Medieval Times, Renaissance, and Reformation Packet

Materials for:

- Medieval Times
- The Renaissance
- The Catholic and Protestant Reformations
Warm-up – Medieval Times

- Think about what you know about medieval times. With your group, until the buzzer sounds, discuss and write about the following questions:
  - How did people live in medieval times?
  - How was living in medieval times different from today?
“Medieval and Renaissance Europe”

1. What group controlled most of Europe before their collapse around 500 A.D.?

2. What were the early years of the Medieval times like for people?

3. To whom did people in the Medieval times turn for protection?

4. How did peasants live during this time?

5. Even kings couldn’t do whatever they wanted – who were kings expected to obey?

6. Who was the enemy that Pope Urban united European Christians against?

7. What were some things that the Crusades brought back to Europe?

8. How did life improve during Medieval times?

9. How did things get worse (disease, famine, etc.)?
Main Idea and Big Questions

Main Idea: The Middle Ages or Medieval Times were a period in Europe that followed the fall of the Roman empire, and were dominated by feudal kings and the Christian church.

After we study this section, you should be able to answer these questions:

1. What did people consider a person's goal in life during the Middle Ages?
2. What was everyday life like for royalty, the nobility, and regular people in the Middle Ages?
3. How did the royalty, nobility, and peasants fit into the political and social structure of the time?

The Roman Empire

Before the Middle Ages, the Roman Empire controlled most of Europe and the area around the Mediterranean Sea.

The Roman Empire resisted most of the "barbarian" attacks from around it, but later collapsed (476 A.D.).

In Europe, people broke into smaller groups – this would be known as feudalism.
“Barbarian” Raids

Feudalism

- After the fall of the Roman Empire, the people in the different groups had to find ways to protect themselves from outside invaders – Vikings, Turkish Muslims
- Society was organized into a feudal system
  - Kings and royalty – at the top, but not strong enough to rule totally
  - Nobility – gave loyalty to kings, became vassals, or servants (upper and lower nobility)
  - Peasants – gave loyalty and dependence to the nobility, lived on noble’s land

Feudalism, continued

- The upper and lower nobility were given land, or fiefs, by their king, or their lord.
- They then divided this land up among nobles below them, or peasants.
- The peasants would then work on the noble’s land, returning much of their produce to the noble.
- The peasants would be allowed to keep some of what they grew for themselves
Life of the Kings/Nobility

- The kings and nobles lived relatively comfortable and luxurious lives, compared to the peasants.
- Kings and nobles were often in competition with each other.
- Kings and nobles gave the peasants protection – when their land was attacked by raiders, the peasants and nobles would take shelter in the castle.

The Life of Peasants

- Peasants were mostly farmers that lived in the villages around medieval castles.
- Their lives were typically very tough:
  - Poor housing – drafty in the winter, hot in the summer.
  - Poor sanitation – often lived around livestock, poor drainage, poor ideas about human sanitation.
  - Poor diets – often were hungry and struggled to get enough or proper nutrients (scurvy, intestinal problems).
- Many peasants never left their village or area around it for their whole lives.

The Church in the Middle Ages

- Besides the royalty and nobility, the Catholic church was the other major authority at the time.
- The church was considered the ultimate authority on speaking to God.
- It was believed that kings were put in place by God, and that they ruled with God’s approval and authority – divine right of kings.
- Sometimes the church and kings or nobles would disagree.
Culture and Learning

The Catholic church was also the source for much of the culture and learning of the time.

Universities began to spring up as the first educational institutions of the time – all learning was considered to come from Christianity and the church.

Views on Life

The Middle Ages had many views on life that we would consider strange today.

- Man’s most important purpose in life was to live as a good Christian and prepare themselves for the afterlife.
- For peasants especially, living a life of suffering would bring the promise of a good afterlife.
- All virtue and goodness was considered to come from the church and Christianity.

Middle Ages Hardships

- The Plague – The Bubonic plague wiped out about one-third of the European population in about twenty years, and weakened the continent.
- Famine was a fairly common occurrence, so simply having enough food to survive was important.
- Winters were often cold, especially for peasants.
Pope Urban II

- Pope Urban II saw the rivalries between Christian nobility and wanted to unify them against a common threat.
- Jerusalem – holy city to Christianity, Judaism, and Islam – was controlled by the Seljuk Turks (Muslims).
- Pope Urban declared a holy war against the Muslims to retake the city of Jerusalem.
- Christian knights and nobles from Europe left to reconquer Jerusalem.

