

Vocabulary Activity

Civilizations of East Asia

Content Vocabulary

Directions: Write the letter of the phrase that best completes each sentence. **(scholar-gentry, samurai, shogun)**

- _____ 1. In China the scholar-gentry were all of the following except
- a. controllers of no land in China.
 - b. the political and economic elite of Chinese society.
 - c. the most respected teachers in China.
 - d. producers of the fewest candidates for civil service.
- _____ 2. The Japanese word *samurai* means
- a. "those who serve."
 - b. "mighty warriors."
 - c. "those who own the land."
 - d. "great swordsmen."
- _____ 3. In Japan a shogun was
- a. a strict code followed by warriors.
 - b. the land owned by an aristocratic family.
 - c. a military leader or general.
 - d. another name for "civil war."

Directions: For each word in the left column, write the letter of the correct definition in the right column. **(dowry, porcelain, daimyos, khanate, Bushido)**

_____ 4. dowry	a. fine ceramic made of high-fired clay
_____ 5. porcelain	b. "the way of the warrior"; the samurai code
_____ 6. daimyo	c. separate territories under the rule of Genghis Khan's sons
_____ 7. khanate	d. a gift of money or property paid at the time of marriage
_____ 8. Bushido	e. head of noble families
_____ 9. archipelago	f. chain of many islands

Vocabulary Activity *Cont.*



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Directions: Include in your answers to the questions below the vocabulary words in parentheses.

- 10.** Describe the differences between the Japanese religions Shinto and Zen.
(Shinto, Zen)

- 11.** In China, how did neo-Confucianism differ from Buddhism? **(neo-Confucianism)**

- 12.** Explain the differences between Theravada and Mahayana Buddhism in India.
(Theravada, Mahayana)

Academic Vocabulary

Directions: Write the letter of the best answer in each blank provided.

- _____ **13.** The period from the beginning of the Sui dynasty to the end of the Song dynasty lasted nearly 700 years. **(period)**

In this sentence, *period* means

- a.** ending. **b.** era. **c.** conclusion. **d.** occurrence.

- _____ **14.** Buddhist monasteries, like Christian monasteries in Europe during the Middle Ages, acquired thousands of acres of land and serfs. **(acquired)**

In this sentence, *acquired* means

- a.** oversaw. **b.** freed. **c.** gained. **d.** lost.

Vocabulary Activity *Cont.*

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_____ **15.** The invention of printing during the Tang dynasty helped to make literature much more available and more popular among China's educated elite.

(available)

In this sentence, *available* means

- a.** accessible. **b.** inexpensive. **c.** remote. **d.** scholarly.

_____ **16.** In the Daoist vision, humans were seen as insignificant in the midst of nature.

(vision)

In this sentence, *vision* means

- a.** hallucination. **b.** idea. **c.** eyesight. **d.** image.

_____ **17.** When powerful Japanese families were able to keep taxes from their lands for themselves, the central government lost revenue. **(revenue)**

In this sentence, *revenue* means

- a.** credibility. **b.** influence. **c.** power. **d.** income.

_____ **18.** The Japanese samurai, like the knights of Europe, tried to live by a strict warrior code. **(code)**

In this sentence, *code* means

- a.** schedule. **b.** principle. **c.** secret. **d.** diet.

Directions: For each word listed below the vocabulary word, write *S* if the word is its synonym (a word with the same or nearly the same meaning) or *A* if the word is its antonym (a word with the opposite meaning). **(complexity, retain, traditional)**

19. complexity

- ___ difficulty ___ intricacy ___ simplicity ___ complicated
___ straightforwardness

20. retain

- ___ release ___ maintain ___ keep ___ hold ___ free
___ preserve

21. traditional

- ___ established ___ accepted ___ innovative ___ modern
___ new ___ customary