

Handout 1 “Kamakura Google Map Questions”

In 1180, Minamoto no Yoritomo arrived in Kamakura with his many samurai warriors. Afterwards, Kamakura prospered as Japan’s unofficial capitol for over 150 years. During these days, the population was approximately 100,000 residents. Watch the video assigned and answer the following question.

1. One reason Kamakura was selected as the site for the shogunate is geography. Which are geographic advantages for choosing Kamakura as the new military capital? (Choose two)
 - The sea borders one side
 - It was a fertile river valley
 - Mountains surround it on three sides
 - It is on an elevated plateau that can be used to attack invaders
 - It is a peninsula that has a mountain range blocking the landside
2. What was the benefit of Kamakura’s geography compared to creating a walled city?

For the remaining questions, use [The Kamakura Period \(1185-1333\) Google Map](#).

You previously learned about the Heian Period (700s-1100s) of Japanese history. To find out about Kamakura’s history during this time, use the ‘**Before and During the Heian Period**’ layer (turn off all other layers.)

3. Provide evidence from the map to support this claim: Kamakura existed prior to Minamoto no Yoritomo’s take over.

To find out about the geography of Kamakura, use the ‘**Kiridoshi Passes are a Distinguishing Feature of Kamakura**’ layer (turn off all other layers.)

4. What symbol is used to mark locations for Kiridoshi passes?
5. How many of passes are there?
6. What purpose do these passes serve?
7. Shintoism is the native religion of Japan. To find out about this, use the ‘**Shrines of the Kamakura Period**’ layer (turn off all other layers.)
8. What symbol is used to mark locations for Shinto shrines?
9. The Tsurugaoka Hachimangu Shrine is the oldest and most import Shinto shrine in Kamakura. What kami and focus of that kami that is honored here?
10. What Shinto valued skill/talent is displayed at the Yabusame Ritual?

There are numerous Buddhist temples in the city built during the Kamakura Period. To find out about this, use the ‘**Temples of the Kamakura Period**’ layer (turn off all other layers.)

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11. What symbol is used? Realize its use is controversial in some parts of the world, but not in Japan.

12. Do you think this symbol should still be used?

13. How does Buddhism existing in Japan demonstrate cultural diffusion?

In the China’s Southern Song Dynasty (1127- 1279), five temples were chosen and ranked as the Five Great Temples. This system was adopted by the Kamakura shogunate to rank Rinzaï Temples. To find out more, investigate the ‘**The Five Great Rinzaï Temples of Kamakura in Order of Rank**’ layer (turn off all other layers.)

14. Find the Jufukuji Temple (1200). What did Eisai introduced to Japan?

15. What is the public invited to do at the Engakuji and Kenchoji Temples?

16. Why did this religious practice appeal to the samurai?

17. Which distinct Japanese religious sect uses the Rinzaï temples?

To find out about more about Kamakura, use the ‘**Other Points of Interest**’ layer (turn off all other layers.)

18. Who created Wakamiya Oji Avenue?

19. Find the Wakaenoshima Port. What are the geographic hazards facing Kamakura and Japan in general?

20. Find the Daibutsu (Great Buddha) of Kamakura (1252) and look at the photograph. How does this statue represent cultural diffusion?

21. Considering popular beliefs of Japanese culture and the samurai, what might someone expect to see on the map; but is not present?