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Introduction to Classical, Medieval, and Renaissance Art

Classical Period	Medieval Period	Renaissance
<p>The Classical Period covered the height of the Greek culture and the Roman Empire, from its rise to its fall, about 500 BCE to CE 500. The people of these ancient societies developed many of the ideas that, today, make up our mathematics, science, literature and art.</p>	<p>The medieval Period in Europe, which lasted roughly from CE 500 to CE 1400, was characterized by the rise of feudalism and controlling power of the Catholic Church in people's lives.</p>	<p>The Renaissance included a rebirth of interest in classical culture. It began around CE 1400 and lasted until CE 1650. People rediscovered the writings and artworks of the greeks and Romans, borrowed their ancient ideas, and combined them in new ways.</p>
<p>Forms of Art: Sculpture, painted pottery, murals, mosaics</p>	<p>Forms of Art: stained glass windows, sculptures, illuminated manuscripts, paintings, tapestries</p>	<p>Forms of Art: sculptures, murals, drawings, paintings</p>
<p>Purposes: To show the importance of people and leaders, as well as Gods and Goddesses.</p>	<p>Purposes: to teach religion to people who cannot read or write</p>	<p>Purposes: to show the importance of people and nature, not just religion</p>
<p>Characteristics of Classical Art:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Figures look idealized, perfect <input type="checkbox"/> Bodies look active, move convincingly <input type="checkbox"/> Bodies are often nude, sometimes draped in togas <input type="checkbox"/> Faces are bland and calm, without emotion <input type="checkbox"/> Scenes show heroic figures or real people doing real tasks or daily life <input type="checkbox"/> Little background or sense of perspective (when distant objects look smaller or far away) 	<p>Characteristics of Medieval Art:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Subjects mostly religious <input type="checkbox"/> Figures look flat and still with little real movement <input type="checkbox"/> Important figures are large <input type="checkbox"/> Fully clothed, draped in deeply carved stiff looking clothes <input type="checkbox"/> Faces are solemn with little emotion <input type="checkbox"/> Paintings use vibrant colors <input type="checkbox"/> Flat, two dimensional painted figures <input type="checkbox"/> Backgrounds a single color, often gold, no interest in creating a realistic space 	<p>Characteristics of Renaissance Art:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Both religious and non religious scenes <input type="checkbox"/> Figures look idealized, perfect <input type="checkbox"/> Bodies may look active, moving <input type="checkbox"/> Bodies may be nude or clothed <input type="checkbox"/> Real people doing real tasks of daily life <input type="checkbox"/> Faces express what people are thinking <input type="checkbox"/> Colors respond to the light that falls on them <input type="checkbox"/> Interest in nature, lots of natural detail <input type="checkbox"/> Full deep backgrounds with perspective <input type="checkbox"/> Paintings are symmetrical