

# Intro to the Renaissance



## AGENDA:

1. INTRO TO THE RENAISSANCE NOTES
2. MIDDLE AGES VS. RENAISSANCE QUESTIONS

## STAMPED:

1. MANKIND “SURVIVORS” VIDEO NOTES

# Goals



- Identify and describe characteristics of the Renaissance
- Consider how specific characteristics distinguish the Renaissance from the Middle Ages

# When?

## Renaissance 1300-1650



# Historical Timeline



## Ancient History

Beginning - Fall of the Roman Empire  
> 5000 BCE – 476 AD

## Middle Ages

Fall of the Roman Empire - Renaissance  
≈ 476 AD – 1300

## Modern History

Renaissance – Current Day  
≈ 1300 – Now

# Remember...

## Middle Ages – 500s-1400s

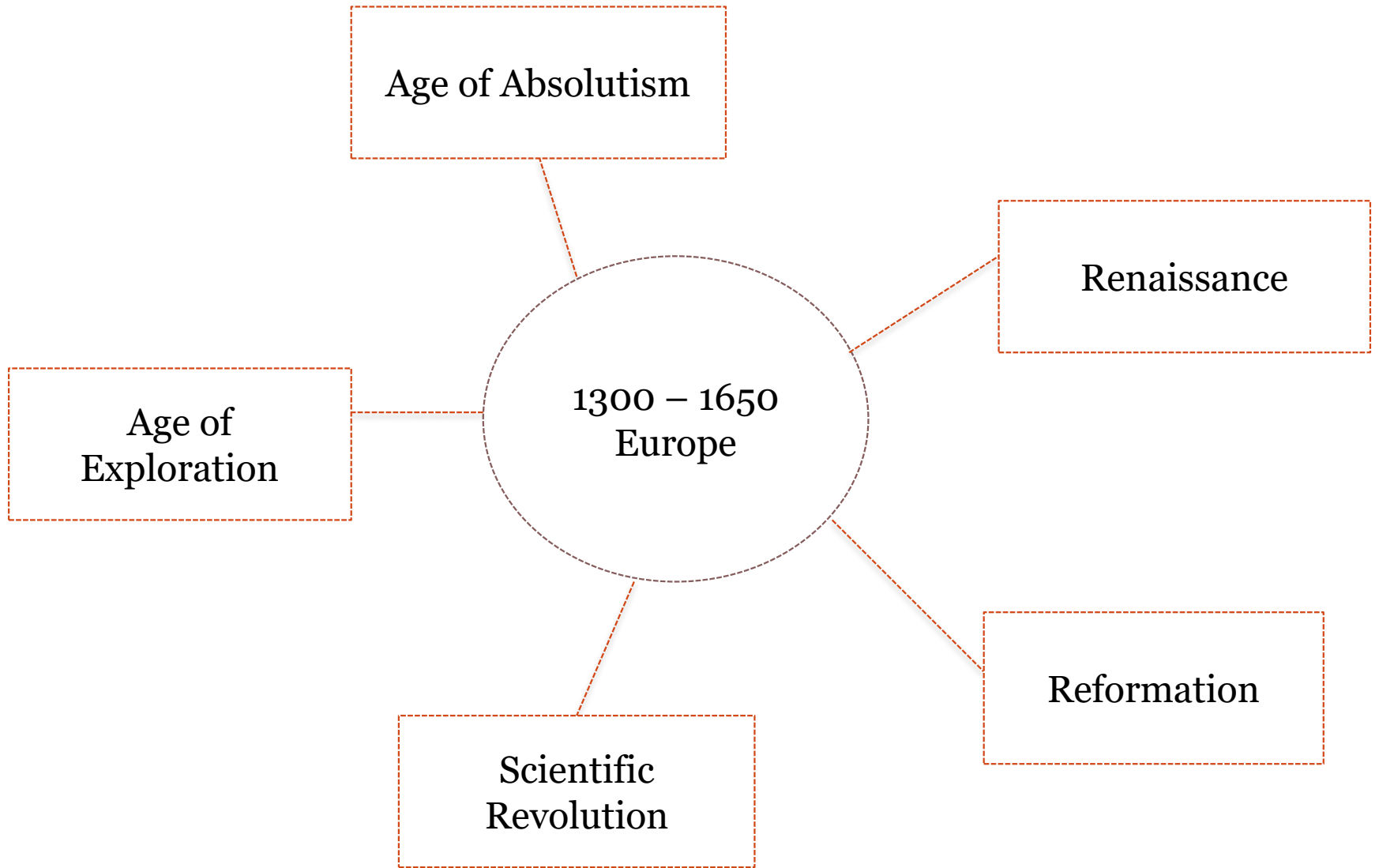


- A period of stagnation in Europe.
  - Not much was changing, and not much was improving.
- Cause of stagnation?
  - Social Stagnation: Feudalism – break down of Europe into small, isolated communities. Society was made up of Kings, lords, nobles, and peasants. Virtually no middle class.
  - Trade stagnation: tail end of the Silk Road. Money was often hoarded because it was so scarce.
  - Warfare: Many small invasions of neighboring communities. Larger invasions at times. The Crusades (repeated many times); Christians fighting Muslims for control of Jerusalem. Very disruptive to Europe.

# Rebirth



- Renaissance is often called the “rebirth” of Europe. Transition from the Middle Ages into what is known as the Modern Era.
- We are still in the Modern Era



Age of Absolutism

Renaissance

Age of  
Exploration

1300 - 1650  
Europe

Reformation

Scientific  
