# Renaissance Humanities and Fine Arts Assessment

**Name:**

**Date:**

## Directions

1. **Choose** four achievements from the Renaissance period (1300–1600).

* One in the visual arts (painting and sculpture)
* One in literature or poetry
* One in science or technology
* One additional achievement of your choice (can be a second achievement in one of the categories above)

**TIP:** The achievements you choose can be from the lesson or you can research to find others—just make sure they are from the Renaissance period!

1. **Describe** each achievement. What was new and interesting about it? How it was different from earlier medieval art or science?

Your explanations should be a few complete sentences and must include:

* key terms or specialized vocabulary from the lesson
* a detailed description of the achievement
* what made it new and one interesting fact about it
  1. **Explain** how humanism might have inspired the person or people responsible for the achievement.

**Optional:** You may include images of each achievement, but the descriptions are what your teacher will be grading.

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| Category | Choice and Description | Roots in Humanism |
| Visual Arts | Leonardo da Vinci's portrait of Lisa Gherardini, the Mona Lisa, is renowned for its realism, the use of sfumato, and the woman's knowing smile. The portrait reflects the Renaissance focus on individualism and naturalism | The Mona Lisa reflects humanism by emphasizing the unique identity and inner life of the subject. Leonardo’s scientific approach to anatomy and perspective also highlights the Renaissance belief in human potential and intellectual inquiry. |
| Literature or Poetry | Utopia by Sir Thomas More (1516) is a political and philosophical work that describes an ideal society based on reason and equality. Written in Latin, it critiques contemporary European politics and offers a vision of a better world through rational governance. | Utopia is deeply rooted in humanism, emphasizing the power of human reason to imagine and create a more just society. More’s focus on education, equality, and ethical governance reflects humanist values of critical thinking and social reform. |
| Science or Technology | Anatomical Studies by Andreas Vesalius in his groundbreaking book De humani corporis fabric revolutionized the understanding of human anatomy. He conducted detailed dissections and corrected many errors in earlier works by Galen, setting a new standard for medical science. | Vesalius’s work reflects humanism by prioritizing observation, experimentation, and the study of the human body as a central aspect of knowledge. It showcases the humanist belief in human curiosity and the pursuit of truth through empirical methods. |
| Your Choice | Brunelleschi’s Dome in Florence, designed by Filippo Brunelleschi for the Cathedral of Santa Maria del Fiore, is a masterpiece of engineering and architecture. The double-shell design and innovative construction techniques set a benchmark for Renaissance architecture. | Brunelleschi’s Dome exemplifies humanism by emphasizing the power of human ingenuity and creativity. It represents the Renaissance belief in solving complex problems through reason, mathematics, and a deep understanding of classical architectural principles. |