

Renaissance, Scientific Revolution and Enlightenment Homework Questions

Remember that all questions are worth two points. In order to get both points you must restate the question at the beginning of your answer. Do **NOT** use pronouns ever. All parts of the question must be thoroughly and completely answered to get full credit.

1. Why does the Renaissance begin in Italy?
2. As a leader, is it better to be loved or feared? Justify your response.
3. Why don't the Humanists focus on spirituality?
4. What is the significance of the printing press to history?
5. Does art reflect society or does art inspire society? Defend your response.
6. What would be the advantage of a painted portrait over a photograph?
7. Why was Michelangelo considered more successful than Leonardo da Vinci during the Renaissance?
8. Who was the greater artist, Michelangelo or da Vinci? Defend your response with evidence.
9. What is the connection between the Renaissance and the Scientific Revolution?
10. How could Aristotle and Ptolemy believe the earth was the center of the universe?
11. Why did Copernicus wait until he was on his deathbed to publish his work?
12. Who should get more credit, Kepler or Brahe? Why?
13. Why does Galileo publish *Two Chief World Systems* in Italian?
14. Why isn't Newton prosecuted for publishing *Principia*?
15. Describe the beliefs of Rene Decartes.
16. To what extent does society today still jump to conclusions the way people did in regards to the witchcraft craze? Defend your response.
17. What is the connection between the Scientific Revolution and the Enlightenment?
18. What are the two sides of the Social Contract and what are the responsibilities of both sides under that contract?
19. Why would the philosophes believe in religious toleration and freedom of expression?
20. Should government have checks and balances, a split of power between branches? Why or why not?
21. Should we have complete freedom of speech/expression? Why or why not?
22. Why does Rousseau believe democracy is the best of government?
23. Compare and contrast mercantilists and physiocrats.
24. Adam Smith argues people will always act in their own best self-interest. Do you agree? Why or why not?