

Italian City-States



Academic Vocabulary Activity

Vocabulary sheets require; a relevant picture or symbol of the term, definition in your own words, use of the term in a contextual sentence based on the definition, and two synonyms and antonyms of the term

Terms to know: usury, guild, aristocracy, Scoula, fresco,

	Excellent	Competent +	Competent Grade	Approaching GL
Content Accuracy	All terms are used in proper context and easily understood.	All terms are used in proper context and is understood.	Most terms are used in proper context and are relatively understandable.	Very few terms are used in proper context and do make sense.
Sentence Arrangement	Sentences are complete, well-constructed and of varied structure. The sentences are extremely thoughtful.	All sentences are complete and well-constructed (no fragments, no run-ons). The sentences are very thoughtful.	Most sentences are complete and well-constructed. Most sentences are thoughtful.	Many sentence fragments or run-on sentences. Very little thought went into writing the sentence.
Spelling and Grammar	Presentation has no misspellings or grammatical errors.	Presentation has 1-2 misspellings, but no grammatical errors.	Presentation has 1-2 grammatical errors but no misspellings.	Presentation has more than 2 grammatical and/or spelling errors.
Use of Graphics	All graphics are attractive (size and colors) and support the theme/content of the presentation.	A few graphics are not attractive but all support the theme/content of the presentation.	All graphics are attractive but a few do not seem to support the theme/content of the presentation.	Several graphics are unattractive AND detract from the content of the presentation.

Mapping the Italian City-States

Your tasks to neatly label the city-states that are listed below and colour the map of Italy.

Sicily

Naples

Rome

Siena

Florence

Pisa

Venice

Genoa

Mantua

Milan





Italian City States

CATEGORY	4	3	2	1
Neatness of Colour and Lines	All straight lines are ruler-drawn, all errors have been neatly corrected and all features are coloured completely.	All straight lines are ruler-drawn, most errors have been neatly corrected and most features are coloured completely.	Most straight lines are ruler-drawn, most errors have been neatly corrected and most features are coloured completely.	Many lines, corrections of errors, and/or features are not neatly done.
Labels & Features - Neatness	90-100% of the labels/features can be read easily.	89-80% of the labels/features can be read easily.	79-70% of the labels/features can be read easily.	Less than 70% of the labels/features can be read easily.
Map Legend/Key	Legend is easy-to-find and contains a complete set of symbols, including a compass rose.	Legend contains a complete set of symbols, including a compass rose.	Legend contains an almost complete set of symbols, including a compass rose.	Legend is absent or lacks several symbols.
Title	Title tells the purpose/content of the map, is clearly distinguishable as the title (e.g. larger letters, underlined, etc), and is printed at the top of the map.	Title tells the purpose/content of the map and is printed at the top of the map.	Title tells the purpose/content of the map, but is not located at the top of the map.	Purpose/content of the map is not clear from the title.
Labels - Accuracy	At least 90% of the items are labelled and located correctly.	80-89% of the items are labelled and located correctly.	79-70% of the items are labelled and located correctly.	Less than 70% of the items are labelled and located correctly.
Knowledge Gained	When shown a blank base map, the student can rapidly and accurately label at least 10 features.	When shown a blank base map, the student can rapidly and accurately label 8-9 features.	When shown a blank base map, the student can rapidly and accurately label 6-7 features.	When shown a blank base map, the student can rapidly and accurately label fewer than 6 features.

Florence Scrapbook Activity

Part 1

Your task is to develop jot notes on each of the points found on the next two pages.

Political & Economic Systems

Culture

Social System

Famous Florence People

Da Vinci:

Michelangelo

Giuliano de Medici

Machiavelli

Part 2

Your second task is to develop a scrapbook of Florence. In your scrapbook you need to have the following points.

- One page needs to have information about the points on Florence
- Another page needs to be about famous people from Florence
- Two more pages must focus on a virtual trip around Florence. (Tourist sites) Use the pictures that Mr. Potts provides for you or find your own.
- If you want to add more pages feel free.
- Use the rubric to develop your scrapbook

Venice Scrapbook Activity

Part 1

Your task is to develop notes on each of the points found on the next two pages.

