



Art History

Principles of Italian Renaissance Art

Name:

Section:

Directions: Use the following information to follow along with the notes on Art of the Italian Renaissance.

Characteristics of the Arts

- Paintings
 - Recognizable backgrounds
 - Clear space and time
 - Showed volume
 - Oil painting
 - Perspective: foreground, background, vanishing point
 - Humans were anatomically correct
 - Portraits / Self-portraits became popular
 - LESS Classical influence than other arts
 - Religious themes remained but expressed secularly (looked real)
- Architecture
 - Classical style was copied
 - Symmetrical, domes, arches
 - Rejected the Gothic style (Middle Age, pointed arches, towers, etc...)
 - Public Buildings (libraries, town halls) = civic emphasis
 - Wealthy wanted grand houses that reflected their wealth
- Sculpture
 - Free-standing
 - Walk around 360°
 - Classical themes (historic, myths, nudes, busts = just the upper-body)
- Literature
 - Writers became writers by occupation
 - To entertain others, to be read
 - Secular literate men = not in clergy
 - Wrote about daily life
 - Biographies / Auto-biographies
 - Beginnings of humor and sarcasm