Italian Renaissance

Name: Division: Date:

Use the information from PG 210 – 219 in the pathways textbook to answer the following questions.

1. Why did the Renaissance begin in Italy before the rest of Europe?

A.

B.

C.

1. Which cities in Italy prospered the most? What geographic features helped them prosper?
2. What is Italy’s climate like? How did this help it prosper?
3. How did Italy’s geographic location within Europe and the Mediterranean help with its trade and advancement?

# Italian City States

Certain Italian cities rose to power through their location and wealth from trade. These cities would fight wars against each other as well as trading rivals to maintain their power. However, since the city-states were relatively small compared to other empires in and around the Mediterranean, the city-states would hire mercenary armies, or navies to fight for them.

Among the numerous city-states in Italy two rose to particular prominence: Florence and Venice. Both were instrumental in supporting the renaissance, and helping it flourish. But what were those cities like? And how and why did they rise to power?

Fill in the chart below:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **City** | **Florence** | **Venice** |
| Location in Italy |  |  |
| How rose to power |  |  |
| Type(s) of Government |  |  |
| Ruler(s) |  |  |
| Famous Citizen(s) |  |  |

## Sumptuary Laws

1. What were some Sumptuary Laws found in Florence?
2. What did the Sumptuary Laws do? What was their purpose?
3. List four possible sumptuary Laws that could be put into effect today?