

Renaissance and Rationalism Reading Task

Read & take notes on "Rebirth and Exploration." Be sure to answer the following questions.

Period in Context

1. Review the European and World Events timeline on 716-717. What are the most important scientific and literary achievements of the times?

Historical Background

2. What is a "renaissance," and what 4 changes did the Renaissance bring about?
3. What two problems contributed to the insecurity of the times?
4. How and why did powers shift during the time period?
5. What was Humanism?
6. How did Humanism impact Europe?
7. What characteristics defined Humanist philosophy? Christian Humanism? (2 parts)
8. What theologian protested the church in the early 1500s?
9. What 2 key ideas launched the Reformation?
10. What was the significance of Protestantism in Europe?
11. How & why was people's understanding of the globe and universe changing?
12. What was the purpose of the Enlightenment?
13. What impact did the Black Death have on Europe? Explain why.
14. Who was John Locke & what was his philosophy?
15. What discoveries did Newton make & why were they significant?
16. How did Locke's philosophy revolutionize power and politics?

Literature

17. What is rhetoric?
18. What is the function and purpose of rhetoric?
19. How was Machiavelli's philosophy different?
20. What does Machiavellian mean?
21. What qualities characterize literature of the Renaissance?
22. How did invention impact reading habits and audience?
23. Upon what idea did Pascal and Voltaire differ?