

## Chapter 13: Japan and the Shogun - Student Notepackage

Name:

Date:

### Vocabulary

shogun daimyo hereditary seppuku outcasts Confucianism filial piety  
ethical codes ronin

***BIG IDEA: How do forms of government and decision-making reflect a society's worldview?***

Define "shogun" below:

Read the story on page 283. How are the actions of the people in this story affected by ideas of honour? What other values are demonstrated in this story?

## **Power and Control**

The story of the \_\_\_\_\_ ronin is one of the most beloved Japanese stories. It has been said that "to understand the story of the 47 ronin is to understand Japan."

What do you think this mean?

Are there any stories about Canada that would help people to understand Canada?

The story of the 47 ronin took place during the Edo or Tokugawa period of Japanese history, which lasted from 1600 to \_\_\_\_\_. Edo, the present-day city of \_\_\_\_\_, was the capital during this time and the Tokugawa shogun were the \_\_\_\_\_. In the hundred years up to the Edo period, Japan was locked in almost constant warfare. Powerful landowners, or \_\_\_\_\_, known as \_\_\_\_\_, competed with one another for territory and power.

PREDICT: What would it have taken to finally end the chaos and bring order to the country?

## Unifying the Land

Tokugawa Ieyasu became the most powerful man in Japan after he defeated rival daimyo and general in a great battle. Three years later in 1603, the emperor made him the shogun. Although the emperor technically ruled the land, the shogun really held all the power. He was determined to create a strong \_\_\_\_\_ that no one would dare to challenge him or his descendants. His plan was to create a long lasting and stable government. His first step was to control the daimyo, some of whom had fought against him before he became a shogun.

What other effective measures brought stability to Japan? List and describe them below:

1. \_\_\_\_\_.

2. \_\_\_\_\_.

3. \_\_\_\_\_.

Fig. 13-5: Look at the table pg. 286. Discuss with a partner which means of controlling the daimyo would be most effective in ensuring loyalty? Which would ensure obedience? Write your answers below:

## The Feudal Society

The story of the 47 ronin illustrates three of the levels of Japanese society: the \_\_\_\_\_, the nobility, and the \_\_\_\_\_. Japan had a feudal system which was based on land; local lords controlled domains and they supported themselves by collecting taxes from peasant farmers.

Membership in each class was \_\_\_\_\_, that is, determined by birth. Although people could not officially move up in the hierarchy, people in lower levels did manage to improve their situation through hard work, talent or gaining wealth.

There were 216 rules regulating dress for everyone from the emperor to the lowest member of society. There were rules regarding houses and possessions. There were even rules that dictated to whom each person and to bow and how low. Punishments were harsh for anyone who disobeyed

Voices: Social Mobility in Canada Today pg. 287

- We are going get into two groups and argue for our groups' side.
- After the debate, answer the "Think it Through" questions

Question:

1.

2.

3.

Read the section on pg. 289 titled "The Samurai". Write down 5 important and interesting facts about the samurai

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Fill in the chart after watching the short presentation/representations in class:

Peasants	
Artisans	
Merchants	

### Women in Japan

- The class that women in Japan were \_\_\_\_\_ into, determined their responsibilities as it did for the men.

- Women did not have legal existence in the Edo period; they could not own property.

## Outside Edo Society

Define the word “outcasts” below:

In Japan, usually outcasts had occupations that in some way involved death. Leather tanners, butchers, and those who disposed of animal carcasses were all outcasts. People with leprosy and some \_\_\_\_\_ were also considered outcasts. Under the Tokugawa shogun, outcasts had to live \_\_\_\_\_ from the rest of society, and they were not allowed to change their jobs, enter a peasant’s \_\_\_\_\_, or be in a city after 8 pm.

The \_\_\_\_\_, Japan’s indigenous people, also were \_\_\_\_\_ from the feudal hierarchy. Although they had lived for many \_\_\_\_\_ of years on the islands of Japan, they were excluded from Japanese society. It wasn’t until \_\_\_\_\_ the the Ainu people were officially recognized by Japanese government as an \_\_\_\_\_ people. This meant that their distinct culture would be protected and \_\_\_\_\_.

## Honour and Duty

Consider the following questions for discussion...

- “Think it Through” pg. 295 Top and Bottom

The Tokugawa shogun did not create the Japanese social structure but they used its values and social controls to \_\_\_\_\_ their rule. “ \_\_\_\_\_ controls” are the rules and customs in a society that regulate people’s \_\_\_\_\_. The \_\_\_\_\_ of social controls is to maintain order in a society.

The teachings of \_\_\_\_\_ played an important role in the Japanese acceptance of class distinctions.

Who was Confucius?

Confucianism taught that everyone had a proper place in society. If everyone accepted their duties and obligations, there would be peace and order. If not, there would be chaos and suffering.

Many of Confucius’s sayings encouraged people to be modest and work and study hard. He stressed the need for rituals of proper behaviour and compassion. One of his famous sayings was

“What you do not wish for yourself, \_\_\_\_\_”

Define “filial piety” below:

## Voices: Social Uniformity

### Essay Question

“Should St. Mary’s School implement a school uniform? Why or why not?” Complete your answer in essay format.

## First Contact with the West

The \_\_\_\_\_ arrived in 1543, and because they approached Japan from a southerly direction, they became known as the “southern barbarians.” They were soon followed by Spanish, Dutch, and British traders and by \_\_\_\_\_ missionaries.

The Portuguese and Japanese had favourable impressions of each other, but they did have many cultural and religious differences.

Francis Xavier, a Jesuit, arrived in Japan in \_\_\_\_\_ to start missions to convert the upper classes, the daimyo and the samurai, to Christianity. Many Portuguese and Spanish Jesuits came after Xavier. The Portuguese also sent Franciscan priests, who worked with the poor and lower classes. Both the Japanese and Portuguese religions have ethical codes.

Define “ethical codes” below:

The story of the 47 ronin showed that the Japanese were expected to be totally \_\_\_\_\_ to their daimyo, emperor and shogun. The Christian missionaries, on the other hand, taught that a person’s spiritual loyalty should be to God in heaven. The \_\_\_\_\_ rulers that European Christians obeyed represented and served that higher \_\_\_\_\_ authority. It became clear to the shogunate that what Christianity stood for was very \_\_\_\_\_ from the beliefs that were considered an essential part of the Japanese identity.

Explore the Big Ideas

Questions 1: Complete below