

## Medieval Japan

### DIRECTIONS:

This chapter begins on page 169. It is a good practice to read the chapter first before attempting to answer the questions in this worksheet. Be aware that not every possible test question is covered by this worksheet. Any material in the chapter may appear on a test. Answer each question as completely as you can. Any unfamiliar bold words in the chapter are defined in the margins nearby. Be sure to know the definitions!

1. Japan cut itself off from the \_\_\_\_\_ world for almost \_\_\_\_\_ years.
2. Because of the \_\_\_\_\_ or military rule, foreigners could not live in or visit Japan.
3. The four main islands of Japan are \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, and \_\_\_\_\_. A group of islands such as this is called an \_\_\_\_\_.
4. Where does most of Japan's population live?
5. Describe Japan's geography with respect to its climate and land.
6. What does the name "Japan" mean?
7. Who were Japan's first peoples? Where did they come from and when?
8. Which new people to Japan developed agriculture there? What did they know how to do and what else did they bring to the Japanese people?

9. Describe how the imperial sun line was born. What does it mean?

10. What was kana?

11. The Japanese didn't start writing anything down until \_\_\_\_\_ C.E. when the \_\_\_\_\_ began visiting Japan. The Koreans used \_\_\_\_\_ characters that the Japanese later adopted as part of their own written language.

## Religion in Early Japan

12. What does "Shinto" mean and what is it based on?

13. The most important spirits in Shinto are the \_\_\_\_\_. Shinto gods may live in \_\_\_\_\_ where they can be contacted by priests and individuals. Shinto often brings about a deep love of \_\_\_\_\_

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14. In the early 500s C.E., why was Buddhism more attractive to some believers than Shinto?

What religion eventually became the state religion of Japan?

15. During the \_\_\_\_\_ period of 700-800 C.E., Buddhist \_\_\_\_\_ took over the government which angered many people. People were so angry, that they chose to move the capital city of Japan, \_\_\_\_\_, to Kyoto to get away from all the Buddhists!

16. \_\_\_\_\_ rulers were common in \_\_\_\_\_ Japan from 794 to 1192 C.E. because the Fujiwara family who were in power used the ruling emperors as puppets.

17. The city of Heian is today called \_\_\_\_\_.

18. Why did the emperor never appear in public?

19. Why did the Heian Empire start to fail?

20. As the Heian Empire was failing and the capital grew weaker, what class was born?
21. Draw a picture or write an explanation of what happened between the Taira and Minamoto and their wars.
22. After the civil war between the \_\_\_\_\_ and Minamoto, \_\_\_\_\_ Japan meant that local lords who had the protection of armies, became very powerful.
23. Write the definitions for the words below:
- Shogun
- Shogunate
- Daimyo
- Revere
- Domain
- Sake
- Kamakura period
- Abdicate
- Zen Buddhism
- The code of Bushido
- Fortification
- Kamikaze
- The Forty Seven Ronin

