

# Japan



## Geography

- Japan is an island nation (*archipelago*) with **few natural resources**, and must depend on other nations to supply them with the resources they need.
- Surrounded by water, Japan has been isolated from other cultures (*cultural isolation*) during many periods in her history.
- Mountains do not allow for a great deal of farming, therefore Japanese farmers must use their land efficiently (*terracing hillsides*) and import food.

## History

- Traditional Japanese religion is **Shintoism** (spirits found in all living and nonliving things).
- Japan was ruled by an *emperor* since about 500 A.D., but fights between warlords led to the development of feudalism in the 1100's.
- For several hundred years, military rulers controlled Japan. (**Shogun, Daimyo, Samurai, Peasants, Merchants, Women**)



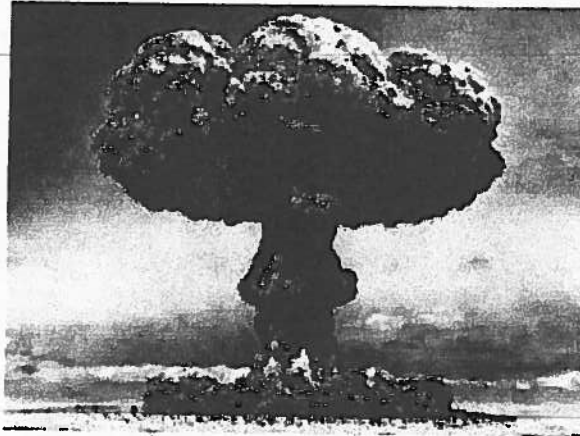
- The dynasty that took control in 1603 – **Tokugawa Shogunate** - brought stability and prosperity to Japan but imposed a rigid political and social order.
- In 1853, an American fleet led by **Commodore Matthew Perry**, sailed to Japan to “encourage” them to trade with the U.S.
- The **Meiji (Restoration)** government took power in 1868 and used western ideas to begin a program of *westernization, modernization* and *industrialization*. Japan turned into a major industrial power. Wealthy families (*zaibatsu*) became powerful in banking and industry.
- Japan became aggressive with its neighbors, adopting a policy of **imperialism**, in order to obtain much needed natural resources for its factories.

1894-1895...**Sino-Japanese War** – war with China over territory in Korea – Japan won

1904-1905...**Russo-Japanese War** – war with Russia over territory in Korea – Japan won

Dec. 7, 1941...Japanese forces attacked **Pearl Harbor** – brought U.S. into **WWII**

- Aug. 6 & 9, 1945 – atomic bombs dropped on **Hiroshima & Nagasaki**...ended WWII, but started *Atomic Age*



- Japan’s new Constitution created a Constitutional Monarchy with a Representative Democracy.

### **Economy**

- Lack of natural resources makes it necessary to import the natural resources used in modern industrial production.
- Japan has used technology and education of a highly skilled workforce to become a leading economic power in the global economy.
- Japan is a leader in the production of electronics and automobiles.
- There is a favorable “*balance of trade*”, with more exports than imports.

### **Contemporary Problems**

- Lack of living space for its population, but population growth is very small.
- Dependence on the Middle East for **oil** has caused problems.
- Traditional views of women keep them in lower positions than men in the workforce.

# Japan

## Geography

1. Archipelago-
2. Agriculture-
3. Natural Resources-
4. Fishing-
5. Korea as land bridge-
6. Population Density-

## Feudal Japan

1. Feudalism-
2. Who held real power in Feudal Japan?
3. What role did the samurai serve?
4. What was the bushido?
5. What is the Tokagawa Shogunate most well known for?

## Meiji Restoration

1. Commodore Matthew Perry-
2. Role of the Emperor-
3. Goal of the Emperor-
4. Modernization: A Plan-
5. Problems-
6. Solutions-

## Japan As A World Power

1. Why did Japan constantly look to expand?
2. What was an early sign of potential conflict between the United States and Japan?
3. December 7, 1941-
4. Why is the Battle of Midway significant?
5. How did the United States secure victory in World War Two?

### **Japan Rebuilds**

1. Was Japan punished for its role in World War Two?
2. Why was this done?
3. General Douglas Mac Arthur-
4. What assistance did the United States offer Japan after the War?

5. Constitution of 1947

6. Role of the Military-

### **The Japanese Economic Giant**

1. What has been a method by Japan to remain an economic giant?
2. What advantage does Japan receive by not having a military?
3. What problem must Japan constantly solve if it wants to remain economically strong?
4. What is a Trade Deficit?
5. What is the status of United States / Japanese trade?
6. Why does Japan like this?
7. Why does the United States not like this?
8. How is this being dealt with today?

