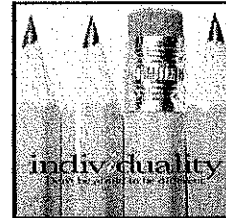


Renaissance Thought

THE HUMANISTS

(p.222-223)



The Renaissance was a time of major change. The ways of the Middle Ages were gone and a new set of values and society expectations were emerging. The new values of the Renaissance included upward mobility, self-reliance, imagination, creativity, adaptability, and forethought. Such qualities allowed a person to reach for the top of the social ladder.

Men and women of the Renaissance valued **INDIVIDUALISM**. – people were no longer tied to a manor and lord, and did no longer have to follow the obligations of the King or Baron. It was now a time for people to think about themselves.

WHO WERE HUMANISTS?

WHAT WERE HUMANISTS MORE CONCERNED WITH? (what did they want?)

Read p.222 and fill in the blanks:

Humanists believed in using the power of _____ to find truth instead of relying on the Bible or other religious (church) teachings. They believed in each person's ability to choose and create his or her _____.

The Italian writer and poet named _____ →
was one of the first _____.

What did he spend a lot of time doing? Why?



For Petrarch, the truly cultured person made an effort to _____, see great works of _____, and _____ widely.

Many Renaissance artists took Petrarch as their model of the well rounded person who knew about and was skilled in many different areas was called a true _____.



CRITICISMS OF HUMANISM:

MACHIAVELLI & THE PRINCE (p.223)

Even though the Renaissance was a time of great change, there was often a lot of **political instability**. (chaos amongst the leaders). Some people hoped a strong leader would bring an end to this chaotic political behaviour. This view was best expressed by the Florentine writer **NICOLO MACHIAVELLI** who was born in 1469.

Machiavelli wrote a book called _____ which is still studied today. Machiavelli disagreed with the popular humanist view that people were capable of improving themselves through their own efforts. He called people _____ who had to be forced by a strong ruler to do what is right. The wise ruler in his book was "The Prince" who was **absolutely ruthless**. He **disagreed** with Petrarch and the Humanist ideas.

REVIEW:

Humanists were people that believed _____.

The most famous Italian Humanist was named _____ who was also known as a _____.