

Nicolaus Copernicus

Nicolaus Copernicus was born on February 19, 1473, in Torun, Poland. He studied at the University of Kraków for four years, beginning in 1491. His studies there included astronomy. He went to the University of Bologna in Italy in 1496 to study church law. During his time there, he lived in the same house as the principal astronomer of the university and, at times, assisted in his work. His interest in astronomy grew during this time. He studied medicine at the University of Padua in Italy from 1501 to 1503. After receiving his degree in church law in 1503, he went back to Poland to an administrative position at the church, but he did not become a priest.

He continued studying astronomy in his free time and developed the theory that the earth revolved around the sun, known as the heliocentric theory. This theory had been suggested before, but Copernicus explained it in a clear way that made sense to many people. He also showed that the Earth rotates on its axis. He could not prove his theory, but the math he used to develop it was sound. He continued to work on his theory, but he did not publish it until 1543. Copernicus died on May 24, 1543, shortly after his theory appeared in print.

Follow these instructions to draw a picture of Nicolaus Copernicus on the next page like the one shown below:

- Decide if you want to draw the right half of the picture or the left half of the picture and draw it in one of the first two grids. You can draw both if you'd like.
- Now, using a blank grid from the back of the book, try drawing the whole picture.



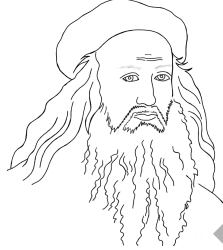


Identify the Person From the Renaissance

1. Which picture shows Michelangelo? Circle it.



2. Which picture shows Albrecht Durer? Circle it.



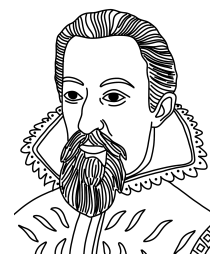
3. Which picture shows Johannes Kepler? Circle it.

