

Grade 5

Unit 2: *The Renaissance: Art and Invention*



Unit-level Essential Question

What made the Renaissance such a cultural revolution?

Lessons 1–5

Guiding Question: What is the “spirit of the Renaissance”?

Writing Prompt: How did artists like Leonardo da Vinci, Michaelangelo, and Raphael represent the spirit of the Renaissance?

Lessons 6–10

Guiding Question: How did books like *The Prince* and *The Book of the Courtier* affect society at the time of their release?

Writing Prompt: Choose between *The Prince* and *The Book of the Courtier* and consider the main argument your book’s author makes. Do you agree or disagree with the author’s claim about how people should act?

Lessons 11–15

Guiding Question: What was life like for women in the Renaissance?

Writing Prompt: What obstacles did women living in the Renaissance face when they tried to become artists?

Lessons 16–19

Guiding Question: How does the Renaissance still affect us today?

Writing Prompt: Shakespeare coined similes like “dead as a doornail” and “quiet as a lamb.” Develop one or more similes that you think someone could use hundreds of years from now.

Unit 2 Culminating Activity

Think about some people who are in charge today, such as teachers, parents, politicians, etc. What rules would you give them to live by if you were writing a book like Machiavelli or Castiglione?