher Columbus' three ships have been at sea for many weeks and are now approaching San Salvador island off the coast of Florida. King Ferdinand and Queen Isabella of Spain, who have paid for the expedition, hope that Columbus will find a route to the Indies. The time is October, 1492. Some suggested characters: Columbus, the first mate, a lookout hoping to sight land, other crew members.
- (b) A Machiavellian king. Scene: The famous writer Machiavelli wrote 'The Prince,' which said rulers should use any means, no matter how wicked, to oppose the enemies and force people to obey. A European king has just finished reading the book, and agrees with Machiavelli. The king is presently meeting with his friends and advisers to discuss what should be done to those who might oppose his leadership. The time is 1540. Some suggested characters: king, queen, army commander, nobles (rich friends of the king).
- (c) Defeat of the Spanish Armada. Scene: The year is 1588. More than one hundred Spanish warships have sailed into the English Channel north of France. This fleet, called the Spanish Armada, has been sent by Philip II of Spain to attack England. Philip is angry because of the execution of Mary Queen of Scots, and because of England's break from the Catholic Church. The proud Armada is about to be defeated by the English. The English victory will reduce Spain's sea power and open the way for England to start colonies in America. Some suggested characters: Spanish commander, Spanish sailors, English commander, English sailors.