

HUMANISM



Humanism- An intellectual movement at the heart of the Renaissance. Focus was on worldly (secular) subjects rather than the religious issues that had occupied medieval thinkers. Humanists believed that education would stimulate creative powers since people were free of the constraints of medieval life.

Elements of Humanism

Humanism = a new way of thinking that valued the individual and the creative mind of a human being

= the belief that individual people and their thoughts matter

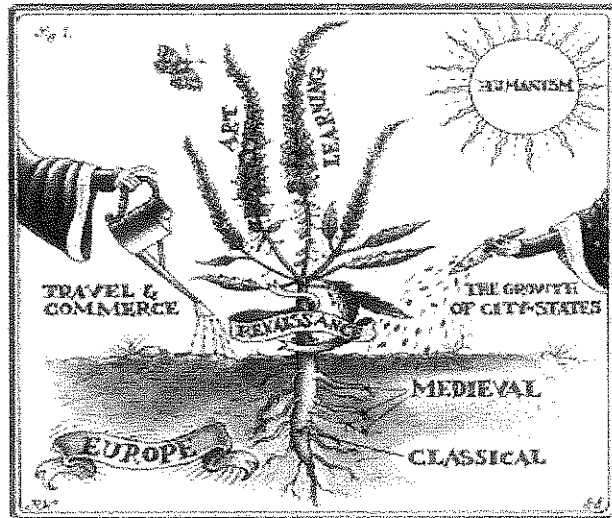
Elements / characteristics of humanism:

- daily life matters
- everyday, normal people have worth
- human emotions are worth portraying (painting/sculpting/writing about)
- human thoughts matter
- both religious and secular (non-religious) books / stories / art matters
- humans might be able to figure out nature
- leads to more exploration, more science, more math, etc.
- prepare more for the future
- also want to make life better now
- ideas about equality
- it is good to question the government

HUMANISM

In a five-paragraph essay, explain the illustration, or visual metaphor, below. Describe what it shows about changes in European life at the end of the Middle Ages that led to the flowering of arts and learning called the Renaissance. You should do the following in your essay:

- Use the following terms (underline in the essay): trade, patrons, city-state, coins, banking, universities, art, humanism, classical, Francesco Petrarch 10 points
- Define the word Renaissance and briefly explain how it defines this time period in Europe 10 points
- Explain the importance of the following to the birth of the Renaissance:
 - The growth of trade and commerce 10 points
 - The development of Italian city-states 10 points
 - Humanism 10 points



Look at the visual metaphor symbolizing the Renaissance. In two to three paragraphs, transform the visual into a written description of the Renaissance, explaining the correlation of the terms to where they are labeled in the visual. For example, why are the roots of the plant labeled Europe, medieval, and classical? Why does the sun represent humanism? How does each part relate/lead to the next?