Revolution



# Mixer





Where did the Renaissance begin?

# Italy



# Renaissance Characteristics



- Creative
- Intellectual
- Artistic
- Philosophical
- Innovative
- Complex
- Stable
- Cultured
- Secure
- Curiosity
- Desirable
- Adventurous



# Europe, 1500



What's different on this map, than on the map of Europe today?

# Why do we study the Renaissance?



- Art & Architecture of the time is still admired and copied today.
- People still argue about the best ways to get and keep power – a topic of Machiavelli's *The Prince*
- Shakespeare's plays are still as popular today as they were when he wrote them
- Mass production of books was created during this time
- Christianity radically changed setting off tensions between many Christian groups that still exist today

# Europe is Dark!



- It's boring
- Nothing to learn
- Sleep, work, and repeat
- War
- Plague



- Some people began to express themselves in new and different ways
- Wanted to bring back the culture of ancient Greece and Rome
  - Return to the ideals

# The Renaissance



**1300-1650**

**MEANS REBIRTH**

**STARTS IN NORTHERN  
ITALY**

**SPREADS NORTH**





# Why Italy?



# 1. Thriving Cities



- Trade created by the crusades led to growth for Italian cities
- They are the easiest place to share/spread ideas



## 2. Wealthy Merchant Class



- Trade=wealth=rich merchants=political power
- Believed they deserved power because of their individual merit – not who their ancestors were.
- Most famous – Medici Family of Florence.
  - Bankers
  - Were the bank for the Pope

