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Unit 1 LEQ Outline # 4

Compare and contrast the gender roles of women in the Renaissance based on their class.

1. Introduction
   1. During the Renaissance, humanism promoted individualism and made humans feel more important about themselves. A liberal arts education, where studies of classical literature, rhetorics, and old languages, was born as well and played a big part (Contextualization). However, during the Renaissance, women were still inferior and were assigned gender roles based on their class.
   2. The gender roles of women were different based on their class, but there were also similarities (Restatement). Some similarities between the gender roles of women, even though they were in different classes, were that they were expected **to do regular household duties** and **helping the husband perform his job** (X similarities). Some differences, however, were that women of a higher social class were **allowed some, although rarely, freedom in choice** and were also **allowed to educate themselves, which enabled them to participate in the noble court** (Y differences).
2. First Body Paragraph, X Similarities
   1. Women of different social classes shared some of the same roles
      1. Example: Women were expected to do all the housework necessary as it was labeled by society as a woman’s job
         1. Analysis
            1. Even though they were at different statuses, the women were still inferior to men and were thought to be stupid
            2. Therefore, they were limited to housework and taking care of the husband
            3. Although humanism did place an emphasis on education and allowed women to become educated, their place would still be to serve their husbands and their family.
      2. Example: Women were also expected to help men with job
         1. Analysis
            1. Helping in farm or helping in store
            2. Expected to care for the wellbeing of husband, socially and economically, by helping to the best of their abilities
3. Second Body Paragraph, Y Differences
   1. However, there were some differences between the classes, since obviously being a higher class had some advantage
      1. Example: Isabella d’Este
         1. Analysis
            1. Isabella was an exception since she was allowed to participate in the court and even ruled the city of Mantua
            2. This had to do with circumstances and also the stress of individualism in Renaissance
      2. Example: Women in higher classes educated themselves and became important, like patrons of arts
         1. Analysis
            1. People of higher nobility had access to the liberal arts education while peasants did not
            2. Even though women were considered stupid, they were still allowed to participate in the program
4. Conclusion
   1. Restate Thesis
      1. In summation, women had similar roles even though they were of different classes like doing housework (X). They also had differences such as the higher class women having access to an education (Y).