

Chapter 1

Section-2

The Northern Renaissance

In the 1400s, the ideas of the Italian Renaissance begin to spread to Northern Europe.

Durer
*Adoration of the
Trinity*



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Section-2

The Northern Renaissance

The Northern Renaissance Begins

Renaissance Ideas Spread

- Spirit of Renaissance Italy impresses visitors from northern Europe
- When Hundred Years' War ends (1453), cities grow rapidly
- Merchants in northern cities grow wealthy and sponsor artists
- England and France unify under strong monarchs who are art patrons
- Northern Renaissance artists interested in realism
- Humanists interested in social reform based on Judeo-Christian values



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Artistic Ideas Spread

Renaissance Styles Migrate North

- Artists, writers move to northern Europe fleeing war in Italy (1494)

German Painters

- Albrecht Dürer's woodcuts and engravings emphasize realism
- Hans Holbein the Younger paints portraits, often of English royalty



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Artistic Ideas Spread *{continued}*

Flemish Painters

- Flanders is the artistic center of northern Europe
- Jan van Eyck, pioneer in oil-based painting, uses layers of paint
- Van Eyck's paintings are realistic and reveal subject's personality
- Pieter Bruegel captures scenes of peasant life with realistic details

Northern Humanists

- Criticize the Catholic Church, start Christian humanism
- Want to reform society and promote education, particularly for women



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Chapter 1

Northern Writers Try to Reform Society

Northern Humanists

- Criticize the Catholic Church, start Christian humanism
- Want to reform society and promote education, particularly for women

Christian Humanists

- Desiderius Erasmus of Holland is best-known Christian humanist
- His book, *The Praise of Folly*, pokes fun at merchants and priests
- Thomas More of England creates a model society in his book *Utopia*



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Northern Writers Try to Reform Society *{continued}*

Women's Reforms

- Christine de Pizan, one of the first women writers
- She promotes education, equal treatment for boys and girls



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The Elizabethan Age

Queen Elizabeth I

- Renaissance spreads to England in mid-1500s
- Period known as the Elizabethan Age, after Queen Elizabeth I
- Elizabeth reigns from 1558 to 1603

William Shakespeare

- **Shakespeare** is often regarded as the greatest playwright
- Born in Stratford-upon-Avon in 1564
- Plays performed at London's Globe Theater
- Wrote in the vernacular
- Character experienced real emotion, anger, jealousy, love, etc
- Plays based on Classical Characters: Antony and Cleopatra Julius Caesar, Henry VII, etc.



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Printing Spreads Renaissance Ideas

Chinese Invention

- Around 1045 Bi Sheng of China invents movable type
- It uses a separate piece of type for each character

Gutenberg Improves the Printing Process

- Around 1440 **Johann Gutenberg** of Germany develops printing press
- Printing press allows for quick, cheap book production
- First book printed with movable type, Gutenberg Bible (1455)



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The Legacy of the Renaissance

Changes in the Arts

- Art influenced by classical Greece and Rome
- Realistic portrayals of individuals and nature
- Art is both secular and religious
- Writers use vernacular
- Art praises individual achievement



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The Legacy of the Renaissance *{continued}*

Changes in Society

- Printing makes information widely available
- Illiterate people benefit by having books read to them
- Published accounts of maps and charts lead to more discoveries
- Published legal proceedings make rights clearer to people
- Political structures and religious practices are questioned



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