

Part 1: Timeline of East Asia and the World We Live In

1. Using the timelines provided 1) label the anchor facts of Chinese and Japanese history, 2) draw appropriate lines linking the cardinal cultures of the world to them, and 3) label the periods of the history of each. *Pay close attention to the spacing. Modern history is stretched to accommodate the elements of the diagram that you need to include.*

United States



Europe



Russia



Islamic World



China



Japan



2. What is Japan's rank among industrial/trading nations? What is its rank as a military power? Why then is it *not* a cardinal culture in the world today? What is a surprising feature of Japan's population growth curve that reflects this key point about Japan today.

Part 2: Isolated and Insular Japan

3. When and how does Japanese history begin, according to Japanese tradition? How is Japanese government connected to Japanese religion, and how are both of these connected to Japan's culture tendency towards insularity?

4. How was Japan's government affected by copying China? What was unique about Japanese bureaucracy?

5. What is "sakoku"? Who implemented it, and why?

6. By whom and how was Japan's policy of "sakoku" broken?

Part 3: Imperial and Post Imperial Japan

7. How could an insular culture like Japan become an imperial culture? What is the logic of this transformation?

8. Where did Japan focus its initial efforts to build an empire? What were the key moments in its history as an empire?

9. What two Americans are most responsible for shaping Japan's *post-imperial* culture, and how?
