GUIDED READING  Italy: Birthplace of the Renaissance

A. Determining Main Ideas  As you read about the rebirth of learning and the arts in Italy, write notes to answer the questions.

In Italy, thriving urban centers, a wealthy merchant class, and the classical heritage of Greece and Rome encouraged the development of new ideas and values.

1. How did humanism influence the growth of learning? ________ influenced artists to carry on classical traditions and popularized the studies common to ________ education.

2. How did ideas about piety and a simple life change? Although people remained devoutly ________, the spirit of society was ________. Church ________ and the wealthy believed they could enjoy life without offending God.

3. What role did patrons of the arts play in the development of Renaissance ideas? They spent ________ to help ________ and architects create works of genius.

Styles in art and literature changed as artists and writers emphasized the individual.

4. What effects did the emphasis on individuals have on painters and sculptors? They painted ________ of prominent citizens, showing what was distinctive about each; they ________ the human body in natural postures; they developed ________ to enhance ________.

5. How did writers reflect Renaissance values in their work? They wrote in the ________; they wrote either for self-expression or to portray the individuality of their subjects.

6. How did the writing of Petrarch, Boccaccio, and Machiavelli demonstrate the values of humanism? Petrarch wrote sonnets about Laura, and ideal woman; Boccaccio wrote about the follies of his characters in Decameron, and Machiavelli wrote about the imperfect conduct of humans in "___________."

B. Summarizing  On the back of this paper, define Renaissance, humanism, perspective, and vernacular.