

Constructive Response Questions
Describe feudalism in Japan and specifically how the samurai were a part of it?



Ancient China & Japan

Outcome: Early Japan

1. Setting the Stage:

- Japan lies just _____ of _____
- Japan got its name from Chinese word “_____” which means “land of the _____”
- Japan has _____ ideas, institutions, and culture _____ for thousands of years
- Japanese culture is _____ as China’s but is still very rich and unique

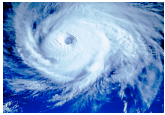
2. Geography of Japan

- Japan is made up of _____ islands which makes it an archipelago; _____ miles long
- Historically, the Japanese have lived on the _____ largest islands:

- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____



- Southern Japan has a _____ with plenty of _____
- Japan is very _____; roughly only _____% of the land is suitable for farming
- _____ are in short supply (coal, oil, iron ore)
- Tropical storms called _____ can occur during late summer and early fall
- _____ and _____ waves are also dangerous threats to the islands



3. Early Japan

- Japanese culture is very old, however first _____ only date back to _____ Century B.C.
- During 1st century B.C., Japan was _____ as a nation; hundreds of _____ controlled their own territories
- _____ clan established itself as the leading clan by 400 A.D.
- Yamato chiefs called themselves _____; gradually accepted into Japanese culture
- When one clan was defeated, the winning clan _____ of the emperor
- Each clan worshipped its own _____ and _____
- Beliefs combined to form Japan’s earliest religion: _____
 - Shinto meant “_____”
 - Shinto was based on _____ for forces of _____ and worship of _____
 - Worshippers believed in “_____” or divine spirits that dwelled in nature

4. Japanese Culture

a. Buddhism



- i. _____ brought Buddhism; was officially accepted by Japanese imperial court in mid-_____s.
- ii. Buddhism spread but Japanese _____ Shinto
- iii. Some Buddhist rituals became Shinto rituals and some Shinto gods and goddesses were worshiped in _____.

b. Borrowing from China



- i. Interest in Buddhist ideas grew into _____ all things _____
- ii. _____ (a Buddhist convert) sent first of three missions to China
- iii. Goal was to study _____
- iv. The Japanese adopted the following Chinese ideas:
 1. _____
 2. _____
 3. _____
 4. _____
 5. _____
 6. _____
 7. _____ (failed in Japan)



c. The Heian Period



- i. In the late 700s, the imperial court moved from _____ to _____
- ii. Many of Japan's _____ moved to Heian as well
- iii. Became known as the _____ (794-1185)
- iv. Rules dictated every aspect of court life (color of _____, length of _____, etc)
- v. _____ was extremely important; _____ in _____ was frowned upon
- vi. Everyone at court was expected to _____ and to _____
- vii. The best written accounts of Heian life come from diaries, essays, and novels written by the _____
- viii. Lady Murasaki's *The Tale of Genji* is considered the world's _____

5. Japanese Feudalism

- a. Heian period would be challenged by great _____ and clan _____
- b. Landowners acted as more independent rulers and set up _____
- c. Small landowners _____ parts of their _____ to strong warlords for _____ which began the feudal system in Japan
- d. _____: period of Japanese history where the country was dominated by powerful regional families (_____) and ruled militarily by the _____
- e. The emperor was the _____ at the top of Japanese society
- f. Often the shogun, or “_____” had powers of a military dictator; real power of Japan
- g. Landowners (daimyo) surrounded themselves with loyal bodyguards called _____
- h. Samurai lived by a demanding behavior code called _____: “_____”
- i. Samurai were expected to show _____ and die an honorable death



- j. If dishonored, Samurai could earn honor back by _____; ritualistic _____
- k. By the 1200s, the shoguns headquartered in Kamakura ruled through _____
_____ which lasted until 1868 in Japan

Result: Due to _____, Japanese history can only be traced back a little over 2,000 years. Japan's culture _____ from the Chinese and soon made their culture their own.

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Additional Question

Compare and contrast Ancient Chinese culture with the culture that developed in early Japan.

