

Adapted from a lesson by
PBS Islam: Empire of Faith – Renaissance Man
<http://www.pbs.org/empires/islam/lesson5.html>

Renaissance Man Comparison Poster

Estimated Time of Completion: 2 class periods

Instructional Objectives:

- Students will have the opportunity create a poster comparing two "Renaissance Men," one of them being the Sultan Suleiman.
- Students will have the opportunity to research a Renaissance man from the 16th century Ottoman Empire and from 15th century Italy (such as Leonardo da Vinci, Lorenzo d' Medici, etc.).
- Students will have the opportunity to present their comparison in the form of a poster of their design.
- Students will have the opportunity to share their posters with their classmates.
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Content Standards

H-SS Content Standards World History:

7.2.4 Discuss the expansion of Muslim rule through military conquests and treaties, emphasizing the cultural blending within Muslim civilization and the spread and acceptance of Islam and the Arabic language.

7.8.3 Understand the effects of the reopening of the ancient "Silk Road" between Europe and China, including Marco Polo's travels and the location of his routes.

7.8.5 Detail advances made in literature, the arts, science, mathematics, cartography, engineering, and the understanding of human anatomy and astronomy

Language Arts:

- Uses the general skills and strategies of the writing process
- Gathers and uses information for research purposes
- Uses a variety of sources to gather information
- Uses listening and speaking strategies for different purposes
- Uses viewing skills and strategies to understand and interpret visual media

Visual Arts:

- Understands the visual arts in relation to history and cultures
- Knows how ideas and emotions are expressed in the various art forms
- Knows how history, culture, and the visual arts can influence each other

Materials Needed:

- Computers with Internet access & books and materials on European Renaissance and Suleiman the Magnificent

- 11"x 17" white drawing paper (or other size)
- Colored pencils, markers, crayons, etc.
- Video Note Guide
- Poster Scoring Rubric
- Poster Sample Page

Procedures:

Overview:

This lesson is based on Video Three of the PBS video series *Islam: Empire of Faith* and the Discovery Education film *Suleiman the Magnificent*, both available through You Tube. (See adaptation section at the end of the lesson for suggestions if the video is not available). Students will learn about both the Sultan Suleiman (b. 1494 AD) and another Renaissance character and make comparisons. Students will create a poster showing the accomplishments and many facets of Suleiman and another character's life that make them worthy of the term "Renaissance Man."

- Conduct a brainstorm with students about the term Renaissance Man and discuss people who fit the description. Determine prior knowledge.
- Probe students to discuss people such as Leonardo da Vinci (b. 1452 AD), Michelangelo and others. Discuss what qualities might make each of them a Renaissance Man.
- Read "Renaissance Man" dictionary definition.
- Pass out Video Note Guide for students to fill out as they view the video.
- Watch either the PBS film *Islam: Empire of Faith – Suleiman the Magnificent*
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FQxmBY--RPs&feature=related>
 or the Discovery Education film *Suleiman the Magnificent*
http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=utNSPfkp_jk&NR=1
 (Other film segments about the Ottoman Empire are available here as well.)
- After the video, debrief and discuss what students have learned. Allow students to compare notes. Based on the dictionary definition and discussion make sure that all students identified some characteristics of Suleiman that mark him as a Renaissance Man.
- Assign Renaissance Man Poster Project
 - Students will research the term "Renaissance Man" (Can use definition at the top of their comparison poster.).
 - Students will research one European Renaissance Man (recommendation: Leonardo da Vinci because he was active during the same time period as Suleiman, and there is an abundance of information on him) and gather information pertaining to the definition.

- c. Students will organize information about Suleiman obtained from video. Students may need to do additional research on Suleiman using other resources (library, textbook, Web resources, etc.).
- d. Students will construct a draft of their poster on normal paper and come up with a good layout for a compare and contrast poster.
- e. Students will synthesize research information into a detailed poster (see sample project diagram).
- f. Each poster should include:
 - Renaissance Man definition
 - Suleiman
 - Person for comparison
 - Characteristics of each person
 - Visuals (pictures, poems, etc.)
 - Accomplishments of each person
 - A way of tying the two individuals together as Renaissance Men (it is also an option to compare Suleiman with a Renaissance Woman if appropriate)
- g. Students use the scoring rubric as a guide as they work to complete their poster.
- h. Posters can be mounted on colored tag board for finishing effect.
- i. Once posters are completed, students will present to the class.

Assessment Recommendations:

Poster Scoring Rubric <http://www.pbs.org/empires/islam/lesson5c.html> to score projects.

- You may want to also grade students on completion of Video Note Guide.
- Conduct informal assessment of students' knowledge while they are giving presentations.

Extensions/Adaptations:

- For upper level grades, you may want students to write a short research paper comparing and contrasting the two characters in their poster.
- For lower level grades or special needs students, you can pair students together to make this a partner or even small group project. You can also adapt the depth of the poster information.
- For those that do not have the video, this Web site offers information on the Ottoman Empire and Suleiman. Other Web sites offer vast information on the Renaissance and Renaissance leaders.
- Watch the entire PBS film Islam: Empire of Faith available from www.pbs.org

Video Note Guide for Suleiman the Magnificent

1. In what ways was Suleiman considered a special person by his people?
2. Who was Ibrahim and what was his importance in Suleiman's empire?
- 3.. Why did Suleiman lead wars in Europe?
4. Why did Suleiman want to overtake the city of Rhodes?
5. What tactic did he use in conquering Rhodes?
6. Why did his people call Suleiman "the Law Giver"?
7. What were Suleiman's accomplishments in
 - Arts & architecture
 - Human rights
 - Military
 - Other
8. What do you consider Suleiman's weaknesses?

Model of Poster

Two Renaissance Men

Renaissance Man: a man knowledgeable or proficient in more than one field (Webster's College Dictionary).

Sultan Suleiman (dates)	Leonardo da Vinci (dates)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Facts Accomplishments Characteristics Era Visuals (Pictures, etc.) 	

Tagboard background

Poster Design Rubric

Score	5	4	3	2	1
Criteria	Above and beyond. Two characters are compared and contrasted in depth. Shows extensive research outside of video. Design is very fresh and original, very neat, and historically accurate, plus evidence of extra effort.	Design is well done, neat, and shows research for historical accuracy. Good comparison of characters.	Design is adequate, slightly messy, with adequate historical relevance and adequate comparison of characters.	Design shows minimal effort, is messy, and has very little historical relevance. Weak comparison and research.	Little time and effort went into this poster.