

# Modern European History

## Unit 2 – The Renaissance

### Humanism Character Discussion

Imagine you are the Renaissance individual you researched as homework for today. Imagine you have been asked to join a discussion of an important issue occurring in Europe during the Renaissance. Present your opinion on the matter using what you believe the viewpoint of this individual would be.

#### **Scenario:**

The invention of the printing press has made literature available to a much wider audience than ever before. This wider audience needs to be educated if they are to learn how to read. Would your individual support private education (each individual pays for his or her education) or providing public education (provided for everyone and paid for with taxes)?

There is only one printing press in the town. Printed pamphlets have been found that criticize the meeting that is taking place today, saying that only the wealthy and/or privileged members of the town were being asked for their opinion of the education issue. Someone suggests confiscating the printing press and forbidding any further printing unless approved by your group.

#### **Process:**

Go around your group and have each member present their opinions on this matter in character (should be a discussion, not just yes/no). After every member has had the opportunity to speak, have each individual vote on each issue and write his or her votes down in the space provided on the list on the back. After everyone has voted, take a total count of the votes on each measure to report out to the larger group.

YOUR NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

**ON THE LIST ON THE BACK,  
PLEASE CIRCLE THE NAME OF THE INDIVIDUAL YOU RESEARCHED.**

<b>Renaissance Individual</b>	<b>Private or Public Education?</b>	<b>Printing Ban – Yes or No?</b>
Albrecht Dürer		
Baldassare Castiglione		
Catherine de Medici		
Christine de Pizan		
Cosimo de Medici		
Desiderius Erasmus		
Donatello		
Filippo Brunelleschi		
Francesco Petrarch		
Girolamo Savonarola		
Hans Holbein		
Isabella d’Este		
Jan and Hubert Van Eyck		
Johann Reuchlin		
Johannes Gutenberg		
Leonardo da Vinci		
Lorenzo de Medici		
Lorenzo Ghiberti		
Michelangelo		
Niccolò Machiavelli		
Raphael		
Sandro Botticelli		
Thomas More		
William Shakespeare		

<b>Total Votes of Your Group</b>		
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