STUDY GUIDE

MILAN

 In northern Italy
 A very rich city-state
 Ruled by the Visconti family until 1447
 Later, conquered and ruled by Francesco Sforza

FLORENCE

Dominated the region of Tuscany
Ruled by wealthy merchant families, especially the Medici
A French invasion sent the Medici family into exile in the late 1400s.
The Medici returned to power soon after.

THE MAJOR ITALIAN STATES LESSON 1

• In northeast Italy

International power whose strength was based on trade
Commercial link between Asia and Western Europe
Republic with elected leader called a doge, real power held by merchant families

KINGDOM OF NAPLES

- Southern Italy
- Ruled by a hereditary monarch
 Occupied by the French king
- Charles VIII in 1494 • The Spanish and French battled for control of the area for the next 30 years.

PAPAL STATES

Central Italy
Rome was capital of the Papal States, the political body of the Catholic Church
Soldiers attacked and looted Rome in 1527 leaving Spain in control until the Italian Wars ended in 1559.

IDEAS AND ART OF THE RENAISSANCE LESSON 2

Gutenberg's printing press

- In the 1440s Johannes Gutenberg developed a method of printing using blocks of moveable type set on a mechanical press.
- The printing of books encouraged scholarly research and stimulated the public's desire to gain knowledge.
- In 1455 the Gutenberg bible became the earliest book printed from moveable type in Europe.

New painting techniques

- Masaccio's frescoes were the first masterpieces of Renaissance art.
- With the introduction of fresco painting, which included a mastering of the laws of perspective, human figures had a depth previously unseen.
- Artists of this period were able to create the illusion of three dimensions, which led to a new realistic look to paintings.

Sculpture and Architecture

- Renaissance sculptors and architects sought to express a human-centered world.
- Architect Filippo Brunelleschi designed the church of San Lorenzo in Florence, which departs from the overwhelming effect of Gothic cathedrals and focuses on human, rather than divine, needs.
- Brunelleschi brought back linear-perspective construction (that disappeared during the Middle Ages), which helped artists create realistic imagery.