The Crusades

- Over the next several hundred years (around 1095 to 1291), Christians and Muslims fought over Jerusalem and the Holy Land.
- In 1291, the Christian Crusaders were pushed from the region, and the Crusades ended.
- This was a clash of civilizations – Muslims today still may view the word “crusade” as meaning an invasion from the west.

Legacy of the Crusades

- The Crusades were not all negative.
- Trade picked up between the west (Europe) and the east (Middle East and Asia).
  - Spices from the east made food more palatable, at least for the rich.
  - Silks and other fabrics came to Europe.
- The Muslims had also preserved and progressed many areas of science and learning, which the Crusaders brought back with them.
  - Medicine and anatomy.
  - Mathematics.
  - Navigational tools (compass), gunpowder.
Main Idea: The Middle Ages or Medieval Times were a period in Europe that followed the fall of the Roman empire, and were dominated by feudal kings and the Christian church.

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The Quest for the Holy Grail

1. What is King Arthur looking for as they travel through England? What was a person who served a king called?

2. Describe the village that we see. What do we know about what life was like for people living in medieval villages?

3. There are a lot of dead people in the village. What are some reasons that they might be sick or dying?

4. Arthur meets two peasants along his journey. They have different ideas about their place in the world than he does.
   a. Dennis gets angry with King Arthur. Why?

   b. Why does Arthur treat Dennis this way?

   c. How does Arthur react when he finds out that the peasants don’t have a lord? Why does he act this way?

   d. How does King Arthur explain that he knows he should be king? What do the peasants think of this?

5. What do the townspeople want to do with the woman? Why do they want to do this?
Medieval Times SMART Assessment

Mr. White's World History

Question #1
Which of these best describes life for regular people in Medieval Times?
A. Excellent – people had a strong diet, and good medical care
B. Exciting – peasants had access to things such as libraries, public parks, and faires
C. Generally poor – it was a struggle to survive, and health, diet, and sanitation was poor
D. None of the above

Question #2
Which of these did a noble receive from his lord, in exchange from his loyalty?
A. Protection and money
B. Protection and land
C. Money and land
D. The right to vote and trading rights
Question #3

Which of these groups controlled most of Europe before its decline at the start of Medieval Times?
A. Vikings
B. Romans
C. Muslims
D. Turks

Question #4

Next to the royalty and nobles, which of these groups held the most power in Medieval Times in Europe?
A. The Protestant Church
B. Parliament
C. Peasants
D. The Catholic Church

Question #5

Which of these was the most important focus of one’s life in the Middle Ages?
A. Patriotism
B. Education
C. Preparation for the afterlife
D. Having a career
Moments in Time – The Crusades

1. How are today’s problems in the Middle East rooted in the Crusades?

2. How did the Muslim empires regard the Christian crusaders?

3. Compare and contrast the Christian and Muslim weapons, armor, and tactics.

4. What were some of the advantages and features of Crusader forts and fortifications?

5. How did Crusaders benefit from Muslim ideas about hospitals and medicine?

6. What sorts of technology and ideas did the two sides exchange, even as they were fighting each other?
Medieval Times Vocab Review

- Write and explain the significance of the following words from our section of study.
  - Feudalism
  - Divine right of kings
  - The Crusades
  - Royalty
  - Nobility
  - Peasants
“Early Modern Europe” Video

1. What did Italians rediscover that helped start the Renaissance?

2. How did the Renaissance thinkers view medieval times?

3. What did scholars begin to focus on during the Renaissance?

4. How did rich families in Italy display their wealth?

5. What did Martin Luther do to encourage people to study the Bible?

6. How did the Catholic church respond to what Martin Luther did?
The Renaissance
Mr. White’s World History

Main Idea and Big Questions
► Main Idea: The Renaissance was an era in which classical ideas about science, knowledge, life, and culture were "reborn" in Italy and spread to the rest of Italy.
► As we learn about the Renaissance, here are the questions we should be able to answer:
   How did the revival of classical ideas, culture, and learning start to change ways of life in Europe during the Renaissance?
   What sorts of things helped spread the ideas of the Renaissance to other parts of Europe?