### **Miscellaneous Notes**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

- 1) Both Japan and Indonesia are made up of a chain of islands called  
 A) a delta  
 B) an archipelago  
 C) an atoll  
 D) a peninsula
- 2) Which is an accurate statement about Japan's natural resources?  
 A) Japan has large fertile plains suitable for growing grain.  
 B) Large coal and iron-ore deposits are located in the mountain regions.  
 C) Japan has extensively used the seas for fishing.  
 D) Large reserves of petroleum are located in the northern part of Japan.
- 3) A major effect of geography on Japan is that the  
 A) fertile plains have enabled Japan to keep food prices low  
 B) scarcity of natural resources has forced Japan to obtain raw materials from other nations  
 C) export of oil has helped Japan maintain a favorable balance of trade  
 D) mountains have prevented invasions by foreign nations
- 4) Eighty-five percent of Japan's topography is mountainous. How has this geographic feature affected Japan?  
 A) The unemployment rate is high.  
 B) Farmers have used terracing to expand agricultural production.  
 C) The power of the Emperor has been strengthened.  
 D) The standard of living has declined.
- 5) In recent years, which factor has been a major reason for the economic tensions between the United States and Japan?  
 A) Japan lowered tariffs on goods imported from the United States.  
 B) The United States refused to place quotas on Japanese goods.  
 C) Japan's trade deficit with the United States was very high.  
 D) The United States imported more from Japan than it exported to Japan.
- 6) A characteristic of *both* European and Japanese feudalism was  
 A) a decentralized government  
 B) the many opportunities for social mobility  
 C) the adoption of Christianity  
 D) an open democratic society
- 7) Which religious belief is shared by the followers of Shinto in Japan and of animism in Africa?  
 A) Waging holy wars is an appropriate way to spread religious beliefs.  
 B) Spirits are found in all natural things.  
 C) Social status in a subsequent life depends on behavior in this life.  
 D) Only one universal, all-powerful God exists.
- 8) In Japan, a major economic problem has been the lack of  
 A) investment capital  
 B) experienced management  
 C) natural resources  
 D) skilled labor
- 9) In Japan, the samurai code of Bushido helped bring about  
 A) equality among Japanese citizens  
 B) an increased interest in science and technology  
 C) a culture that accepted militarism  
 D) peaceful relations with other nations
- 10) In Japan, the martial arts, the tea ceremony, and flower arranging *best* reflect the influences of  
 A) Buddhism and Shintoism  
 B) imperialism and militarism  
 C) mercantilism  
 D) capitalism
- 11) In Japan between 1603 and 1868, the *most* notable action taken by the Tokugawa Shogunate was the  
 A) formation of cultural links with Europe  
 B) virtual isolation of the country from the outside world  
 C) military conquest of China  
 D) development of extensive trade with the Americas
- 12) Until the 1500's, China and Japan were similar in that *both*  
 A) were invaded by the Mongols  
 B) were developing democratic traditions  
 C) had little contact with western European nations  
 D) welcomed Christian missionaries
- 13) Before Commodore Matthew Perry's expedition in 1853, Japan was most influenced by  
 A) the introduction of advanced technology from the United States  
 B) France's quest for new colonies  
 C) China's religion, art, and writing  
 D) Russia's need for warm-water ports
- 14) Changes in Russia under Peter the Great were most similar to changes that occurred in  
 A) France during the feudal period  
 B) China before the Opium War  
 C) Japan during the Meiji Restoration  
 D) Iran after the fall of Shah Pahlavi

- 15) In Japan, the period of the Meiji Restoration was primarily characterized by
- strict isolation
  - reform and modernization
  - feudal government
  - religious revival
- 16) Which situation resulted from the Russo-Japanese War of 1905?
- Japan lost its status as a world power.
  - Russia gained control of China and Japan.
  - The Japanese Emperor encouraged reforms in Russia.
  - Dissident groups challenged the power of the Russian Czar.
- 17) During the 1930's, Japan's foreign policy was based on the strategy of
- economic isolation
  - rapid consumer growth
  - territorial expansion
  - democratic alliances
- 18) Since 1945, many Japanese have opposed an expanded role for their military forces because of the
- Japanese military alliance with the Soviet Union that guaranteed their mutual security
  - nonviolent teachings of Shinto
  - military domination of the government before and during World War II
  - ancient code of bushido
- 19) Which reform took place in Japan after World War II?
- Japan's industrial capability was greatly reduced.
  - Labor unions were declared illegal.
  - The emperor's position was abolished.
  - Japan became a representative democracy.
- 20) Japan's current position as a world power, is most directly based upon Japan's
- military superiority
  - diversity of cultures
  - economic strength
  - abundance of natural resources
- 21) What is a result of the trade imbalance in recent decades between Japan and the United States?
- The United States has threatened to raise tariffs and establish quotas on products from Japan.
  - The United States has prohibited the importation of products from Japan.
  - Japan has limited its manufacturing because of declining markets in the United States.
  - Japan has stopped advertising Japanese-made goods in the United States.

### Japan's Trade, 1984

Japan's Exports *by Item		Japan's Imports *by Item	
Machinery and Equipment	70.5%	Mineral Fuels	44.2%
Metal, Metal Products	11.3	Raw Materials	14.3
Chemical Products	4.5	Foods	11.7
Textile Goods	4.0	Machinery and Equipment	8.8
Other	9.7	Chemical Products	6.1
		Other	14.9

\* items shown as percent of dollar value of total imports or exports

### Japan's Trade with Major Trading Partners, 1984 (in millions of dollars)

Exports (\$170,126)		Imports (\$136,450)	
United States	35.2%	United States	19.7%
European Communities (EC)	11.4	Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN)	14.5
Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN)	8.2	Saudi Arabia	10.8
Republic of Korea	4.2	European Communities (EC)	6.8
China	4.2	Australia	5.3
Saudi Arabia	3.3	China	4.4
Australia	3.0	Canada	3.6
Canada	2.5	Republic of Korea	3.1
Other Nations	28.0	Other Nations	31.8

According to the charts, which nations were Japan's major trading partners?

- Southeast Asian nations
- Arab oil-producing nations
- Western industrialized nations
- Communist nations