

PRELIMINARY EXAM IN RENAISSANCE AND REFORMATION HISTORY

FALL 1995

YOU MUST ANSWER FOUR QUESTIONS, INCLUDING AT LEAST ONE FROM EACH SECTION. ALWAYS INCLUDE A DISCUSSION OF THE RELEVANT HISTORICAL LITERATURE. TRY TO RELAX AND THINK ABOUT WHAT YOU WRITE BEFORE PICKING UP YOUR PEN...

SECTION A

1. Discuss the concept of the Renaissance.
2. Discuss Martin Luther and the Renaissance.
3. What were the results of European expansion in the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries.
4. Compare and contrast the art of northern and southern Europe during the Renaissance.

SECTION B

5. Why did France fail to defeat the Habsburgs between 1519 and 1559?
6. Why did Spain fail to suppress the Dutch Revolt between 1566 and 1609?
7. Evaluate the strengths and weaknesses of Immanuel Wallerstein, *The Modern World System*, vol. i, and show how other historians have been influenced by it.
8. Write an obituary, suitable for publication in a reputable *FOREIGN NEWSPAPER OF THE DAY*, of either Louis XIII or Richelieu. [Be sure to specify the country in which the newspaper was published.]

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 X WRITE LEGIBLY! WHAT WE X
 X CANNOT READ WE CANNOT MARK! X
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YOU MUST ANSWER FOUR QUESTIONS, INCLUDING AT LEAST ONE FROM EACH SECTION. ALWAYS INCLUDE A DISCUSSION OF THE RELEVANT HISTORICAL LITERATURE.

SECTION A

1. Criticize, not failing to give credit for what is valid, the following quotation (identifying the author, if you can, but it isn't essential): Italy appeared to the French invaders "a radiant daughter of sin and death, holding in her hands the fruit of the knowledge of good and evil, and tempting the nations to eat: this is how Italy struck the fancy of the men of the sixteenth century. She was feminine, and they were virile; she could teach and they must learn. She gave them pleasure; they brought force. The fruit of her embraces with the nations was the spirit of modern culture, the genius of the age in which we live."

2. What distinguished the patronage of the Renaissance from that of the Middle Ages? Discuss Renaissance patronage.

3. Describe Copernican astronomy and discuss its importance.

4. In this year of celebration and controversy, how do you evaluate the achievement of Christopher Columbus?

SECTION B

5. Stephen Fischer-Galati has suggested that the success of the Protestant Reformation in Germany would have been impossible without Turkish pressure on the Habsburgs. Do you agree?

6. Explain the collapse of royal authority in France between the 1560s and the 1590s.

7. What was the significance of the Council of Trent?

8. Who won the Thirty Years' War?

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