Classical – What does it mean?
► When something is described as "classical," it means that it is the originator of a style or form.
► The "classics" for Europeans were Roman and Greek literature, art, architecture, and learning.
► The Renaissance was a "rebirth" of these classical styles.
Italy’s Role
► The ancient Greeks, then the Romans, had created and preserved many works of art, literature, and learning – much of this was preserved in Italy (Rome)
► Italians who began to re-examine and rediscover these classical works admired them and tried to copy and emulate them

Renaissance Values
► In contrast to medieval times, the leaders of the Renaissance valued three important qualities –
   Humanism – the belief in human value and potential
   Secularism – the focus on worldly and non-religious learning and experience
   Individualism – the focus on the ability and potential of the individual

Scholarship
► Renaissance scholars challenged old traditions, assumptions, and institutions – especially those of the church, and sometimes the church itself
► As new discoveries were made, the Renaissance thinkers began to challenge even more
► This led to many clashes and disagreements with the Catholic church, which did not agree with the Renaissance Values
   Humanism – humans were naturally evil and sinful
   Secularism – learning came from the church and God
   Individualism – the individual should remain obedient
City Life
► In Renaissance Italy, no feudal system formed
► As the Renaissance went on, wealth and ability mattered more than titles of nobility or the ownership of land
► The rich in Italy got that way by trading, banking, or being merchants
► A middle class also developed – lesser merchants, artisans
► Peasants still made up the lowest class

Renaissance Art
► Even though art of the Renaissance time was still mostly religious, many new ideas and secular overtones began to creep into the art
► Artists used new techniques to create more lifelike representations, instead of the symbolic art of the medieval times

Renaissance Architecture
► The architecture of the time returned to the classical style
► Medieval times – Gothic architecture
  ▪ Pointed arches
  ▪ Ribbed vaults
  ▪ Flying buttresses
► Renaissance – classical architecture
  ▪ Rounded arches
  ▪ Rounded vaults
  ▪ Domes
Sculpture

- Humans in medieval sculpture were shown as rather stiff, unemotional.
- Sculptors in the Renaissance depicted humans in a more lifelike way.
- Sculptors studied anatomy and other sciences to depict the more realistic human form.

Painting

- Medieval paintings were typically "flat," – Renaissance paintings began to give depth to scenes.
- Da Vinci also studied:
  - Astronomy
  - Mathematics
  - Anatomy
The Spread of the Renaissance

- The ideas of the Italian Renaissance spread north to France, England, the Netherlands, and other European countries.
- These ideas spread through different ways:
  - French kings, after invading Italy, brought many ideas back.
  - Italian traders in northern cities spread ideas.
  - The invention of the printing press allowed ideas to be printed and spread more rapidly and farther.

The French Renaissance

- French Renaissance architects blended the Gothic and classical styles to create chateaux.
- French Renaissance writers started new forms of writing, with new themes:
  - Love
  - The passing of youth
  - The immortality of the poet.
- Many writers rejected the medieval focus on the afterlife and thought people should enjoy their lives to the fullest.
Northern Renaissance
► In the northern countries, like the Netherlands and Germany, many people wanted religious reforms
► Felt the Catholic church was corrupt; wanted to restore the simplicity of the early church
► Believed people should study the Bible themselves – they would have to learn to read
► Erasmus – encouraged people to learn Greek and Latin so that they could read the Bible

The English Renaissance
► English Renaissance writers were interested in social issues – how people lived and interacted with each other
► Thomas More – criticized society of the day and wrote a book about the ideal society, *Utopia*
► William Shakespeare – jealousy, ambition, love, and despair

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The Renaissance
SMART Assessment
Mr. White's World History

Question #1

• The Renaissance was a rebirth of classical ideas about art, culture, life, and knowledge. These classical ideas were rediscovered from the ancient cultures of:
  A. China and Japan
  B. Rome and Greece
  C. France and England
  D. Sumeria and Babylon

Questions #2-#4

• Match the following terms with the concept it most closely describes.