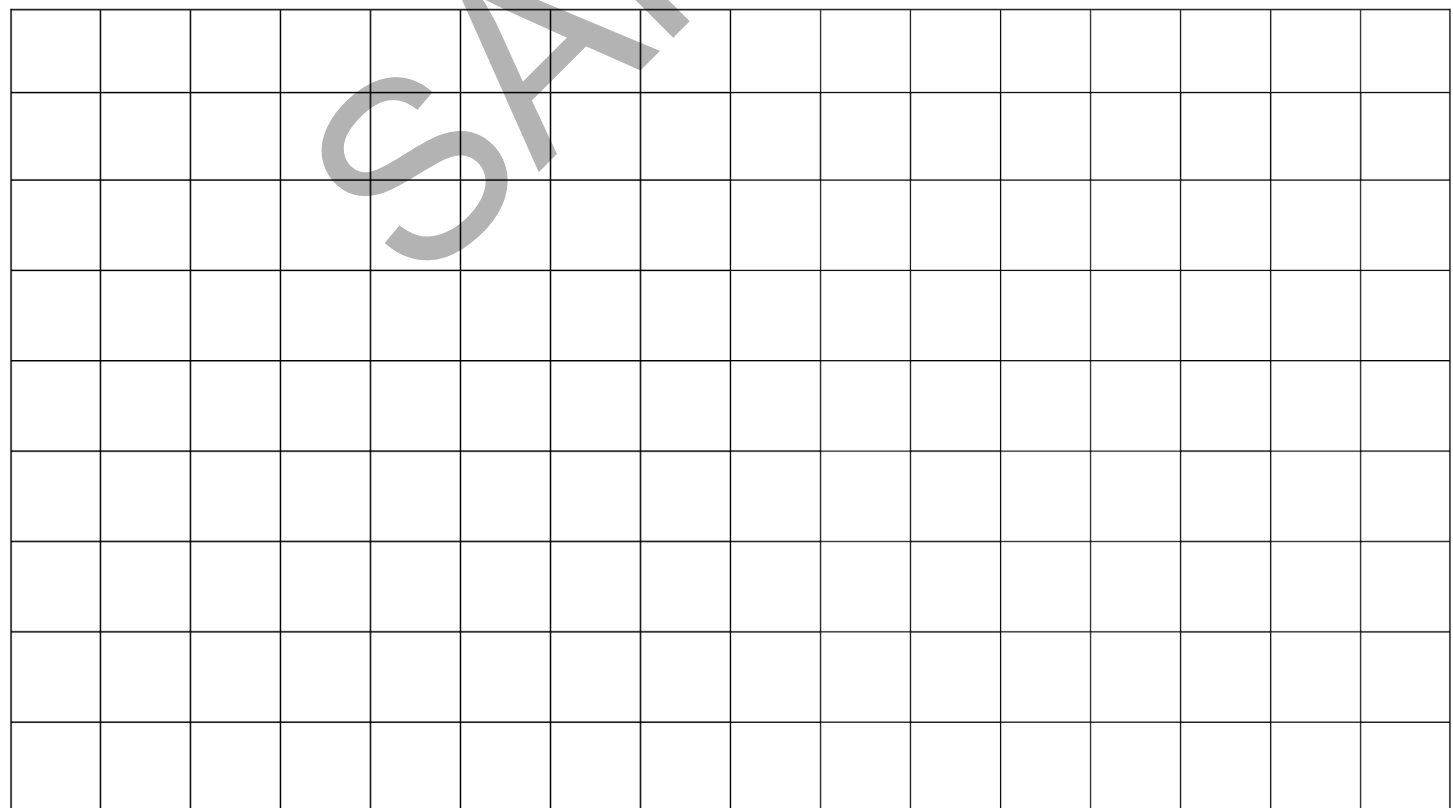
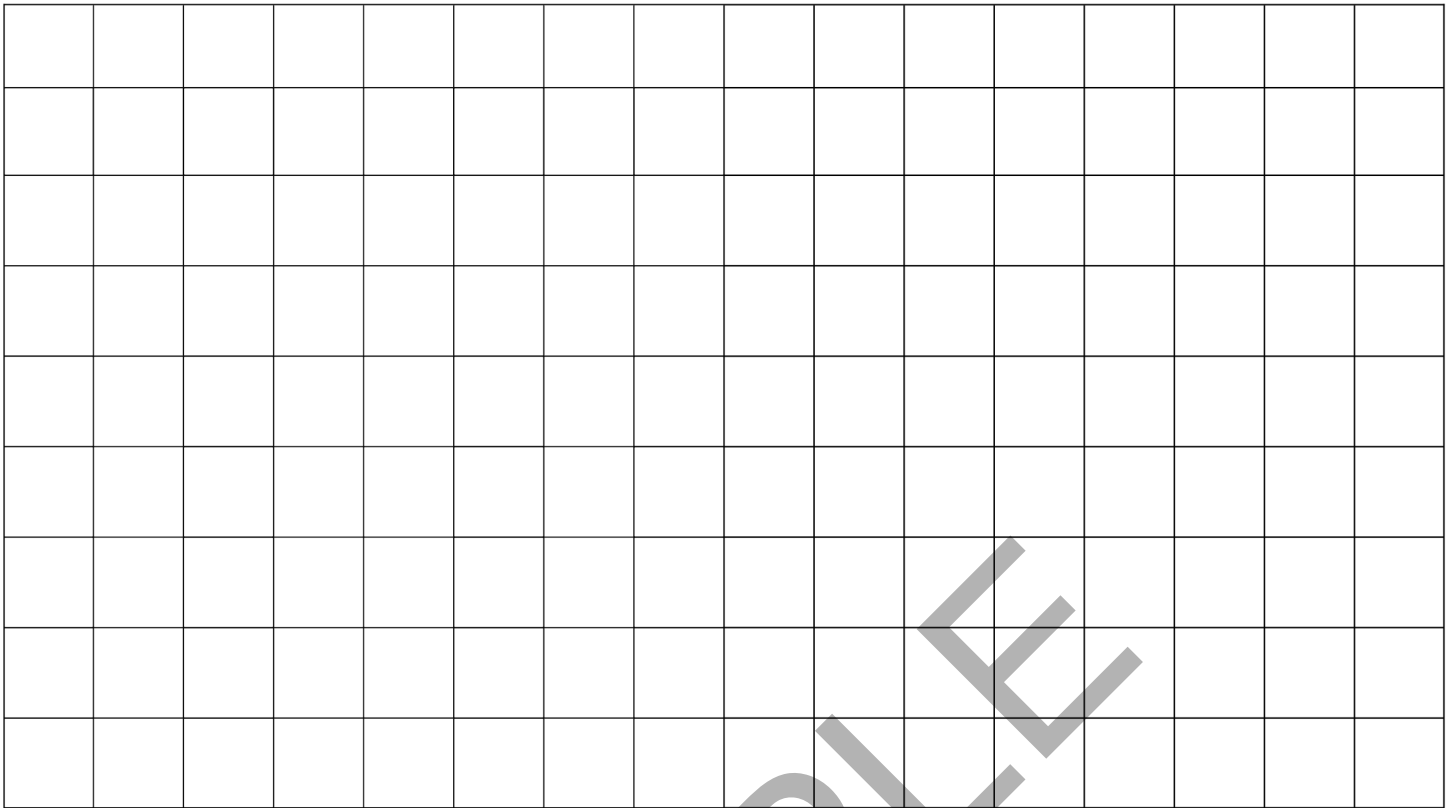


4. Which picture shows Vasco da Gama? Circle it.



5. Which picture shows William Wallace? Circle it.





Answer Key

1.



2.



3.



4.



5.



6.



7.



8.



9.



10.



SAMPLE