



What You Will Learn...

As the Middle Ages drew to a close, Europe entered a new period of creativity and learning called the Renaissance. During the Renaissance, artists and scholars rediscovered the ideas of ancient Greece and Rome. They hoped to build on the achievements of these classical civilizations.

Some Renaissance scholars and thinkers clashed with church officials. These clashes led to a struggle in Christianity called the Reformation. Other thinkers, searching for the truth about nature and humanity, invented modern science.

In the next three chapters, you will read about how these developments dramatically reshaped Europe and the world.

Explore the Art

In this scene, the young singer Francesca Caccini performs at a private gathering in Italy. What features of daily life can you see in this illustration?

The Renaissance



California Standards

History–Social Science

7.8 Students analyze the origins, accomplishments, and geographic diffusion of the Renaissance.

Analysis Skills

CS 3 Use maps to identify the migration of people and the growth of economic systems.

English–Language Arts

Writing 7.2.4b Describe the points in support of the proposition, employing well-articulated evidence.

Reading 7.1.2 Use knowledge of Greek, Latin, and Anglo-Saxon roots and affixes to understand content-area vocabulary.

FOCUS ON WRITING



A Movie Proposal You have a great idea for a movie set during the Renaissance. To get your film made, you need to convince a studio that the period is interesting and exciting. As you read this chapter, look for people and ideas that you could include in your movie.



CHAPTER EVENTS

1200

WORLD EVENTS

1271

Marco Polo travels to China.

1281

The *kamikaze* saves Japan from a Mongol invasion.

History's Impact

▶ video series

Watch the video to understand the impact of the Renaissance and Reformation.



What You Will Learn...

In this chapter you will learn how the Renaissance changed life in Europe. The Renaissance began in Italy's great trading cities like Venice, shown here. Venice is an island city crisscrossed with canals, so its "streets" are actually waterways.

1321

Dante completes *The Divine Comedy*.

1300**1368**

The Ming dynasty begins in China.

**1400****c. 1455**

Gutenberg develops his printing press.

1453

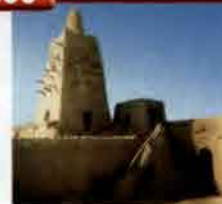
The Ottomans conquer Constantinople.

1508–1512

Michelangelo paints the ceiling of the Sistine Chapel.

1500**1464**

Sunni Ali founds the Songhai Empire in West Africa.

**1594–1595**

Shakespeare writes *Romeo and Juliet*.

1600

Focus on Themes This chapter takes you into Italy in the 1300s and 1400s. At that time scholars, artists, and scientists built on classical Greek and Roman roots to make new advances in **science and technology** and the arts. You will read how Italy's

geographical location, along with the invention of the printing press and the reopening of routes between China and Europe made the Renaissance a worldwide event with effects far beyond Italy.

Greek and Latin Word Roots

Focus on Reading During the Renaissance, scientists and scholars became interested in the history and languages of ancient Greece and Rome. Many of the words we use every day are based on words spoken by people in these ancient civilizations.

Common roots The charts below list some Greek and Latin roots found in many English words. As you read the charts, try to think of words that include each root. Then think about how the words' meanings are related to their roots.

Common Latin Roots		
Root	Meaning	Sample words
-aud-	hear	audience, audible
liter-	writing	literature, literary
re-	again	repeat, redo
-script-	write	script, manuscript
sub-	below	submarine, substandard
trans-	across	transport, translate

Common Greek Roots		
Root	Meaning	Sample words
anti-	against	antifreeze, antiwar
astr-	star	asteroid, astronaut
-chron-	time	chronicle, chronology
dia-	across, between	diagonal, diameter
micr-	small	microfilm, microscope
-phono-	sound	telephone, symphony

Additional reading support can be found in the





ELA Reading 7.1.2 Use knowledge of Greek, Latin, and Anglo-Saxon roots and affixes to understand content-area vocabulary.