Political & Economic Systems

Culture

Social System

Famous Venice People

Marco Polo:

Titian:

Jacopo Robusti Tintoretto:

Giovanni Bellini:

Part 2

Your second task is to develop a scrapbook of Venice. In your scrapbook you need to have the following points.

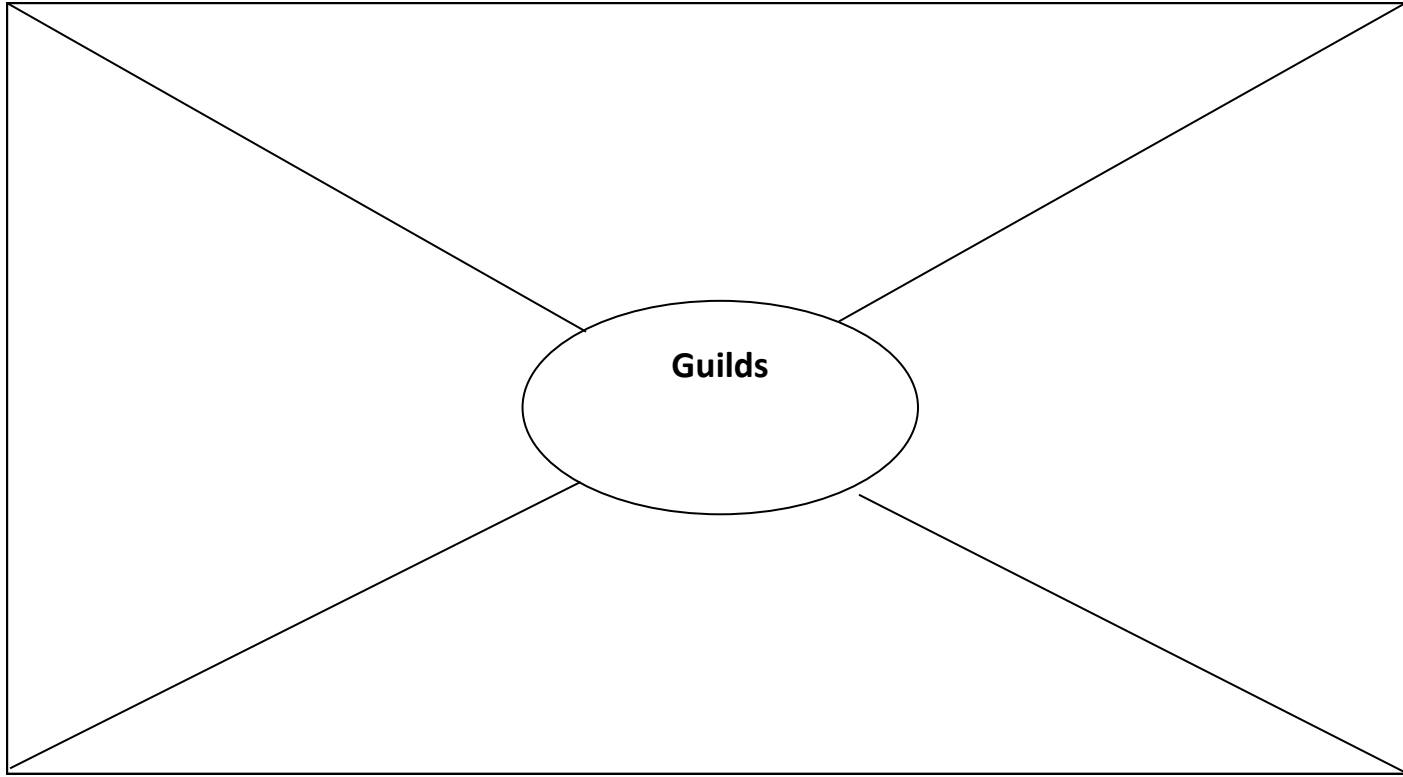
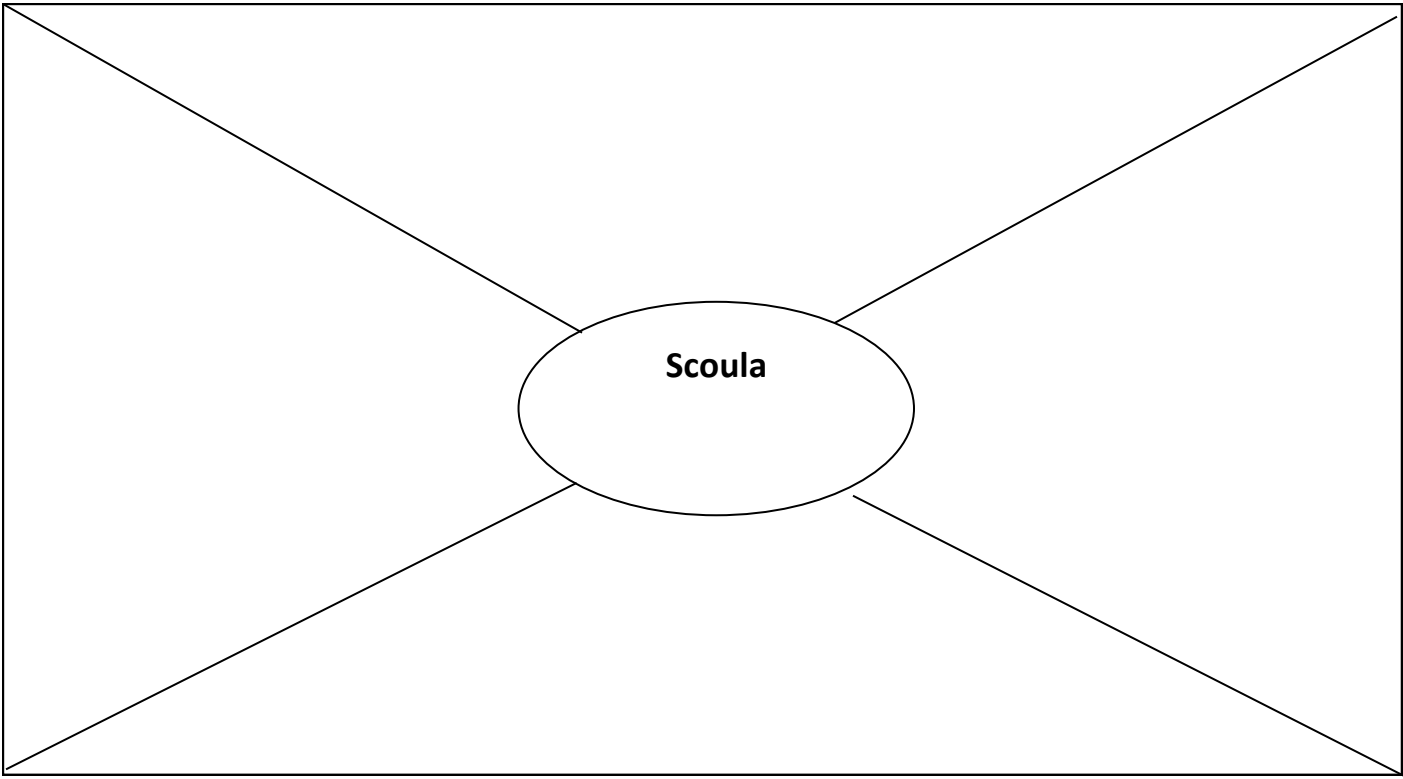
- One page needs to have information about the points on Venice
- Another page needs to be about famous people from Venice
- Two more pages must focus on a virtual trip around Venice. (Tourist sites) Use the pictures that Mr. Potts provides for you or find your own.
- If you want to add more pages feel free.
- Use the rubric to develop your scrapbook

