#### Lesson Plan

#### Scoala Gimnaziala "Ion Heliade Radulescu" Urziceni, Ialomita

#### Teacher: JALBA MARCELA

#### Title: The Renaissance: A Cultural Rebirth

Class: 8th intensive B1+

Duration: two 50-minute periods

*Type of lesson:* knowledge acquisition (language and content related to the cultural movement) and skills enhancement

#### Aims:

To introduce students to the key concepts and events of the Renaissance period.

To enhance students' language skills in English through content and language integrated learning (CLIL).

To develop critical thinking skills by analyzing primary sources and artworks from the Renaissance era.

To foster cultural awareness and appreciation for the impact of the Renaissance on modern society.

#### Competences:

1. Language Competence: Listening, Speaking, Reading, Writing

2. Cultural Competence: Understanding historical context, analyzing cultural artifacts

3. Critical Thinking: Analyzing primary sources, drawing conclusions, making connections

*Methods used:* Inquiry-based learning, Cooperative learning, Visual learning through artworks and primary sources, Interactive discussions, Project-based learning.

#### Teaching-Learning Activities:

# 1 Warm-up (5 minutes)

T shows images of famous Renaissance artworks and ask students what they notice about them.

T briefly discusses students' initial thoughts and perceptions of the Renaissance period.

# 2 Introduction to the Renaissance (10 minutes)

T presents a brief overview of the Renaissance, its time period, and its significance in history.

T discusses key characteristics such as *humanism*, *the revival of classical learning*, and *advancements in art and science*.

# 3 Exploring Renaissance Art (15 minutes)

T divides students into small groups and provide each group with a different Renaissance artwork. In their groups, students analyze the artwork, discussing its style, themes, and techniques. Each group presents their findings to the class, followed by a brief discussion on common themes across the artworks.

#### 4 Primary Source Analysis (10 minutes)

T distributes excerpts from writings by Renaissance figures such as Machiavelli, Petrarch, or Erasmus.

In pairs, students read and analyze the excerpts, discussing the ideas presented and their relevance to the Renaissance.

T facilitates a class discussion on the main themes and ideas explored in the primary sources.

# **5 Making Connections (5 minutes)**

T leads a discussion on how the ideas and artworks of the Renaissance still influence modern society.

T encourages students to draw connections between Renaissance concepts and contemporary culture, politics, and art.

# 6 Wrap-up and Reflection (5 minutes)

T has students reflect on what they have learned during the lesson, both about the Renaissance period and about using English in a content-based context.

T also provides an opportunity for students to ask questions or share any insights they gained.

7 Project – pair work: sts will choose a Renaissance personality and will design a digital presentation focusing on the cultural/political contribution their personality made. (50 minutes)

Forms of evaluation:

Observation of student participation and engagement during group activities and discussions

Assessment of group presentations on Renaissance artworks

Analysis of student responses to primary source excerpts

Informal feedback during class discussions and reflection activities

# HANDOUT 1

Four questions to help sts understand Renaissance artworks:

1) What emotions or feelings do you think the artist intended to convey through this artwork?

2) What details or elements stand out to you the most in this piece?

3) How does the use of light and shadow contribute to the overall mood of the artwork?

4) Can you identify any symbols or motifs that are commonly associated with the Renaissance period in this artwork?

# HANDOUT 2

# A brief overview of the Renaissance, its time period, and its significance in history

The Renaissance was a period of cultural and intellectual flourishing that occurred in Europe between the 14th and 17th centuries. It is often considered a bridge between the Middle Ages and the modern era. The term "Renaissance" itself means "rebirth," reflecting the revival of interest in classical learning, art, and literature that characterized the period.

During the Renaissance, there was a renewed emphasis on humanism, which placed value on individual achievement, critical thinking, and the potential for human progress. Scholars and thinkers looked back to the literature, philosophy, and art of ancient Greece and Rome for inspiration, leading to a revival of classical ideals.

Artistically, the Renaissance saw the development of new techniques and styles, including perspective in painting and sculpture, which aimed to create more realistic representations of the world. Some of the most famous artists of all time emerged during this period, including Leonardo da Vinci, Michelangelo, and Raphael.