Key Terms and People

Chapter 11

Section 1

Marco Polo (p. 299)

interest (p. 302)

Cosimo de' Medici (p. 302)

Renaissance (p. 303)

Section 2

humanism (p. 304)

Dante Alighieri (p. 306)

Niccolo Machiavelli (p. 306)

perspective (p. 307)

Michelangelo (p. 308)

Leonardo da Vinci (p. 308)

Petrarch (p. 310)

Section 3

Johann Gutenberg (p. 313)

Christian humanism (p. 314)

Desiderius Erasmus (p. 314)

Albrecht Dürer (p. 315)

Miguel de Cervantes (p. 316)

William Shakespeare (p. 316)

Academic Vocabulary

Success in school is related to knowing academic vocabulary—the words that are frequently used in school assignments and discussions. In this chapter, you will learn the following academic words:

classical (p. 305)

affect (p. 310)

As you read Chapter 11, be on the lookout for words with Greek and Latin root words like those listed in the chart on the opposite page. Use the chart to help you figure out what words mean.

You Try It!

Each of the following sentences is taken from the chapter you are about to read. After you've read the sentences, answer the questions at the bottom of the page.

Using Word Origins

1. In their luggage these scholars carried rare, precious works of literature. (p. 305)
2. Among the ideas that Italian scholars wanted to revive were subjects that the Greeks and Romans had studied. (p. 306)
3. Later astronomers built on this discovery to lay the foundation for modern astronomy. (p. 310)
4. Although church leaders fought strenuously against it, the Bible was eventually translated and printed. (p. 313)
5. Also, straight lines, such as on floor tiles, appear diagonal. (p. 307)

Answer the following questions about the underlined words. Use the Common Roots charts on the opposite page for help.

1. Which of the underlined words has a root word that means "writing?" How does knowing the root word help you figure out what the word means?
2. What does the root word *astr-* mean? How does that help you figure out the meaning of *astronomy*?
3. In the second sentence, what do you think *revive* means? How could this be related to the root *re-*?
4. What's the root word in *translation*? What does *translation* mean? How is that definition related to the meaning of the root word?
5. What does the word *diagonal* mean? How is that meaning related to the meaning of *dia-*?
6. How many more words can you think of that use the roots in the charts on the previous page? Make a list and share it with your classmates.

Origins of the Renaissance

What You Will Learn...

Main Ideas

1. European trade with Asia increased in the 1300s.
2. Trade cities in Italy grew wealthy and competed against each other.
3. As Florence became a center for arts and learning, the Renaissance began.

The Big Idea

The growth of wealthy trading cities in Italy led to a new era called the Renaissance.

Key Terms and People

Marco Polo, p. 299

interest, p. 302

Cosimo de' Medici, p. 302

Renaissance, p. 303



HSS 7.8.2 Explain the importance of Florence in the early stages of the Renaissance and the growth of independent trading cities (e.g., Venice), with emphasis on the cities' importance in the spread of Renaissance ideas.

7.8.3 Understand the effects of the reopening of the ancient "Silk Road" between Europe and China, including Marco Polo's travels and the location of his routes.

If YOU were there...

You are a historian living in Florence, Italy, in the late 1300s. In your writing you describe the wonders of your city. But the place was very different only about 50 years before. At that time, the Black Death was sweeping through the city. In fact, your own grandfather was killed by the terrible disease. Some 50,000 of the city's other citizens also died from plague. Now, though, Florence is known for its beauty, art, and learning.

How did your city change so quickly?

BUILDING BACKGROUND By the late 1300s the Black Death's horrors had passed. In Europe the stage was set for great changes. Europeans could worry less about dying and concentrate more on living. They wanted to enjoy life's pleasures—art, literature, and learning. Increased trade with faraway lands would help spark new interest in these activities.

Trade with Asia

It seems strange that the Black Death could have had any positive results, but that is what happened. You may remember that workers who survived could charge more money for their labor. In addition, the disease didn't damage farmland, buildings, ships, machines, or gold. People who survived could use these things to raise more food or make new products. They did just that. Europe's economy began to grow again.