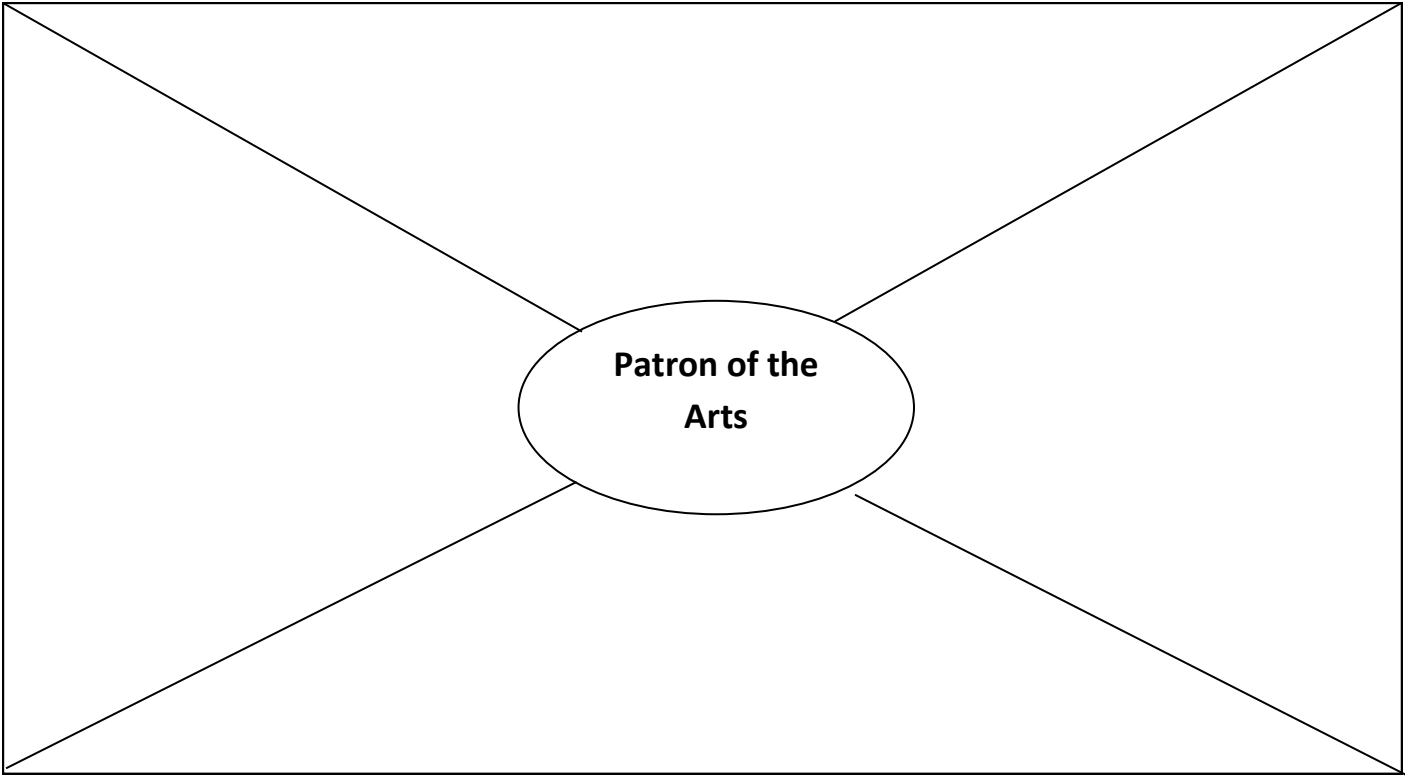
Italian City State Scrapbook

Name: _____

CATEGORY	Excellent	Competent +	Competent -	AGL
Graphics - Relevance	All graphics are related to the topic and make it easier to understand. All borrowed graphics have a source citation.	All graphics are related to the topic and most make it easier to understand. All borrowed graphics have a source citation.	All graphics relate to the topic. Most borrowed graphics have a source citation.	Graphics do not relate to the topic OR several borrowed graphics do not have a source citation.
Labels	All items of importance on the poster are clearly labeled with labels and can be easily read from at least 3 ft. away.	Almost all items of importance on the poster are clearly labeled with labels that can be read from at least 3 ft. away.	Several items of importance on the poster are clearly labeled with labels that can be read from at least 3 ft. away.	Labels are too small to view OR no important items were labeled.
Content - Accuracy	All aspects of the requirements are clearly present and are accurately displayed on the poster.	Most aspects of the charter are present and are accurately displayed on the poster.	Some aspects of the charter are present and are accurately displayed on the poster.	Very few aspects of the charter are present and are not accurately displayed on the poster.
Attractiveness	The poster is exceptionally attractive in terms of design, layout, and neatness.	The poster is attractive in terms of design, layout and neatness.	The poster is acceptably attractive though it may be a bit messy.	The poster is distractingly messy or very poorly designed. It is not attractive.
Title	Title can be read from 6 ft. away and is very creative and reflective of the topic.	Title can be read from 6 ft. away and describes content very well.	Title can be read from 4 ft. away and describes the content well.	The title is too small and/or does not describe the content of the poster well.

