

### JOURNAL ENTRY #3

Eric Weiner's chapters on Renaissance Florence and Enlightenment Edinburgh further develop his argument that genius clusters emerge and flourish in particular locations during brief "golden ages," when the cultural conditions are right, then dissolve, their influence disseminating into world culture, their legacy advancing human civilization and inspiring other creative people to capitalize on their achievements.

What do these two chapters add to Weiner's developing thesis? How and to what extent do his examples in Florence and Edinburgh advance his thinking regarding the function of creative genius? In what ways does his strategic mix of historical research, modern tourism, subjective analysis, and cultural analysis serve his purpose? How would you describe Weiner's writing style? What habits of tone, sentence structure, and rhetoric do you see at work in this book?

Write without stopping for 15 minutes.