

## Frequently Asked Questions

### **Question 01:**

Explain the growth and influences of renaissance in Rome.

### **Answer:**

- Renaissance architecture is the architecture of the period between the early 15th and early 17th centuries in different regions of Europe, demonstrating a conscious revival and development of certain elements of ancient Greek and Roman thought and material culture.
- Renaissance means Rebirth in French
- The Renaissance was the period that followed (brought Europe out of) the Middle Ages. It was a time of renewed interest in things of this world.
- The Renaissance movement, arising in Italy in the fifteenth century, spread from thence to France, Germany, and England, and over the whole of Western Europe over what had been the Roman empire in the West.
- The unique character of Rome as an influence was its prestige as the capital of an empire that had crumbled away, and whose architecture was now being revived.
- The remains of old Rome, such as the Colosseum, Pantheon, and colonnades, formed the quarry from which much of the material for the Renaissance buildings was extracted.
- The return of the popes from Avignon to Rome in A.D. 1376 helped to restore her to her former position of importance and prosperity.
- From the time of the Council of Constance, 1415, the popes took a more prominent position as Italian princes, and during the fifteenth century they greatly extended their temporal dominions in Italy.
- Splendid new palaces and churches were erected, and the decoration of old ones carried on by successive painters of whom Peruzzi, Raphael, Michael Angelo, and others were eminent.
- The Classic orders were largely used in the facades and courtyards and a general attempt at correctness and conformity to the ideas of ancient Roman architecture prevailed.
- Arcuation was only sparingly introduced, except in the form of tiers of arcades, in imitation of the Colosseum.

### Question 02:

Explain the architecture of Santa Maria Della Grazie, Milan stressing the contribution of Bramante.

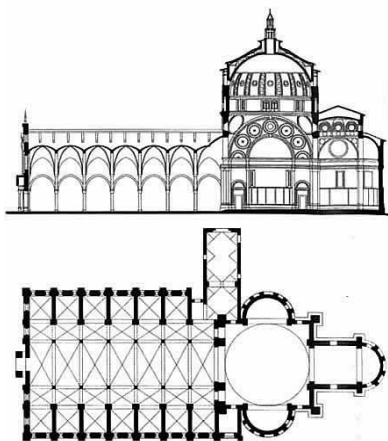
### Answer:

#### Bramante

- Bramante, the first Roman architect of note, was born in the year that Brunelleschi died, educated as a painter under Andrea Mantegna, and was probably a pupil of Alberti.
- Florentine by birth, but studied at Rome, practising first in the city of Milan, and in the ducal dominions.
- His plan for St. Peter's Basilica formed the basis of design executed by Michelangelo.
- He is well known for his contribution in St. Maria della Grazie, Milan

#### St. Maria della Grazie, Milan

- Was built in A.D. 1492
- Santa Maria della Grazie meant Holy Mary of Grace
- A church and Dominican convent in Milan, northern Italy
- It is an abbey church of the fifteenth century, to which Bramante added the choir, transepts and dome.
- Essentially transitional in style with Gothic feeling; most successful and suitable in detail for the terra cotta with which it was constructed.



- The Duke of Milan ordered construction of Dominican convent and a church at the site of a prior chapel dedicated to the Marian devotion of St Mary of the Graces.
- The main architect, Guiniforte Solari, designed the convent, which was completed by 1469.
- Construction of the church took decades
- The church contains the mural of The Last Supper by Leonardo da Vinci, which is in the refectory of the convent.
- The design of the apse of the church has been attributed to Donato Bramante, who at the time was in the service of the Duchy
- 1543, the Titian altarpiece depicting the Christ receives the Crown of Thorns was installed in the Chapel of Holy Crown, located on the right of the nave. The painting, looted by French troops in 1797, it is now in the Louvre.

### **Question 03:**

Discuss in detail about the contribution of Michael Angelo towards the Renaissance architecture.