Student Reflection: What are five important points you learned from doing this activity. Explain





Urbanization

After the first bubonic plague epidemic in 1350, Europe experienced more turmoil. There were too few peasants left alive to seed and harvest the land. Peasants decided they might be able to find better lives for themselves if they moved to the cities, especially the Italian cities on the Mediterranean. Many of the surviving nobles, who could no longer find labourers to work their lands, also moved to these cities. There were more opportunities for work in the Italian cities because of their established trade with other parts of the Mediterranean and because they had already built a successful shipping industry. Within 50 years of the first bubonic plague, cities in Italy became very powerful, especially Florence, Genoa, Venice, and Milan. These cities became the most successful commercial centres of banking, trade, commerce, and industry in Western Europe.

Questions

1. What impact did the bubonic plague have on the lives of people living in Italy?

2. Where did most of the surviving people from the plague move to?

3. List the Italian city states that were the most successful and explain why?

The societies in what is now Italy, more than any other part of western Europe, maintained ties to ancient Roman ways of life after the fall of the Western Roman Empire. The ancient ruins of buildings, such as the Roman coliseum shown here, aqueducts, roads, cities, statues, and artifacts were constant reminders of the power and glory of the ancient Roman Empire.

Questions

4. What was the society that the Italian people wanted to maintain ties with?

There were several reasons why city-states prospered in Italy:

- Mountains to the north helped protect Italy from invaders. This allowed relatively stable development of the city-states.
- Trading cities began to thrive in Italy as early as the 10th century, which meant that life in the Italian Peninsula was already more urban than in northern Europe.
- The feudal system was not strong in Italy due to the urban lifestyle and lack of agricultural land.
- The architectural ruins of the glorious city-states of Ancient Rome reminded the population of how effective that style of government had been.
- The power of the Roman Catholic Church over the Italian city-states weakened when the pope and his **court** (the **papacy**) moved from Rome to Avignon, in southern France. Italian city-states could now govern themselves without much interference from the rulings of the Church. They were entirely independent and, initially, many of them organized themselves as individual **republics**.

Questions

5. How might mountains help an Italian city-state prosper?

6. Why was the feudal system not strong in Italy?

7. Why did the influence of the Catholic Church weaken in Italy?

Most Italian city-states began as republics. In a republic, a group of citizens, rather than a monarch, governs the state. By the late Middle Ages, the most powerful citizens in these republics were members of the new wealthy merchant class. By the 14th century, though, most of the republican governments had failed and the city-states were usually ruled by **despots** or by **oligarchies**. Later in this chapter, you will learn that the powerful city-states of Florence and Venice were ruled by oligarchies and Genoa by a despot. Warfare among the city-states over territory and trading routes was common. After decades of fighting, the city-states of Florence, Venice, Milan, and Naples finally signed the Treaty of Lodi in 1454, which brought relative stability to the area for 40 years. In this treaty, Milan and Naples formed an alliance with Florence, and Venice was supported by the papacy. In this agreement, no city-state was allowed to become powerful enough to threaten or overthrow any other city-state. Removing the threat of warfare allowed the city states to focus on improving their trade and amassing huge wealth.

Questions

8. What kind of governmental system did the Italian city states have that made them different from other European countries?

9. What is a despot or oligarchy?

10. What did the Treaty of Lodi accomplish in Italy?

11. What impact did removing warfare from Italy help the city-states to prosper?