  2. Humanism
  3. Secularism
  4. Individualism

  A. Focus on the abilities and skills of a single person
  B. Focus on worldly or non-religious themes and knowledge
  C. Belief in the power and potential of mankind

Question #5

• Which of these best describes the origin and spread of Renaissance ideas?
  A. From France, outward to England, Germany, and Italy
  B. From Italy, northward into Germany, France, and England
  C. From Russia, westward to Germany, Austria, and Italy
  D. From England, southward into France, Germany, and eventually Italy
Compare and Contrast

- Compare and contrast the Medieval Times and the Renaissance.
  - List things that are different
  - List things that might be similar

- Think about:
  - Ideas about life, man’s place in the world, etc.
  - Ideas about religion
  - Art, architecture, literature
The Blitz - Renaissance

- Renaissance thinkers believed in three values. Name one and explain it.
- Name at least one change in art or architecture during the time of the Renaissance.
- How did the printing press spread the ideas of the Renaissance faster? How was it different from before?
The Protestant and Catholic Reformations

Mr. White's World History

Big Questions

- Main Idea: During the Protestant Reformation, people like Martin Luther challenged Catholic church traditions. In response, the Catholic church reformed itself.
- After we study this section, we should be able to:
  - How did Martin Luther change ideas about Christianity and religion during the Renaissance?
  - How did the Catholic church react to these ideas?

Martin Luther and His Beliefs

- Martin Luther’s father wanted him to become a lawyer, but he was interested in religion.
- 1505 – Luther is nearly struck by lightning – devotes his life to becoming a monk
- Luther interpreted scripture to mean that a person could be made good, or saved, through faith in God’s mercy and love alone
- This was known as *justification by faith*
Luther’s Protest

• Catholic Pope Leo X was trying to raise money to rebuild St. Peter’s Basilica in Rome
  • Sold church positions
  • Authorized the sale of indulgences – payment for forgiveness
• Luther disagreed with the sale of indulgences, and openly criticized them
• This brought him in conflict with the Roman Catholic church
• Luther printed and distributed his Ninety-Five Theses – criticized the Catholic church

Conflict with the Church

• Pope Leo X tried to persuade Luther to take back his criticisms – he didn’t
• When Luther refused, Pope Leo condemned Luther and excommunicated him from the Roman Catholic church
• Luther was then condemned as a heretic (someone who openly opposes God), and was hidden in a castle by his friend
• It was here that he translated the Bible into German – more people could now read the Bible, and interpret it for themselves

Lutheranism

• Catholic church – salvation through faith and good works, leadership from the church
• Lutheranism – emphasized salvation by faith alone, Bible was the only source of religious truth
• Lutheranism disagreed with Catholic methods of worship (stressed preaching instead of ritual), and church structure (equals instead of a hierarchy)
• Protestantism – religions that protest the practices of the Catholic church
Swiss Protestants

- Huldrych Zwingli – agreed with Luther, set up a theocracy (religious-run state) in Zurich, Switzerland
- John Calvin – established theocracy in Geneva, Switzerland
- Anabaptists – were sometimes driven out by Lutherans and Catholics, believed in:
  - Religious liberty
  - Separation of church and state
- These beliefs would be important in the formation of the United States

Henry VIII

- Henry VIII – King of England, Catholic
- Henry had married Catherine of Aragon (Spain) – she had six children for him, only one survived – Mary
- Henry though Catherine was too old to have any more children – decided to marry Anne Boleyn
- Asked the Pope to agree to a divorce between him and Catherine

Henry, continued

- However, Catherine’s nephew was Charles V, who ruled the Holy Roman Empire and protected the Pope – Charles had a lot of influence
- Pope refuses to grant the divorce
- Henry then passes laws making him the head of the church in England – Anglican Church established
- Some Catholics resisted – Henry closes monasteries and convents, seized land, chopped off heads
Henry’s Legacy

- Henry divorces Catherine, then marries Anne Boleyn – Anne gives him a daughter, Elizabeth
- After chopping off lots of heads and getting lots of divorces, Henry finally gets a son, Edward
- Edward makes the country protestant, dies in his teens – “Bloody” Mary becomes queen
- Mary tries to re-establish Catholicism – burns Protestants at the stake
- Mary later dies, Elizabeth becomes queen

The Catholic Reformation

- The Catholic church responded to the threat of Protestantism by reaffirming several beliefs
  - Salvation came through faith and good works
  - Church tradition was also a source of religious truth, not just the Bible
  - Latin translation of the Bible was the only acceptable version
- They also made changes –
  - Forbade the selling of indulgences
  - Clergy were expected to follow strict rules, attend seminary

The Catholic Reformation, continued

- Catholic church strengthened the Inquisition - this was a court set up to find and punish heretics
- Inquisition censored and banned books considered immoral or irreligious
- The church also sponsored the arts, resulting in the baroque style of art
A Divided Europe

