7.27 Compare the major features of Shinto, Japan's indigenous religion, and Japanese Buddhism.

7.28 Explain the influence of China and the Korean peninsula upon Japan as Buddhism, Confucianism, and the Chinese writing system were adopted.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>What will I learn today?</th>
<th>How will I learn it?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Religions of Japan/Influence of China and Korea</td>
<td>Notes; lecture; tripods; video</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>How will I know I learned it?</th>
<th>How will I use it?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Can answer exit questions with 80% accuracy.</td>
<td>Recognizing different cultures in our world today.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The Land of the Rising Sun

- Very mountainous, only 12% suitable for farming.
- Called by China, “Land of the Rising Sun” to the east.
- Close location to Korea and China will cause Japan to adopt Chinese culture.
Clans Coming Together

Japan began as independent set of clans (families).

- Developed Shintoism-earliest Japanese religion.
  - Based on respecting nature and worshipping ancestors, like China.
  - Kami were divine spirits that lived in nature.
    - Later from China, Japan will combine this with Confucianism and Buddhism.
Contact with China

During 400's, Japan increased contact with China.

Korean travelers (controlled by Han) spread word of Chinese customs (during Tang China).

Buddhism became accepted as Japanese religion, combined with Shintoism.

Chinese writing, cooking, and rituals were adopted.
7.27 ... Compare the major features of Shinto, Japan's indigenous religion, and Japanese Buddhism.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mWRSjioOCY

Ancient Japanese elevated this fascination with nature into what was later called Shinto, the Way of the Gods. This belief system that imbued every mountain, every stream, and even impressive trees with a spirit. These deities, known as kami, were considered cheerful and friendly to humans. If kept satisfied, they would watch over human affairs and refrain from causing natural disasters. But the kami also would not hesitate to unleash their wrath if humans violated their cardinal rule of physical and spiritual cleanliness. To appease the kami, worshipers avoided defiling holy places by undergoing thorough ritual purification before passing beneath the torii, the gate leading into the sacred precinct of a Shinto shrine. Clean humans meant happy kami, and happy kami meant a peaceful realm.

Although its origins are obscure, Shinto helped forge national and political unity by emphasizing Japan's divine beginnings through myths and legends. For example, the Shinto creation myth tells of a pair of deities called Izanagi and Izanami who created the islands of Japan when droplets of water dripped down from Izanagi's spear. After the couple descended from the heavens to live on the islands, they had numerous divine offspring, including the sun goddess Amaterasu, the most important deity in Shinto. Later generations of Japanese emperors claimed their divinity — and therefore their right to rule — by tracing their imperial lineage back to Amaterasu herself. As a direct descendant of the sun goddess, the emperor became a Living God who was to be worshiped along with his all-illuminating divine ancestor.

Shinto was already well established as the national religion when Buddhism was transmitted from China (via Korea) to Japan in the 6th century C.E. As Buddhism gained popularity, it occasionally clashed with Shinto, but it did not displace the pre-existing religion. Rather, the two overlapped and complemented each other. With its abundant scripture and rigid ethical code, Buddhism used precise terms to articulate concepts that Shinto had left vague. Whereas Shinto was generally life-affirming and flexible about human conduct (except in matters of purity), Buddhist philosophy provided a moral framework for the universe and addressed questions about death, reincarnation, and punishment for wrongdoing that Shinto failed to answer in detail. The Buddhist teachings of impermanence (that nothing lasts forever) and emptiness (that nothing really has its own substance) became ingrained in Japanese thought and shaped subsequent philosophy, art, and literature.
7.28 Explain the influence of China and the Korean peninsula upon Japan as Buddhism, Confucianism, and the Chinese writing system were adopted.

- In Korea, Buddhism was adopted first by the nobles and later by the common people. It then spread from Korea to Japan.
- Korea is close to the islands of Japan. Chinese culture sometimes spread to Japan from Korea.
- Like the Chinese, the Japanese wrote with brushes and ink in paper. They used calligraphy for their writing system.

Japan's Neighbors
Japan's closest neighbors are China and Korea. Both countries had a powerful influence on Japan. China referred to the islands of Japan as "the land of the rising sun" which is Nippon in Japanese. Nippon is what the Japanese call their country.
Prince Shotoku, who ruled from 593 to 622, was very impressed with the Chinese culture. He sent many leaders and scholars to China to study. Shotoku opened an embassy in China. An embassy is the office of one government in another country. He based his leadership on the Confucian principles of loyalty and respect. Shotoku was very impressed with Buddhism and he encouraged the spread of Buddhism in Japan. Some Japanese had concerns that Buddhism challenged Shinto - which was the traditional belief of Japan. As time went on, the two religions became blended. More Japanese accepted Buddhism continued to practice Shinto.

Like the Chinese, the Japanese wrote with brushes and ink. Writing was considered a thing of beauty. Calligraphy is the art of beautiful writing. Like Chinese writing, each character is painted with a set order of strokes.

A Chinese Flavor
Although Shinto and the various sects of Buddhism have dominated the hodgepodge that is Japanese spiritual life, other belief systems—mostly of Chinese origin—have influenced the way in which the Japanese have viewed the world.

Confucianism, the philosophy and religion based on the ethical and humanitarian teachings of Confucius, gained a foothold in Japan in the 7th century C.E. Its political theories and family values have persisted for centuries, and even became the official ideology of the state during the Tokugawa period (1600-1868).

Other significant belief systems have been Chinese astrology and feng-shui (earth study), as well as a host of other Chinese folk beliefs and practices.
### 7.27 - Compare the major features of Shinto, Japan’s indigenous religion, and Japanese Buddhism.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Shinto p. 442</th>
<th>• should build shrines to ask the kami to bless them</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• believed that chanting the Buddha’s name over and over achieved salvation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• everything in nature has a kami - sun, moon, trees, etc.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Buddhism p. 450</td>
<td>• Pure Land -</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Zen -</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Believes the Kami helps people live and keeps them from harm. Brought to Japan by Prince Shotoku.

### 7.28 - Explain the influence of China and Korean peninsula upon Japan as Buddhism, Confucianism, and the Chinese writing system were adopted.

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Explain the influence of China and Korean peninsula upon Japan as Buddhism: __________________________

Explain the influence of China and Korean peninsula upon Confucianism: __________________________

Explain the influence of China and Korean peninsula upon Writing: ________________________________
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7.27 - Compare the major features of Shinto, Japan’s indigenous religion, and Japanese Buddhism.

7.28 - Explain the influence of China and Korean peninsula upon Japan as Buddhism, Confucianism, and the Chinese writing system were adopted.

*Answer on an index card.*

Based on what you have learned, answer one of the following in a complete sentence/s.

*Follow the 3 steps: (cite, restate, & answer)*

A. Explain the importance of Prince Shotoku and his influence upon Japan.

B. Explain the influence China and Korea had upon Japan.

C. Compare the religions - Shinto and Buddhism of Japan.

*Remember: Pronouns are DEAD!*