

ASSIGNMENT SHEET
 COURSE #211 -- JAPAN

Guide to Textbooks for Course:

S.M.T. -- SCHOLASTIC MULTI TEXT
 Hyman Kublin -- JAPAN - SELECTED READINGS
 A.E.F. -- JAPAN - AN AREA STUDY

- #1. What do we know about Japan?
- List 10 things that come to your mind when "Japan" is mentioned.
 - What reasons could you give for studying about Japan?
- #2. Is Japan a successful nation?
 Kublin:205-208 A.E.F.:22-23 PANJANAS:313-317
- Name at least 4 things that a country must have in order to be considered successful. Explain why each are necessary for a country's success.
 - Does Japan fit into the category of a successful nation of the world?
 - If you had a spare 5 million dollars, would you invest it in Japan? Why or why not?
- #3. Has geography helped or hindered Japan's development?
 S.M.T.:18-22 Kublin:5-8 A.E.F.:7-10
- List and explain the advantages and disadvantages that nature has given to Japan. Do the advantages or disadvantages outweigh each other? Explain.
 - Because of its location, Japan has had almost 2000 years of relative isolation from other countries. Do you think this has been good for the Japanese? Explain.
- #4. Has Japan been successful in permanently overcoming her geographic problems?
 Kublin:18-21 AEP:6-10 Case Study:27-28
- Show how each of the following have been attempts by Japan to overcome the problems presented to it by nature: a) fish farming b) terracing of crops c) intensive farming d) use of science in farming e) population control.
- "Trading has been the most important way Japan has attempted to overcome its natural handicaps." Discuss fully why someone might make this statement.
 - EXTRA CREDIT - Case Study AEP:27-28. Answer question I on page 28.
- #5. Was Japan an underdeveloped nation before Perry came?
 SMT:30-37 Kublin:63-73, 73-77, 90-104
- Identify and explain the significance of each in Japanese history:
 a) Feudalism b) Samurai c) Bushido.
 - Define the term militarism. Is feudalism similar to militarism? Explain.
 - Did feudalism help or hinder Japan's development? Explain.
 - Show how Japan has had a tradition of military rule. Explain.
 - If you were a sailor on Perry's ship, how would you describe what you saw in Japan in 1854?
- #6. Did the Meiji bring a revolution to Japan?
 SMT:37-38, 40-44 Kublin:116(bottom)-121, 127-128, 132-143 AEP:46-47
- Why did Perry's visit mark a turning point in Japanese history?
 - What were the political, economic and social changes brought about by the Meiji rulers?
- #7. Did Japan have to expand?
 SMT:44-50 Kublin:128-131, 152-173 AEP:46-47
- It has been said that land hunger was the reason why Japan went to war with the Chinese in 1894, the Russians in 1904-1905, and entered World War I on the side of the allies. Discuss the truth or falsity of this statement.
 - How did the depression affect the policy of the Japanese government?
 (SMT:p.46)
 - Why was the conquest of Manchuria by the Japanese considered one of the major reasons leading to World War II?
 - Why did Japan feel America was a threat to her interests in the Pacific?

JOHN DEWEY HIGH SCHOOL
SOL DEWINE, PRINCIPAL

SOCIAL STUDIES DEPARTMENT
SAUL BRUCKNER, CHAIRMAN

REQUIRED RESOURCE CENTER PROJECTS FOR STUDENTS TAKING
JAPAN - COURSE #214

The following projects will become part of your requirement to achieve mastery in this course. Your instructor will inform you as to the number of projects that will be submitted. All the books and magazines listed can be found in the Social Studies Resource Center. It is your responsibility to make use of these materials and to submit your work on time.

