The Renaissance patrons wanted art that showed joy in human beauty and life’s pleasures. Renaissance art is more lifelike than in the art of the Middle Ages. Renaissance artists studied perspective, or the differences in the way things look when they are close to something or far away. The artists painted in a way that showed these differences. As a result, their paintings seem to have depth.

An artist from Florence named Giotto was one of the first to paint in this new style. Giotto lived more than a century before the beginning of the Renaissance, but his paintings show real emotion. The bodies look solid, and the background of his paintings shows perspective. The art produced during the Renaissance would build upon Giotto’s style.

Leonardo da Vinci was born in 1452 in the village of Vinci. His name means Leonardo of Vinci. Leonardo began his career working for a master painter in Florence. By 1478, Leonardo left his master and set up his own workshop. People have been trying to guess the secret behind the smile of his Mona Lisa ever since he painted it around 1505. His Last Supper shows clearly the different feelings of Jesus and his followers.

Leonardo’s fame grew—but not just for his painting. Leonardo was truly a “Renaissance Man,” skilled in many fields. He was a scientist and an inventor as well as an artist. He made notes and drawings of everything he saw. Leonardo invented clever machines, and even designed imitation wings that he hoped would let a person fly like a bird.

Michelangelo Buonarroti of Florence was one of the greatest artists of all time. Like Leonardo, Michelangelo was a “Renaissance Man” of many talents. He was a sculptor, a painter, and an architect. When Michelangelo carved a statue of Moses, he included veins and muscles in the arms and legs.

Michelangelo was a devout Christian, and the church was his greatest patron. He designed the dome of St. Peter’s church in Rome. Nearby, Michelangelo’s paintings cover the ceiling of the Sistine Chapel, the building where new popes have been selected for more than five hundred years. Michelangelo’s painting illustrates the Book of Genesis, with scenes that span from the Creation to the Flood. The project was very difficult. Working alone, Michelangelo had to lie on his back atop high scaffolding while he painted the vast ceiling.

**Answer in Complete Sentences**

*1. How was Renaissance art different from the art that preceded it?*
Renaissance artists and their p____________ expressed themselves through
*p____________ and sculpture long before the advent of the electronic media. Renaissance
p____________ wanted a____ that showed j____ in human b________ and life’s
p____________. Renaissance a____ is more l____________ than the a____ of the
M____________ A_______. Renaissance artists studied p____________, or the
d____________ in the w____ things l______ when they are c______ to
s____________ or f____ away. Perspective gave R____________ paintings the
illusion of d______.

A Florentine a____________ named G__________ was one of the f________ to
p________ in this n____ style. Giotto’s p____________ showed real e____________.
People and objects are less *f______ in his work. Leonardo da V________ was a man of many
t____________. Leonardo’s art included the mysterious M______ L________, but he was a
“R________________ Man,” with s__________ in many fields. L____________ was
also a s____________ and an i____________. Like Leonardo,
M____________ Buonarroti was another “R________________ Man.”
Michelangelo was famous as a s____________, a p____________, and an
a____________. He d____________ the d______ of St. P________’s church in
R______. Nearby, M____________’s paintings cover the c____________ of the
S____________ Chapel.

**Answer in Complete Sentences**

2. What was unique about Michelangelo’s Moses?

________________________________________________________________________

3. What did Michelangelo paint on the ceiling of the Sistine Chapel?

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

*4. Why would the church want a Michelangelo’s painting on the ceiling of the Sistine Chapel?

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________________________________________________________________________

*This is a higher order learning question. You will earn credit for any reasonable answer.
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