

2020

(第一段)Following the explosion of creativity in Florence during the 14th century known as the Renaissance, the modern world saw a departure from what it had once known.

It turned from God and the authority of the Roman Catholic Church and instead favoured a more humanistic approach to being.

Renaissance ideas had spread throughout Europe well into the 17th century, with the arts and sciences flourishing extraordinarily among those with a more logical disposition.

(46) with the Church's teachings and ways of thinking eclipsed by the Renaissance, the gap between the Medieval and modern periods had been bridged

leading to new and unexplored intellectual territories.

(第二段) During the Renaissance, the great minds of Nicolaus Copernicus, Johannes Kepler and Galileo Galilei demonstrated the power of scientific study and discovery.

(47) Before each of their revelations, many thinkers at the time had sustained more ancient ways of thinking, including the geo-centric view that the Earth was at the centre of our universe.

Copernicus theorized in 1543 that all of the planets that we knew of revolved not around the Earth, but the Sun, a system that was later upheld by Galileo at his own expense.

Offering up such a theory during a time of high tension between scientific and religious minds was branded as heresy, and any such heretics that continued to spread these lies were to be punished by imprisonment or even death.

(第三段)(48) Despite attempts by the Church to suppress this new generation of logicians and rationalists, more explanations for how the universe functioned were being made at a rate that the people could no longer ignore.

It was with these great revelations that a new kind of philosophy founded in reason was born.

(第四段)The Church's long-standing dogma was losing the great battle for truth

to rationalists and scientists.

This very fact embodied the new ways of thinking that swept through Europe during most of 17th century.

(49) As many took on the duty of trying to integrate reasoning and scientific philosophies into the world, the Renaissance was over and it was time for a new era- the Age of Reason.

(第五段)The 17th and 18th centuries were times of radical change and curiosity. Scientific method, reductionism and the questioning of Church ideals was to be encouraged, as were ideas of liberty, tolerance and progress.

(50) Such actions to seek knowledge and to understand what information we already knew were captured by the Latin phrase ‘sapere aude’ or ‘dare to know’, after Immanuel Kant used it in his essay “An Answer to the Question: What is Enlightenment?”.

It was the purpose and responsibility of great minds to go forth and seek out the truth, which they believed to be founded in knowledge.