### **Answer:**

#### **Michael Angelo**

- AD 1474-1564
- A famous Florentine sculptor, and painter of the roof of the Sistine Chapel in the Vatican (A.D. 1508), representing the Fall and Redemption of Mankind
- Turned his attention, late in life, to architecture, but reckless detail marks his work.
- He finished the Farnese Palace, and carried out the Dome of S. Peter
- A number of Michelangelo's works in painting, sculpture, and architecture rank among the most famous in existence.
- His output in every field of interest was prodigious; given the sheer volume of surviving correspondence, sketches, and reminiscences taken into account, he is the best-documented artist of the 16th century.
- Two of his best-known works, the Pietà and David, were sculpted before the age of thirty

- Michelangelo also created two of the most influential frescoes in the history of Western art: the scenes from Genesis on the ceiling of the Sistine Chapel in Rome, and The Last Judgment on its altar wall.
- As an architect, Michelangelo pioneered the Mannerist style at the Laurentian Library.
- In a demonstration of Michelangelo's unique standing, he was the first Western artist whose biography was published while he was alive.

#### **Question 04:**

Explain the in detail about Mannerist movement with examples

#### **Answer:**

- Mannerism is a style in European art that emerged in the later years of the Italian High Renaissance around 1520, lasting until about 1580 in Italy, when the Baroque style began to replace it.
- Northern Mannerism continued into the early 17th century.
- Stylistically, Mannerism encompasses a variety of approaches influenced by, and reacting to, the harmonious ideals associated with artists such as Leonardo da Vinci, Raphael, and early Michelangelo.
- The cities Rome, Florence, and Mantua were Mannerist centres in Italy.
- The word mannerism derives from the Italian maniera, meaning "style" or "manner".
- Mannerism favours compositional tension and instability rather than the balance and clarity of earlier Renaissance painting
- By the end of the High Renaissance, young artists experienced a crisis. It seemed that everything that could be achieved was already achieved. No more difficulties, technical or otherwise, remained to be solved.
- Michelangelo's David is an example of Mannerist sculpture
- The young artists needed to find a new goal, and they sought new approaches. At this point Mannerism started to emerge. The new style developed between 1510 and 1520 either in Florence, or in Rome, or in both cities simultaneously
- Michelangelo from an early age had developed a style of his own, a deeply original style which was greatly admired first, then often copied and imitated by his contemporaries.
- One of the qualities most admired by his contemporaries was his *terribilità*, a sense of awe-inspiring grandeur, and it was the attempts of subsequent artists to imitate.

- His painting at the Sistine chapel was one such example.
- One of the best examples of Mannerist architecture - Palazzo Te in Mantova, designed by Giulio Romano

### **Question 05:**

Explain the Renaissance architecture of Venice with any one example

### **Answer:**

- The greatness of Venice was founded on Oriental commerce, due to her important geographical position, and the effect of this commercial prosperity lasted well into Renaissance times
- The history of the Venetian state was always influenced by the proximity of the sea, and the peculiar formation of the coast.
- Venice has the appearance of a floating city founded in the sea, churches, palaces, and houses being set upon piles in a shallow lagoon, a structural formation having an important influence on its art.
- The government of Venice was republican, and the rivalry of the leading families led to the erection of fine and lasting monuments, such as the palaces which line the Grand Canal
- these however were not fortresses, as at Florence, but the residences of peaceable citizens and merchant princes.
- The Renaissance movement had a very different effect upon the architecture of Venice from that which it produced upon the architecture of Florence
- The architecture of Venice is, in general, of a lighter and more graceful kind than that of Florence, columns and pilasters being used freely in all designs.
- One major example of the Venetian renaissance architecture is the library of St.Marks.

#### **Library of St.Marks.**

- Built in A.D. 1536
- It was erected by Sansovino
- But the continuation of the design, one order higher round S. Mark's Square, was executed in 1584 by Scamozzi.
- This design has been followed for the Carlton Club, London.

- It is one of the earliest surviving public manuscript depositories in the country, holding one of the greatest classical texts collections in the world.
- The library is named after St. Mark, the patron saint of Venice.
- The first sixteen arcaded bays of his design were constructed during 1537 to 1553, with work on frescoes and other decorations continuing until 1560.
- Sansovino died in 1570
- Vincenzo Scamozzi undertook the construction of the additional five bays, still to Sansovino's design.
- Today, besides about a million printed books, the Biblioteca Marciana contains about 13,000 manuscripts and 2883 incunabula and 24,055 works printed between 1500 and 1600. There are many illuminated manuscripts.