As more goods became available, prices went down. People could buy more of the things they wanted. Trade increased, and new products appeared in the markets. Some of these goods came from India, China, and other lands to the east. How did these items move thousands of miles over high mountains and wide deserts? To learn more, we need to go back in time.

The Silk Road Reopens

The Chinese and Romans did business together from about AD 1 to 200. Products moved east and west along the Silk Road. This caravan route started in China and ended at the Mediterranean Sea.

When the Roman Empire and the Han dynasty fell, soldiers no longer protected travelers between Europe and Asia. As a result, use of the Silk Road declined. Then in the 1200s the Mongols took over China.

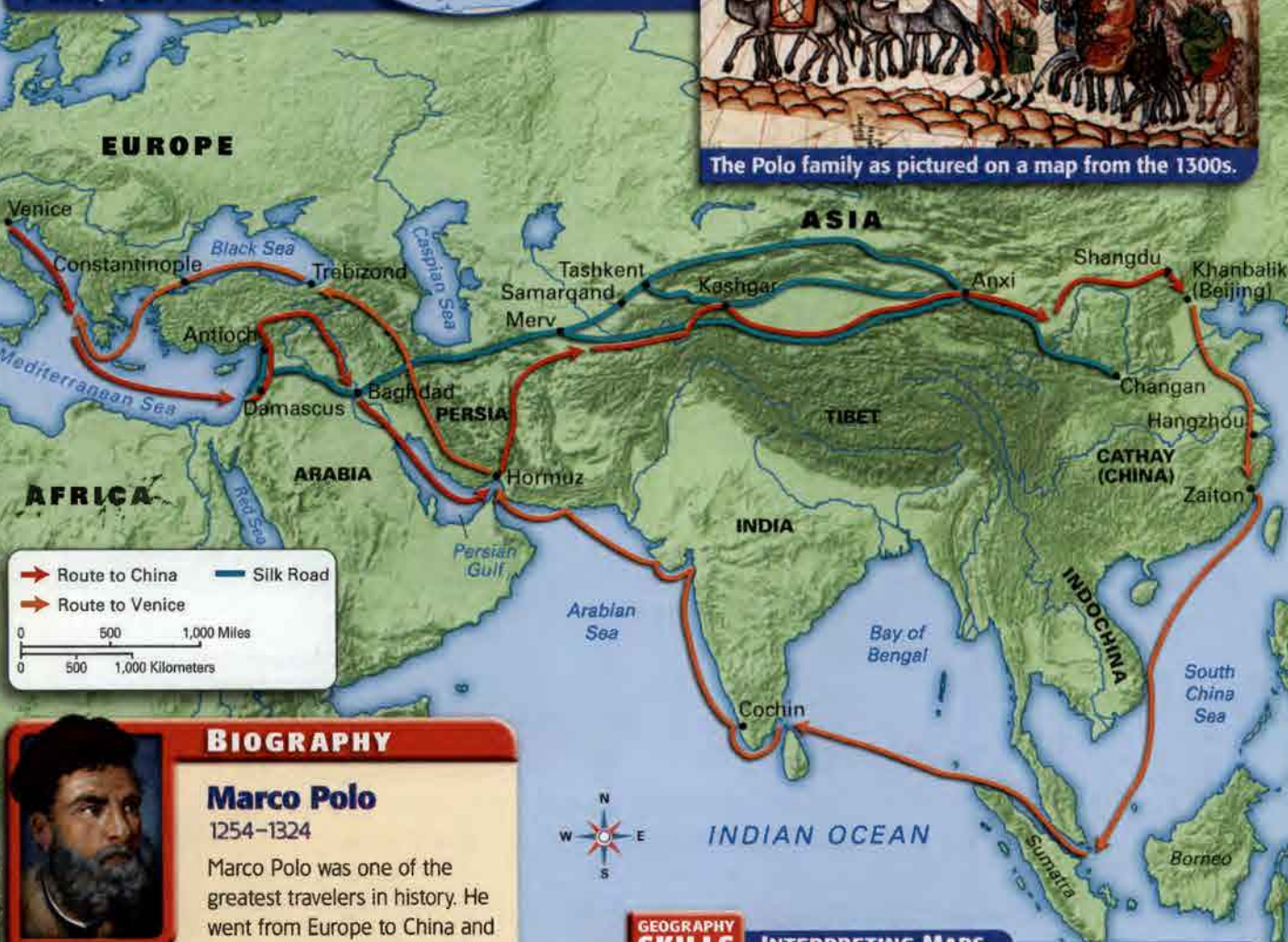
They once again made the roads safer for travelers and traders. Among these traders was a remarkable man from Venice named **Marco Polo** and his family.

