AP® Art History
2001 Sample Student Responses

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These two engravings were done by Dürer outside of Italy. Renaissance it shows its medieval roots as where all the figures are portrayed on the same plane & on the left shows dramatic gestures to portray a message or emotion. You also see the Italian Renaissance influence in the modeling of the figures. He incorporates foreshortening in his figures, something perfected during the Italian Renaissance. The figures are realistically shaded w/ a sense of Da Vinci's chiaroscuro. The horses & human's proportions are anatomically correct & he skillfully & realistically portrays the curvatures of the body & muscles, all very characteristic of the Italian Renaissance innovations. On the left is a scene depicting the Apocalypse, something discussed in the Christian religion. Most medieval art was purely religious in theme & I continue...
that spirit. He did many sketches from nature, similar to Da Vinci (Italian Renaissance). It shows in his realistic and accurate rendering of the horse and human figures.
5. These two works are by the same artist. Identify the artist. Using both works, discuss ways in which the works reflect the artist's medieval roots as well as his awareness of Italian Renaissance innovations. (10 minutes)

The artist is Albrecht Dürer. His medieval roots can be seen in the subjects of the works. These subjects show men of action and war and bravery. The Renaissance isn't just about those things, but also art, science, philosophy, and humanization. You can see his connections to Fritton symbolism through the right picture. On the right picture, you can see a skull in the bottom left. This symbolizes death's inevitability. He is also using different ways to create depth in the works such as the castle in the background of the right picture. It has been made smaller and lighter to seem further away.