The Renaissance also witnessed significant advancements in science, mathematics, and exploration. Innovations such as the printing press and the rediscovery of ancient texts fueled intellectual growth and contributed to the spread of ideas throughout Europe.

Overall, the Renaissance had a profound impact on European society, laying the groundwork for the modern world. Its emphasis on human potential, artistic innovation, and intellectual inquiry continues to influence culture, politics, and thought to this day.

make me a worksheet on Renaissance key characteristics such as humanism, the revival of classical learning, and advancements in art and science.

# Handout 3: Renaissance - Key Characteristics

Name:

Date:

Instructions: Read the following questions and fill in the blanks with the correct answers based on your understanding of Renaissance key characteristics.

# Q1: What is humanism?

*A:* Humanism is a cultural movement that emphasized the value of \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ achievement. Humanists believed in the potential of individuals to contribute to society through \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ inquiry.

# Answers:

Human dignity; human

Education; intellectual

# Q2: What was the revival of classical learning?

During the Renaissance, scholars rediscovered and studied the works of ancient civilizations, particularly those of \_\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_. This revival of classical learning led to a renewed interest in \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_, and \_\_\_\_\_.

# Answers:

Greece; Rome

Literature; philosophy; art

# Q3: What were the advancements in art during the Renaissance?

Renaissance artists introduced techniques such as \_\_\_\_\_ to create more realistic representations of space and depth. Famous artists of the period include Leonardo da Vinci,

known for his paintings such as the \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_. Michelangelo, another renowned artist, sculpted the iconic statue of \_\_\_\_\_ and painted the ceiling of the \_\_\_\_\_.

#### Answers:

Perspective

Mona Lisa; The Last Supper

David; Sistine Chapel

#### Q4: What were the advancements in science during the Renaissance?

Renaissance thinkers made significant contributions to fields such as \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_. Nicolaus Copernicus proposed the heliocentric theory, which challenged the prevailing belief that the \_\_\_\_\_ was the center of the universe. Galileo Galilei made important discoveries related to the motion of \_\_\_\_\_ and improved the \_\_\_\_\_.

#### Answers:

Astronomy; anatomy

Earth

Planets; telescope

# Handout 4: Reflection questions (HOMEWORK)

How do you think the emphasis on humanism during the Renaissance influenced society at the time?

Why do you think the revival of classical learning was significant for the development of Renaissance culture?

In what ways did advancements in art and science contribute to the Renaissance's reputation as a period of cultural and intellectual growth?

How do you see the legacy of the Renaissance reflected in modern society?

#### Answer Key:

Human dignity; human

Education; intellectual

Greece; Rome

Literature; philosophy; art
Perspective
Mona Lisa; The Last Supper
David; Sistine Chapel
Astronomy; anatomy
Earth
Planets; telescope

# Handout 5

# Humanism

Humanism is a philosophical and intellectual movement that emerged during the Renaissance in Europe, particularly in Italy, in the 14th century. At its core, humanism places a strong emphasis on the intrinsic value and dignity of human beings. It rejects the notion that humans are solely subject to the will of a divine being or predetermined fate, instead emphasizing human agency, reason, and potential.

One of the central tenets of humanism is the belief in the power of human reason and intellect to understand the world and improve society. Humanists advocated for the study of classical literature, philosophy, and art from ancient Greece and Rome, believing that these sources contained timeless wisdom and insights into the human condition.

Humanism also promotes the idea of individualism, encouraging people to cultivate their unique talents and abilities to contribute meaningfully to society. This focus on personal development and fulfillment contrasts with the medieval emphasis on the afterlife and religious devotion.

Moreover, humanism promotes secularism, advocating for the separation of church and state and the importance of education and rational inquiry independent of religious dogma. While humanism does not necessarily reject religious beliefs outright, it encourages critical thinking and intellectual freedom.

Overall, humanism played a significant role in shaping the cultural, intellectual, and social landscape of the Renaissance and continues to influence modern thought, particularly in the areas of education, ethics, and human rights.