- Charles V, the Holy Roman Emperor, tried to stop the spread of Protestantism, but failed
- Peace of Augsburg – each leader of a country could choose the religion for their subjects – Catholicism, Lutheranism, Calvinism, etc.
- Many princes of countries practiced Protestantism to increase their power – didn’t have to answer to the Catholic church
- Europe would be divided after this, into parts that each had their own religion

Big Questions

- Main Idea: During the Protestant Reformation, people like Martin Luther challenged Catholic church traditions. In response, the Catholic church reformed itself.
- After we study this section, we should be able to:
  - How did Martin Luther change ideas about Christianity and religion during the Renaissance?
  - How did the Catholic church react to these ideas?
Question #1

- Martin Luther interpreted Biblical scripture and developed the idea of *justification by faith*. This belief, which became the foundation for Protestant Christian beliefs, said that:
  A. People needed to perform good works to achieve salvation
  B. People needed to be members of the Catholic church to achieve salvation
  C. Tithing and giving to the church were essential for salvation
  D. People could achieve salvation through belief in God’s mercy and love

Question #2

- Which of these best describes the Catholic church’s response to Luther’s Ninety-Five Theses?
  A. The church supported Luther’s reforms, and carried them out
  B. The church opposed his criticisms, and eventually condemned him
  C. The church was indifferent, and ignored his criticisms
  D. The church arrested Luther and forced him to take back his criticisms
Question #3

* When the Catholic Pope refused to grant a divorce to Henry VIII, Henry responded by:
  A. Humbly obeying the ruling of the church
  B. Converting to Islam
  C. Defying the Pope by creating his own church in England
  D. Visiting the Pope to negotiate

Question #4

* In response to the Protestant Reformation, the Catholic church made some changes in its practices. Which one of these was one of those changes?
  A. It agreed that salvation was possible only through faith
  B. It forbade the selling of indulgences
  C. It accepted other translations of the Bible besides Latin
  D. It accepted individual interpretations of scripture
Reformations Vocab Review

- Write and explain the significance of the following words from our section of study.
  - Martin Luther
  - Justification by faith
  - Indulgences
  - Anglican church
  - Baroque
  - Peace of Augsburg
Middle Ages, Renaissance, and Reformation Study Guide

**Guns, Germs, and Steel**
1. Explain Jared Diamond’s basic theory explaining why some world societies are more powerful than others.

**Middle Ages**
2. Explain the downfall of the Roman empire and the resulting decline of organized political power in Europe.

3. Describe the quality and nature of life in medieval Europe and what it meant for the people living there.

4. Explain the feudal political system, including how political power was organized and controlled.

**Renaissance**
5. Describe the three concepts that defined Renaissance thought.

6. Describe the contributions of Islamic scholars to the European Renaissance.

7. Describe the rebirth of classical ideas that emerged during the Renaissance, including the origins of those ideas.
8. Explain why conditions that favored the Renaissance existed in Italy.

9. Explain some of the major changes that occurred between the Middle Ages and the Renaissance

**The Reformation**

10. Describe the Peace of Augsburg and its effect on the struggle between Catholicism and Protestantism in Europe.

11. Explain Martin Luther’s major criticisms of the Catholic church, including the development of the idea of *justification by faith*, and Luther’s objection to church indulgences.

12. Explain how the printing press allowed the spreading of ideas, such as Martin Luther’s criticisms of the Catholic church, and his German translation of the Bible.

13. Describe the Catholic church’s immediate response to Luther’s criticisms.

14. Describe Catholic reformations designed to strengthen the church against Protestant criticisms.

15. Describe other challenges to Catholic religious power, including Henry VIII’s response to the Catholic church.
Medieval, Renaissance, and Reformations Quiz

**Directions:** Choose one of the following three questions and answer it in essay form. Use support from your notes and what we have talked about in class. Please do not write on this sheet!

1. Compare and contrast life in Europe during medieval times and during the Renaissance. How did things change between these times? What caused these changes to occur? How did people’s views on life change?

2. During the Renaissance, new views on life began to change ideas about religion and man’s place and role in the world. Explain this process, known as the Protestant and Catholic Reformations. Think about:
   - How did these ideas about religion and man change?
   - Who were major thinkers that came up with these new ideas?
   - What caused the further spread of these ideas?
   - How did the Roman Catholic church react to these new ideas?