Look at the map to follow the route of the Polo family's trip. Part of the journey was along the old Silk Road. When the Polos arrived in China, they met with the Mongol emperor Kublai Khan. He invited them to stay in his court and even made Marco Polo a government official.

Routes of Marco Polo, 1271–1295



The Polo family as pictured on a map from the 1300s.



BIOGRAPHY

Marco Polo

1254–1324

Marco Polo was one of the greatest travelers in history. He went from Europe to China and spent 20 years living, working, and traveling in Asia. When he returned to Venice, his friends and family didn't even recognize him. They thought he had been dead for many years.

GEOGRAPHY SKILLS

INTERPRETING MAPS

- Location** From what city did Marco Polo begin his journey?
- Movement** How was his route to China different from his return route?

The Polos saw many amazing things in China. For example, the Chinese used paper money in addition to the coins that Europeans used. The Polos were also fascinated by an unusual fuel source, which Marco later described:

“It is a fact that throughout the province of Cathay [China] there is a sort of black stone, which is dug out of veins in the hillsides and burns like logs. These stones keep a fire going better than wood.”

—Marco Polo, from *A Description of the World*

This is the first known description of coal by a European.

While his father and uncle stayed in China, Marco Polo visited India and Southeast Asia. He traveled as a messenger for the emperor. Marco Polo spent 20 years living and traveling in Asia.

Eventually, the Polos returned to Venice. There a writer helped Marco Polo record his journey. At the time, many people didn't believe Polo's stories. Some people thought he had never set foot in China! Over the years his reputation grew, however. Polo's description made many Europeans curious about Asia. As their curiosity grew, people began to demand goods from Asia. Trade between Asia and Europe increased. Italian merchants organized much of this trade.

READING CHECK Finding Main Ideas What ancient trade route did the Polos travel?

Trade Cities in Italy

By the 1300s four northern Italian cities had become trading centers—Florence, Genoa (JEN-uh-wuh), Milan (muh-LAHN), and Venice. These cities bustled with activity. Shoppers there could buy beautiful things from Asia. Residents could meet strangers from faraway places and hear many languages on the streets.

Ports and Craft Centers

Italian cities played two very important roles in trade. One role was as ports on the Mediterranean Sea. Venice and Genoa were Italy's main port cities. Merchant ships brought spices and other luxuries from Asia into the cities' harbors. From there, merchants shipped the goods across Europe.

The other role was as manufacturing centers. Cities specialized in certain crafts. Venice produced glass. Workers in Milan made weapons and silk. Florence was a center for weaving wool into cloth. All of this economic activity put more money in merchants' pockets. Some Italian merchant families became incredibly wealthy. Eventually, this wealth would help make Italy the focus of European culture. How did this happen?



1 Milan

This castle in Milan was built in the mid-1400s. It shows the wealth and power of Italy's trading cities.

2 Genoa

Genoa is on the Mediterranean. This location enabled Genoa to become rich through overseas trade.



Separate States and Rival Rulers

Look at the map below. Notice that in the 1300s Italy was not a single country. Instead, it was made up of independent states. These states had different forms of government. For example, Venice was a republic, while the pope ruled the Papal States as a monarchy.

