1. The special position of the Italian city-states.  
Most of the Italians living in the independent city-states were freemen and not serfs.  
They had great freedom.  
They could speak freely.  
They had more ideas about art and learning  
2. The Crusades  
Italy was on the route to the Holy Land. (show the map)  
The traders in Florence, Venice, Geona and other Italian city-states made a lot of money from the Crusaders  
They could pay good prices for fine art and paintings.  
3. Italy was the centre of art and learning in Roman times.  
Italy had more remains of ancient Roman art and learning  
It was the best place to study classical things and learning  
4. the fall of Constantinople in 1453  
Many scholars escaped to Italy when the Turks took Constantinople.  
The scholars brought art, paintings and learning with them to Italy