

Questions about Medieval Japan
7th Grade Social Studies

1. Buddhism, one of two principal religions practiced in Japan, originated (started) where?
 - a. Korea
 - b. India
 - c. China
 - d. Vietnam
2. What was Japan's original (first) religion, which expresses the love and respect for nature, and is in some ways, blended with Buddhism?
 - a. Shinto
 - b. Islam
 - c. Christianity
 - d. Baptist
3. Which neighbor listed below did **not** influence Japan's medieval culture?
 - a. Korea
 - b. China
 - c. India
 - d. Australia
4. Confucian ideas influenced the organization of Japan's government in the 7th and 8th centuries. From which neighbor did these ideas originate (come from)?
 - a. Korea
 - b. China
 - c. India
 - d. none of the above
5. Like China, the emperor of Japan wanted his government officials selected based on their ability. But by the 9th century, those positions were **filled with people who were nobles, or rich**. What is this type of government called?
 - a. a meritocracy
 - b. a democracy
 - c. an aristocracy
 - d. an idiosyncrasy
6. A Buddhist belief is that life is full of pain and suffering. According to Buddhism's moral code, what can a believer do to escape this?
 - a. show respect for others
 - b. practice meditation
 - c. follow a moral code of acting rightly
 - d. all of the above

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7. The Japanese language was originally only a spoken language. Which written language did the Japanese first adopt for their writing system?
 - a. Arabic
 - b. English
 - c. Kanji (simplified Chinese)
 - d. Latin

8. What is the name for a tower-shaped building with several stories and roofs? (see picture)
 - a. tanka
 - b. pagoda
 - c. samurai
 - d. Shinto

9. Shinto shrines (places of worship) showed Japan's...
 - a. love of machines and technology
 - b. fear of darkness and death
 - c. hatred for work
 - d. respect for agriculture and nature

10. How did cultural ideas move from Korea and China to Japan?
 - a. ideas came in the form of gifts such as books and art
 - b. workers came to Japan and showed their knowledge and skills
 - c. Japan sent students, monks, and government officials to other places
 - d. all of the above