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THE NORTHERN RENAISSANCE AND ITS SCHOLARS



ORAL QUIZ ON RENAISSANCE LIFE

The points and level of detail given below are those which a lower-grammar student might be expected to know from his reading, though he may not include every detail. You may also use these points to prompt your student.

Life in the Renaissance

- 1. During the Renaissance period, how were boys and girls educated?

 Most boys and girls were educated to some degree at home during the Renaissance. A good education was emphasized for boys more than for girls. At a minimum, boys and girls learned to read, write, and have some math skills in order to function in their daily lives. Girls from very poor families might not have any education at all. Children from wealthier families had private tutors and explored a wider range of subjects that might have included science, languages, history, poetry, art, and literature.
- 2. What kinds of occupations did the common worker have during the Renaissance period? *Most workers either were farmers or tradesmen such as bakers, shoemakers, or ironworkers.*
- 3. In what kind of house did most townspeople live?

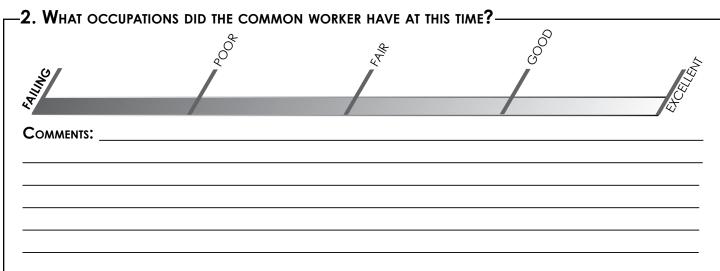
 Most townspeople lived in the poorer sections of town in homes built close together. Often, several families shared one small, simple house and a tiny yard.
- 4. How did people in the countryside live?

 People who lived in the country had more space. They lived in cottages with one or two rooms. Sometimes they even had farm animals living in the house with them!
- 5. What kind of foods did wealthy people enjoy during the Renaissance?

 Because new trade routes were made during the Renaissance, wealthy people enjoyed a variety of foods including savory meats, fish, and dishes flavored with sugar, spices, and peppercorns. Wine was the common drink among the wealthy.
- 6. How did the food differ for the poorer people?

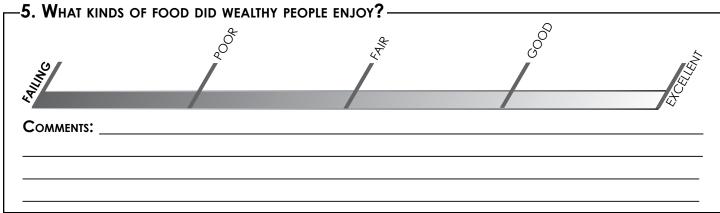
 Poorer people during the Renaissance ate simpler foods such as cheese, bread, eggs, and home-grown vegetables. Some might have had a pig for meat as well. They usually drank milk or beer they brewed themselves.
- 7. How did the clothes of wealthy people differ from the clothes that ordinary people wore? In the Renaissance, wealthy people showed off their wealth and importance by the elaborate clothes they wore. Fabrics such as velvet, silk, and furs often made up their garments. Even servants of the wealthy were dressed nicely in order to show off their master's wealth. In contrast, clothing of ordinary people was more functional than decorative. They had few and simple garments made from sturdy, woolen cloth.

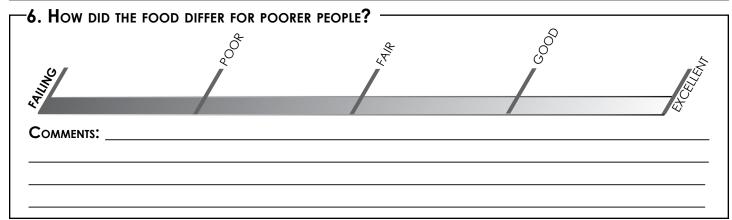
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