1. Geography has played an important role in the lives of the people of Japan. Read pps. 5-13 in Kublin's Japan - Selected Readings, and view the Bailey Filmstrip on Geography of Japan and in an essay:
 - a. Explain how nature has been Japan's friend.
 - b. Explain why many Japanese might consider nature to be their enemy.
 - c. Explain how the geography of Japan has helped to influence the Japanese outlook on life.
2. One of the most distinctive characteristics of Japanese life is its architecture. Read pps. 13-17 in Kublin's Japan - Selected Readings and in an essay compare the major way in which a Japanese home differs from yours.
3. Imagine that you are a Japanese visitor to John Dewey High School. You have been asked to speak to the students studying Japan in a social studies class on Japanese religion. Prepare an essay explaining the main principles of Japan's religions and how they compare with the religious beliefs of the students at Dewey. Refer to pps. 21-25 in Kublin's Japan-Selected Readings and Religions in Japan - Eye Gate House Filmstrip - pps. 235-246 in Nalty's The Asians.
4. For hundreds of years the Japanese Emperor was revered as God. Read pps. 24-38 in Kublin's Japan - Selected Readings and in an essay:
 - a. What conception of their country and emperor the Japanese were likely to obtain from reading the source of Japan's early history.
 - b. How the role of the Emperor has changed since 1945.
5. To the Japanese learning the arts of flower arrangement and the procedure of the tea ceremony are important aspects of their culture. Read pps. 77-82 in Kublin's Japan - Selected Readings and write an essay based on the following:
 - a. Briefly describe the Ikebana and the Cha-no-yu.
 - b. Do you agree that Ikebana and Cha-no-yu foster physical and mental discipline?
6. Knowing one's place in Japanese society is extremely important. Read pps. 89-94 in Kublin's Japan - Selected Readings and write an essay based on the following:
 - a. Why do the Japanese feel it is so important for the Japanese child to learn his place in the world early in life?
 - b. Why does Ruth Benedict call Japan an aristocratic society?
 - c. How does the rearing of children in Japan compare with your upbringing?
7. On August 6, 1945 an atomic bomb was dropped on the Japanese city of Hiroshima. Read pps. 173-178 in Kublin's Japan - Selected Readings and write a paper based on the following:
 - a. Describe the power of the atomic bomb as seen through the eyes of Yamaguchi.
 - b. Was the U. S. right in using this weapon? Give your opinion.
8. Imagine yourself to be a member of the crew of one of Commodore Perry's ships visiting Japan in July 1853. Write a letter to your friend back home in America:
 - a. Describing the Japan you have found in 1853.
 - b. Describing in a second letter the Japan you would have found 30 years later on a return visit.Refer to pps. 71-79, 79-83 in Downs' Japan Yesterday and Today for information to help you in writing these letters. Also pps. 81-84 in Snyder - Panorama of the East, Vol. II.

- #8. Did Japan deserve to have the Atomic Bomb dropped on it?
 Kublin:167-173, 173-178 Panoramas:201-205
 1. Was Japan justified in bombing Pearl Harbor?
 2. Give 2 arguments for and 2 arguments against America's dropping the Atomic Bomb on Japanese cities.
- #9. Did defeat in World War II result in an economic revolution coming to Japan?
 SMP:57-59 Kublin:149-152, 205-208 AEP:41-45 Panoramas:313-317
 1. After World War II Japan was a defeated and devastated country. In 1970 Japan is the third greatest economic power in the world. Explain at least 4 reasons for this "great transformation."
 2. How does the SONY success story show in miniature what has been happening in Japan since World War II?
- #10. Can democracy work for Japan?
 SMP:52-54 Kublin:221-227 AEP:21-22, 39-40
 1. Japanese democracy has been labeled "Made in U.S.A." Explain.
 2. Why is the success of Japanese democracy important to the United States?
 3. Democracy in Japan, like democracy in the United States, faces many problems. Show how each of the following poses a threat to the continuance of Japanese democracy: a) student riots b) authoritarian tradition c) inability to satisfy the economic needs and wants of the Japanese people.
- #11. What is the role of religion in Japan?
 SMP:25-27 Kublin:21-25
 1. Briefly describe the major ideas of the following Japanese religions: a) Shintoism b) Buddhism.
 2. United States Ambassador to Japan, Edwin Reischauer, has said that it is possible for a Japanese to believe in both of these religions at the same time. Do you think this is possible? Explain.
 3. Someone has said "the major religions of the world are more similar to one another than different from one another". Comparing the religion you were born into to the above two religions, do you agree or disagree with the statement?
- #12. How does education in Japan compare with education in the United States?
 SMP:58-59 Kublin:209-212 AEP:35-38
 1. From the article in Kublin, what similarities and differences do you see in the Japanese and American educational systems. Which would you rather attend? Explain.
 2. Why do students protest in Japan? Are the reasons similar to the reasons why students protest in the United States?
- #13. Is the Japanese Family a miniature nation?
 Kublin:89-94 AEP:13-15
 1. What was the role of the father, the mother and the children in the traditional Japanese family? Why did they assume these roles?
 2. Looking at the traditional family, what conclusions could you draw about Japanese society?
- #14. Is the Family undergoing change in Japanese society?
 AEP:13-16 Kublin:221-231
 1. Do the roles of the father, mother and children differ from those of the traditional family today?
 2. Show how each of the following has contributed to the changes in the Japanese family: a) World War II and the occupation of Japan b) increased economic prosperity c) increasing educational level d) increased leisure time.
 3. Do you think Japanese women would become members of "Women's Liberation"?
- #15. Are the people of Japan its greatest asset?
 AEP:41-45
 1. What qualities do the Japanese people possess which have led to Japan's success? Why do they possess these qualities?
 2. Is there any such thing as a typical Japanese?