# 3. Classical Heritage of the Greeks & Romans



- Learn from their ancestors



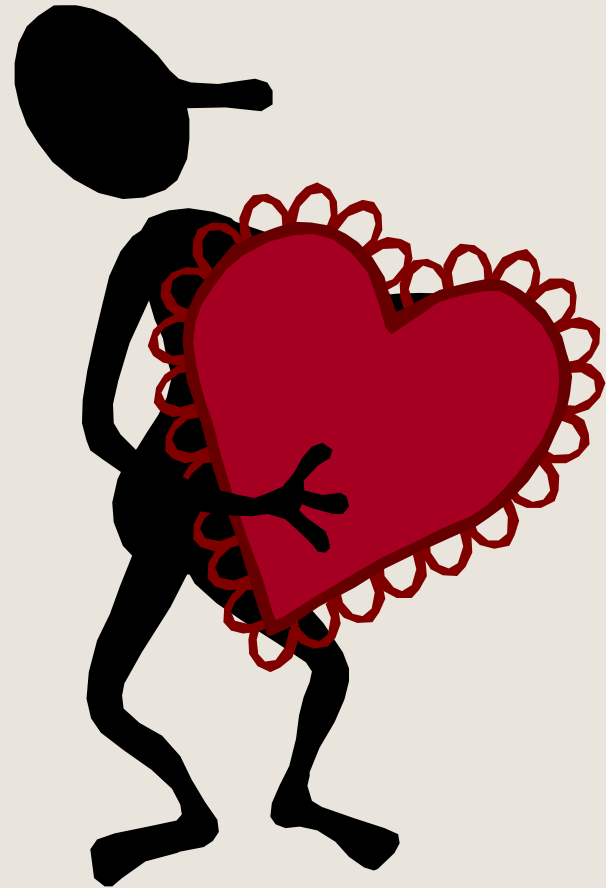
# The 4 Classical & Worldly Values



# 1. Humanism



- Focus on human values and concerns – not focus on religious perspectives
  - Artists focused on classical art
  - Popular to study the “humanities” – history, literature, and philosophy



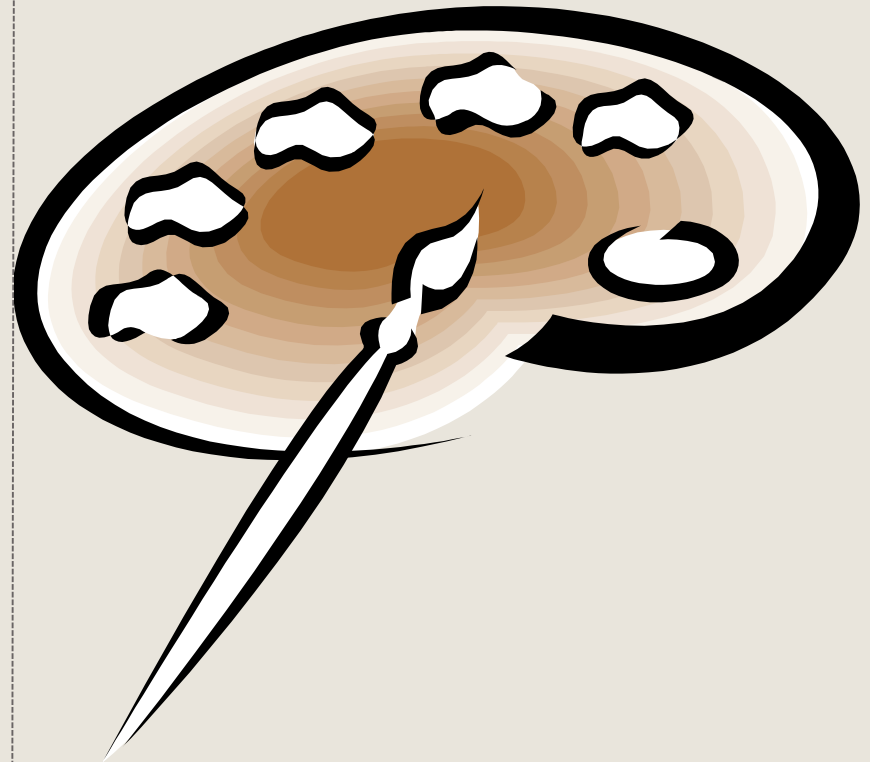
## 2. Worldly Pleasures



- Enjoy a good life without offending God
- Live in luxury
- Deal in the here and now
  - Concerned with secular matters

### 3. Patron of the Arts

- The Church & the wealthy commission works of art for churches, walls, buildings, parks, homes





# Italian Renaissance Writers



- **Petrarch**

- Father of “humanism”
- Focuses on own feelings during poems
  - ✦ Growing sense of individuality



- **Boccaccio**

- Realistic off-color stories



# Niccolo Machiavelli



- 1513 – The Prince
- Political guidebook
- How a ruler can gain power and keep it

# 4. The Renaissance Man or Woman



## Men

- Create art
- Master every area of study

## Women

- Know the classics
- Be charming
- Inspire art

# Split your table group into two teams...



## Medieval Historians

- Read the Middle Ages sections of the document.
- Answer the questions relating to the Middle Ages.

## Renaissance Historians

- Read the Renaissance sections of the document.
- Answer the questions relating to the Renaissance.

Stay with the class please. 😊



- When directed for each section, share your answers with your teams.
  - Collaborate and come to a consensus (agreement)
- Then share your findings with the other team in your table group.
- Work together to answer the level 2 question.
- Share findings with whole class.