



IT212

TRANSLATION

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TODAY'S class

- I return your assessed reading comprehensions
- Further details on the test in week 9 -
- Translation and Reading Comprehension **in-class corrections**

TEST

- Dictionaries are allowed
- Translation of an historical text in Italian. Length: about one page
- Day of the week to be announced in week 7

Reading Comprehension

- 1. Which faculties were highest in the university system, and what kind of degree did they offer?
- *Le università - per quanto varie siano state le forme d'insegnamento che vi trovarono posto - non accolsero al vertice, per tutta l'età medioevale e moderna, che tre sole facoltà che davano accesso al grado di dottore: quelle dei teologi, dei giurisperti e dei medici.*
- **Sample answer**
The three highest faculties were theology, medicine and law. They offered undergraduate degree (Note: *dottore* in the Italian university system is a title obtained with UG graduation. *Dottore di ricerca* is Doctor/PhD)

Reading Comprehension

- How did the faculty of Arts stand in relationship to the other faculties?
- *La Facoltà di Arti non si collocava alla pari con le tre facoltà superiori e professionali, ma stava un gradino più in basso, includendo gli studi latini e filosofici.*
- **Sample answer**
- The faculty of arts was lower in importance than the three faculties of theology, medicine, law.

Reading Comprehension

- 3. How did future notaries or engineers receive their training?
- *Tutte le professioni intellettuali minori che oggi associamo a una preparazione e a un titolo universitario - dal notaio all'ingegnere - continuarono a formarsi fino al pieno Settecento fuori dall'università.*
- **Sample answer**
- They received their training outside the university until the mid-eighteenth century.

Reading Comprehension

- What is the opinion of the historians mentioned in the ~~last sentence~~ *last paragraph*?
- Secondo alcuni storici, questo sarebbe un segno che *l'insegnamento offerto dall'università nel Medioevo e Rinascimento era poco pratico, un segno che l'università era interessata soltanto a discutere materie astratte, poco rilevanti al vivere quotidiano delle persone.*
- **Sample answer**
- According to some historians, in the Middle Ages and in the Renaissance the universities did not offer any practical teaching, and they were only interested in abstract subjects.

Reading Comprehension

- 5. Does the author agree or disagree with this view? **What evidence can you point to?**
- *Da un certo punto di vista questo potrebbe anche essere vero. **Con più attenzione ai documenti storici**, si scoprirebbe che le università erano istituzioni di formazione professionale, e quindi avevano un risvolto molto pratico.* Inoltre, **numerosi professori universitari, anche di materie astratte come la filosofia, insistettero sull'importanza pratica dello studio, per esempio, della filosofia morale.**
- **Sample answer**
- The author disagrees with some historians' view (*see question 4*) and he believes that the universities were vocational institutions. This view is supported by historical documents and by the fact that several University professors of so called 'abstract' subjects, such as philosophy, gave much importance to more practical studies such as moral philosophy.

Translation

- Throughout the medieval and modern age, the universities - **as various as their teaching methods were** (*literal: found there a place*) - elevated to the highest level (*literal: welcomed at the top level*) only three faculties which gave access to the title of *dottore*: Theology, Law and Medicine (*literal: those of the theologians, jurists and physicians*).
- *Per quanto* = 'although' / as...as
- *Trovare posto* = to find a place > to be
- *Forma d'insegnamento* (singular) = teaching method
- *Accogliere al vertice* = to welcome at the top level > to elevate

Translation

- The Faculty of Arts was not equal to (*literal: was not placed at the same level as*) the three highest and professional faculties, but was at a lower level, which included Latin and philosophical studies.
- *Collocarsi* = to place someone
- *Essere a un gradino più basso* = to be a step below

Translation

- Up to the mid-18th century, all the minor intellectual professions that nowadays we associate to a university training and title - from the notary to the engineer - had been training (*literal: continued to train themselves*) outside the university
- *Pieno Settecento* = mid-eighteenth century

Translation

- According to some historians, this would be a sign that the teaching offered by the university in the Middle Ages and the Renaissance was **not much** practical, a sign that the university was only interested to discuss abstract subjects, of little relevance to people's everyday lives.
- *Materia* (singular) = subject
- *Poco rilevanti* = of little relevance

Translation

- From a certain viewpoint, this could also be true. With more careful attention to the historical documents, one would find out that the universities were vocational institutions, and so they had a very practical aspect.
- *Istituto di formazione professionale* (singular) = vocational institution
- *Risvolto* = aspect (implication is OK)

Translation

- Moreover, several university professors, also of abstract subjects such as philosophy, put emphasis on the practical importance of studying, for instance, moral philosophy.
- *Insistere* = to put emphasis on / to insist upon