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16. "It has often been said that Japan must trade or die". Read pgs. 44-55 in Hunsberger Japan - Lessons in Enterprise pgs. 44-58 in Kublin, Japan - Selected Readings, and in an essay answer the following:
- Why is trade so important to Japan?
 - Explain four major problems facing Japanese trade today.
 - According to the Kublin article what can be expected of Japan's import policy in the next decade?
17. Although dynamic the Japanese economy is not trouble free. Read Peter Drucker's article pgs. 177-183 in Downs, Japan Yesterday and Today and in an essay describe and explain several major problems facing Japanese industry today.
18. "Since World War II Japan and the U. S. have become strong allies." Read pgs. 59-69 in Hunsberger, Japan - Lessons in Enterprise and pgs. 203-210 in Downs, Japan Yesterday and Today and in an essay answer the following questions:
- Why do the two countries need each other?
 - According to Hunsberger what economic strains are creating friction between the U.S. and Japan?
 - How does Reischauer explain the growth of a "broad streak of anti American in Japan today"?
19. The Japan of today is experiencing rapid social and cultural change. Read W. G. Beasley pgs. 227-232 in Kublin, Japan - Selected Readings and in an informative essay answer the following questions.
- Why have the Japanese found it difficult to relate their present ways to the past?
 - Why is there greater diversity of views and beliefs in present day Japan than in the Japan of pre World War II?
 - Do you think that the Japanese will be able to reconcile the flood western thought and culture with their own traditional ways?
20. What are the Japanese really like? Read the article from the Readers Digest located in the file on Japan in the Social Studies Resource Center. In an informative essay:
- Describe the unique qualities of the Japanese character according to the Mydans.
 - Explain how the Japanese national character compares with that of the American.
21. An important part of the Japanese cultural world is the Kabuki Theatre. Read Kabuki by Fashion Bowers located in the file on Japan in the Social Studies Resource Center. Refer to the EPA filmstrip Japanese Cultural Heritage, and in an informative essay answer the following questions:
- What are the characteristics of the Kabuki Theatre?
 - How does Kabuki compare with American Theatre?
 - Why does Kabuki Theatre have appeal to the entire world according to Leo Strasberg?
22. Can Japan survive its own successes? Read the article by John Oakes that asks this question in the file on Japan in the Social Studies Resource Center, and in an essay answer the following:
- Why does Oakes feel that the Japanese are creating an ecological Hiroshima?
As Prime Minister of Japan describe two ways in which you would deal with Japan's ecological problems.
- As that you are visiting Japan. Write a letter home to a friend describing the transportation system of Japan. In your letter make reference to characteristics and problems of Japanese transportation. Be sure to include comparisons between Japanese and American transportation systems for your friend. Refer to Bailey Filmstrip on Transportation in Japan located in the Social Studies Resource Center.