Art Comparison Chart

Northern Renaissance	Italian Renaissance	Classical	
Begin 1400s End 1600s	Begin 1300 End 1700	Begin 500 BC End 400s AD	
Northern Renaissance	Italian Renaissance	Classical Art	
Definition: The Northern Renaissance was an extension of the Renaissance that began in Italy, as it developed and adapted in the rest of Europe, in countries such as the Netherlands and modern-day Belgium.	Definition: The Italian Renaissance is the Renaissance as it occurred in Italy. It differed from the Northern Renaissance in many ways, and emphasized a return to Greco-Roman classical forms.	Definition: From the peak of Greek civilization through the end of the Western Roman Empire, Classical art emphasized ideal versions of humans, of society, of objects, and also introduced many ideas of philosophy, learning, architecture, math, and more.	
Forms of Art: Literature, paintings, sculptures, altars, drawings, engravings, wood carvings, books	Forms of Art: Architecture, literature, science, books, paintings, sculptures, murals, frescoes Purposes: Take nature into greater	Forms of Art: Murals, mosaics, pottery, sculptures, scrolls, architecture, jewelry	
Purposes: Emphasized more secular scenes, included some classical Roman influence, challenged previously held ideas about the functionings of society, politics, and religion.	consideration, bring back classical ideas, thought, and technique, and emphasize new techniques.	Purposes: Emphasize grandness of religion or of leaders or of military, emphasize ideal versions of humanity or religion	
Emphasized individuals, landscapes, and everyday scenery.	Characteristics of Italian Renaissance Art - Symbolism - Humanism, detailed humans	Characteristics of Classical Art - Idealized human form	
Characteristics of Northern Renaissance Art - Less Humanism - Greater detail on scenes - Emphasized everyday scenes and everyday life	 Captured mythology Classical forms were brought back (Greek, Roman) Illusionistic techniques, perspective Had a greater emphasis on nature and the 	 Emphasized beauty of the human form Fine attention to detail Emphasis on grand or mythological scenes Lacks sense of perspective 	
 More secular Less grandiose religious scenery or iconography Landscapes focus on the common man Symbolism 	natural world - Included more detail on backgrounds - Emphasized emotion, activity, and symmetry		