

Instructions:

Choose quotes from texts about your theory.

Paste the quote (1 quote per line, to make life easier) and then explain as best you can in your own words what this means.

You can totally use these as references when you are writing your Theories assessment essay at the end of the term. NB paste the link to your source in by the heading, so that we know what you're analysing

Humanism

- <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1Oi5lpu7pGGwAevqYBLCUJwsJKY4cvE-4/view?usp=sharing>

Name	Quote from the theory text	Explain in your own words
Miss M example	<i>"Studia humanitatis has its roots in Ancient Greece's trivium (three part curriculum of grammar, logic, and rhetoric), and the quadrivium (four part curriculum of geometry, arithmetic, astronomy, and music) ... Humanism enabled people to rediscover the world and realise they occupied a special place in it, and it was this trait which helped catalyse the change during the Renaissance."</i> https://drive.google.com/file/d/1Oi5lpu7pGGwAevqYBLCUJwsJKY4cvE-4/view?usp=sharing (Paragraph 1 and 2)	<i>Studia humanitatis</i> gave humanists the tools that they needed to explore the world and to understand their place in the world. This classical knowledge spurred on change in the Renaissance era.
Kathryne	<i>"In order to understand ancient philosophy and discover for themselves the intellectual foundations of humankind, Renaissance humanists needed to go back to the sources themselves, the Classic texts. They needed to be fluent in Greek and even Hebrew to understand the works of the early Church fathers and the pagan works of Greece and Rome. Many earlier translations had become corrupted over time so it was important to return to the originals."</i>	The humanists recognised that there is value in both ancient classical texts and ancient christian texts, but that later translations would have been riddled with biases and corruption, and so they also understood the value of translation and languages.

Ms M	““Nothing is more wonderful than man” so went the ancient Arabian belief and this was echoed countless times by Renaissance humanists.”	Often we have a very Eurocentric take on the Renaissance and Humanism. It is interesting to consider the influence that the Arab world had on the Italian renaissance, as they had continued to study the classical texts as the West went through the ‘dark ages’.
Abby	<i>Humanism (studia humanitatis) - the discovery of the world and humankind’s place in it</i> <i>“Nothing is more wonderful than man”</i> <i>“During the Renaissance, universities began to replace monasteries as centres of learning, encouraging thinkers to take stock of their surroundings and of knowledge in general. At these new universities scholars began to re-examine with interest the tradition of Greek and Classical learning...”</i> <i>Medieval people regarded their bodies as worthless whose function was to be a receptacle to contain the soul during the intermittent period between birth and everlasting life in heaven. Renaissance humanists, on the other hand, looked at their bodies as gifts from God, to them it was a crime not to utilise the body and mind to their maximum potential.</i>	Humanism is the exploration of man’s potential, and realizing the beauty of man, and that he is his own fate decider, not a higher power. Man is in no need of God, man is equal to him. Humanism arose from the revival of classical Greek and Roman texts, as knowledge and wisdom strongly characterized humanism. Classical learning was prioritised, and
Quillyn	<i>The new humanist mind-set showed mankind how to come to terms with its surroundings and that humans were not worthless in the eyes of God. From now on, not only the soul but its container, the entire body, was esteemed.</i>	Humanism taught that people have value to God, helping them embrace both their physical body and the world around them.
Ada	<i>This is one reason why Renaissance humanists looked back to the ancient philosophy of Plato, because</i> <i>he stipulated that since God had given mankind such powerful and wonderful minds and such a beautiful world to</i> <i>live in, they shouldn’t rely on Him for everything but ought to rely on themselves a little a bit more.</i>	The renaissance had changed people’s mindset towards religion

Neoplatonism

- <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1p-A3PCi3a6nwgY7F3DJa9Gj66lH0tjKr/view?usp=sharing>

Name	Quotation from Theory	Explain in your own words
Ms M	<i>"the philosophical instinct in the Italian Renaissance was to synthesize thought systems, to find a common, universal philosophy that encompasses a broad range of human thought."</i> (Introduction to neoplatonism, paragraph 2)	In the Renaissance, scholars were inclined to blend/synthesise ideas. It wasn't really a case of this vs. that.
Ms M	<i>"Ficino believed that the purpose of human life was contemplation. The ultimate goal of human life was to be reunited with God, at least in an intellectual sense. This goal, according to Ficino, was realized through contemplation. At first, the human mind removes itself from the outside, physical world, and thinks about abstract ideas concerning knowledge and the soul. As it rises in knowledge it eventually reaches a point where it can arrive at an unmediated vision of God itself" (pg 3, paragraph 4)</i>	Neoplatonism was not opposed to Christian ideas rather it synthesised Christian theology into its ideas. The ultimate goal of Neoplatonism for the soul to ascend through thought and philosophy towards the form of The One.

Kathrynne	<i>"Ficino's philosophy is based on one central doctrine: the human soul is immortal and the center of the universe.</i> <i>It is the only thing that sits midway between the abstract realm of ideas and the physical world—as such, it is the mediator between these two worlds: All things beneath God are but single things, but the soul can truly be said to be all things . . . For this reason, the soul is called the center of creation and the middle term of all things in the universe, the entirety of the universe, the face of all things, and the binding and joining center of the Universe."</i> pg 3 p4	Humanity is the link between the two neoplatonic realms. The soul sits between the two worlds, making it the bridge between the world of forms and the world of sense.
Abby	<i>The Neoplatonists, on the other hand, sought to combine Platonism with the other major philosophies of antiquity, such as Stoicism, Aristoteleanism, and various theologies.</i>	
Ms M	<i>Renaissance Platonism cannot really be easily considered as a school or even a coherent movement. Unlike humanism or Aristoteleanism, it was not a program of education and so did not constitute normal studies, nor did it ever become a program of study or curriculum. ... In the history of ideas, Renaissance Neoplatonism is more important for its diffusion into a variety of philosophies and cultural activities, such as literature, painting, and music. The humanists, beginning with Petrarch, associated themselves in part with Platonic philosophy as a reaction against Aristoteleanism, though the early humanists knew little or nothing about Platonism. (Page 3, para 1)</i>	Neoplatonism was not a movement with a clear set of rules or ideas ... it's significance was more so in its' fusion of ideas and knowledge and the influence this had on culture
Kathrynne	<i>"From the standpoint of religion, Ficino was a syncretic in that he believed that all the world's religions could be related to one another. At the heart of every religion was a belief in the one God and the variety of religions was not a bad thing but rather an expression of the complexity and beauty of God worshipped in all his infinite aspects."</i> pg 3 p 5	Ficino thought that most, if not all, religions in the world, had relation to one another in that they all had a similar conception – that creation came from one 'god'. This connected directly to the neoplatonic principle that describes 'the one', or the source of all things.



