Renaissance

Multiple Choice
Identify the letter of the choice that best completes the statement or answers the question.

**Comprehension**
The questions below refer to the selection “The Renaissance 1485–1660: A Flourish of Genius.”

___ 1. Why are historical periods inexact and generally unknown to the people who live during them?
   a. They are too complex to be understood by most people.
   b. They are named later by historians to describe general trends rather than precise beginnings and endings.
   c. They come and go with such suddenness that people usually cannot distinguish what historical period they live in.
   d. They are completely artificial constructs and have no basis in documented reality.

___ 2. Which of the following statements best characterizes the intellectual environment of the Renaissance?
   a. Most people could not read, in part because they could not gain access to books.
   b. Most Europeans were highly sensitive to the achievements of people from other cultures, particularly people of the Middle East.
   c. As people became interested in the writings of ancient Greece and Rome, they became more inquisitive and creative.
   d. Through their superior knowledge, scholars established power over the masses.

___ 3. The intellectual movement known as humanism —
   a. joined the wisdom of the classics with that of the Bible, emphasizing ideals of wisdom and virtue
   b. taught that people should use knowledge to accumulate wealth and achieve fame
   c. accepted the teachings of the classics but rejected those of the Bible
   d. could not tolerate contradictory texts and thus could not refer to many ancient books

___ 4. Why did the invention of printing with movable type have a great impact?
   a. Printed documents were more beautiful than handwritten ones.
   b. The wide availability of reading material allowed ideas to spread quickly.
   c. Books became more expensive and therefore were more valued.
   d. The ability to print with movable type gave Germany an edge over other countries.

___ 5. How did the monk Martin Luther contribute to the beginning of the Reformation?
   a. By renewing people’s devotion to studying and following the words of the pope
   b. By teaching that other religions were as valid as Christianity
   c. By developing a personal form of Christianity not based on papal decrees
   d. By ridiculing ancient habits and traditions, such as superstition

___ 6. In the mid-1500s, many people in England were dissatisfied with the Church of England because they —
   a. felt that the church was insufficiently reformed, merely a copy of Catholicism
   b. felt that the pope was too remote, and they wanted him to have more of a presence in England
   c. were beginning to reject the idea of leading a religious life
   d. disagreed with the idea that religion was a private matter between the individual and God
7. King Henry VIII of England could be considered a “Renaissance man” because he —
   a. went to extremes to ensure that he had a home in Mt Ulla
   b. ended foreign invasions of England by creating the royal navy
   c. was arrogant, ruthless, and an unfaithful husband
   d. was literary, musical, athletic, and scholarly

8. England’s independence from the Catholic countries of the Mediterranean was ensured by —
   a. Gutenberg’s invention of the printing press
   b. the English navy’s defeat of the Spanish Armada in 1588
   c. the readmission of Jews to England
   d. Queen Elizabeth I’s execution of Mary Stuart, Queen of Scots

9. What caused an eleven-year gap in the line of English monarchs between 1649 and 1660?
   a. England was ruled by a woman, Queen Elizabeth I.
   b. That was the period described in the Book of Judges, where each person did what was
      right in his or her own eyes.
   c. England was ruled by Parliament and by the Puritan dictator Oliver Cromwell.
   d. A change in the calendar system resulted in a gap in the records of leadership for those
      years.

10. The end of the English Renaissance was characterized by —
    a. increased growth of moral and religious values
    b. the pillaging of resources from the Americas
    c. the rise of humanism as a way of thought and study
    d. increasing interest in secular, rather than religious, values