

GII- Japan & Korea

Japanese Geography

- Mostly mountainous but has many harbors on its irregular coastline
- Developed unique culture: haiku poems and Zen gardens and calligraphy
- Isolated: became ethnocentric and believed other cultures were inferior

Japanese Religion

- Developed a nature based religion
- Shintoism: (Similar to animism)
- Belief in nature and that all things have spirits and focus on ancestral worship

Japanese Feudalism

- Lords give land and protection to vassals in exchange for loyalty and military service
- Provided stability for society
- Emperor: no real power
- Shogun: (military general) has all the power
- Daimyo: lords, control the land
- Samurai: warriors, follow Bushido which is their code of conduct (similar to Chivalry)
- Peasants: farms the land

Korea

- Korea is a peninsula
- It has been conquered numerous times because its surrounded by powerful nations
- Its geographic location is important because it connected China and Japan
- Called a cultural bridge between the two societies

Sample Questions

1. Throughout much of history, both China and Japan held a common view that other nations were
(1) valued sources of worthwhile knowledge (3) barbarians not worthy of their attention
(2) envoys of an advanced civilization (4) sources of cheap labor and goods
2. Carefully drawn calligraphy, Zen gardens, and the tea ceremony are examples of
(1) artifacts of Mansa Musa's Timbuktu
(2) the accomplishments of the Protestant Reformation
(3) early Japanese culture
(4) the achievements of Renaissance Florence
3. Which fact relating to early Japan was a result of the other three?
(1) Japan experienced earthquakes and volcanic eruptions.
(2) The Japanese developed a nature-based belief called Shinto.
(3) Tsunamis and typhoons sometimes destroyed coastal Japanese villages.
(4) Mountains are found throughout the islands of Japan.
4. Which statement about the geography of Japan is most accurate?
(1) Location has made it easy to invade. (3) Large plains are its primary physical feature.
(2) Earthquakes do not threaten the islands. (4) The irregular coastline has many natural harbors.
5. Which pair of belief systems share a belief that spirits reside in natural objects and forms?
(1) Hinduism and Confucianism (3) Shintoism and animism
(2) Islam and Judaism (4) Christianity and Buddhism

6. Which belief is shared by an African who practices animism and a Japanese who practices Shinto?

- (1) Only one God rules the universe.
- (2) Periodic fasting is essential to spiritual purity.
- (3) Spirits exist in both living and nonliving things.
- (4) All suffering is caused by desire and selfishness.

7. One way in which the code of chivalry in Europe and the code of Bushido in Japan were similar is that both codes were intended to

- (1) help the ruler control his people
- (2) guide the behavior of a warrior class
- (3) benefit all the social classes
- (4) support revolutionary ideas

8. The terms *Bushido*, *samurai*, and *daimyo* are most closely associated with which group in Japanese history?

- (1) emperors
- (2) warriors
- (3) peasants
- (4) merchants

9. Feudalism influenced Europe and Japan by

- (1) providing social stability
- (2) fostering the growth of religion
- (3) eliminating warfare
- (4) encouraging formal education

10. Which statement best describes an impact of geography on the history of the Korean peninsula?

- (1) Large deserts have led to isolation.
- (2) Location has led to invasion and occupation by other nations.
- (3) Lack of rivers has limited food production.
- (4) Lack of natural resources has prevented development of manufacturing.

11. Which two cultures most influenced the development of early Japan?

- (1) Greek and Roman
- (2) Chinese and Korean
- (3) Egyptian and Mesopotamian
- (4) Indian and Persian