In most big Italian cities, a single rich merchant family controlled the government. This type of government was called a

signoria (seen-yohr-EE-uh). The head of the family, the *signore* (seen-YOHR-ay), ruled the city. Under the *signori*, trade grew in Italy. In fact, the *signori* competed against each other to see whose city could grow richest from trade. They also competed for fame. Each one wanted to be known as powerful, wise, and devoted to his city.

READING CHECK Summarizing What were the four great trade cities of Italy in the 1300s?

Major Trading Cities in Renaissance Italy



3 Venice

Venice is an island city. Like Genoa, Venice grew rich from its sea trade.



4 Florence

Florence was a banking and trade center. The city's wealthy leaders used their money to beautify the city with impressive buildings and art.

GEOGRAPHY SKILLS

INTERPRETING MAPS

Location In what part of Italy are all four major trading cities located?



Beginning of the Renaissance

This love of art and education was a key feature of a time we call the Renaissance (REN-uh-sahns). The word **Renaissance** means “rebirth” and refers to the period that followed Europe’s Middle Ages.

What was being “reborn”? Interest in Greek and Roman writings was revived. Also new was an emphasis on people as individuals. These ideas were very different from the ideas of the Middle Ages.

READING CHECK **Finding Main Ideas** How did Florence help begin the Renaissance?

SUMMARY AND PREVIEW Changes in Italy led to the beginning of an era called the Renaissance. In the next section you’ll learn about the Italian Renaissance—its ideas, people, and arts.

Section 1 Assessment

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Online Quiz

KEYWORD: SQ7 HPTI

Reviewing Ideas, Terms, and People **HSS** 7.8.2, 7.8.3

- a. **Recall** What road did **Marco Polo** travel to Asia?

b. **Summarize** How did the Polos affect trade with Asia?
- a. **Identify** What were the four major trade cities of Italy?

b. **Analyze** How were these cities important economically?
- a. **Identify** What is one reason why education was important to **Cosimo de’ Medici**?

b. **Analyze** How did Florence rise to fame?

Critical Thinking

- Sequencing** Draw a graphic organizer like the one below. Use it to describe the results of increased trade with Asia.



FOCUS ON WRITING

- Choosing a Setting** In this section, you read about the setting in which the Renaissance developed: Italy in the 1200s and 1300s. How could you use this setting to make your movie interesting?

Florence

A market buzzes with activity in this scene showing what Florence may have looked like in the late 1300s.

Merchants traded goods from Europe and Asia in the city's markets.

Cloth was a major trade good in Florence.

Bankers kept detailed records of their investments.

Florence

In the 1300s, trade goods from Asia poured into Europe. Many of those items came through Italian ports. As a result, the merchant families in these cities made money. As the families grew rich and powerful, they wanted everyone to see what their money could buy. Although these factors affected most big Italian cities, one city—Florence—stands out as an example of trade and wealth at this time.

The Medici Family

Although Florence's wealth began with the wool trade, banking increased that wealth. Bankers in Florence kept money for merchants from all over Europe. The bankers made money by charging interest.

Interest is a fee that borrowers pay for the use of someone else's money. This fee is usually a certain percentage of the loan.

THE IMPACT TODAY

Renaissance bankers in Florence developed a bookkeeping system that bankers still use today.

The greatest bankers in Florence were the Medici (MED-i-chee) family. In the early 1400s they were Florence's richest family, and by 1434 **Cosimo de' Medici** (KOH-zee-moh day MED-i-chee) ruled the city.

As ruler, Cosimo de' Medici wanted Florence to be the most beautiful city in the world. He hired artists to decorate his palace. He also paid architects to redesign many of Florence's buildings.

Cosimo de' Medici also valued education. After all, his banks needed workers who could read, write, and understand math. To improve education, he also built libraries and collected books.

During the time that the Medici family held power, Florence became the center of Italian art, literature, and culture. In other Italian cities, rich families tried to outdo the Medicis—and each other—in their support of the arts and learning.