

Distance Learning Week Two

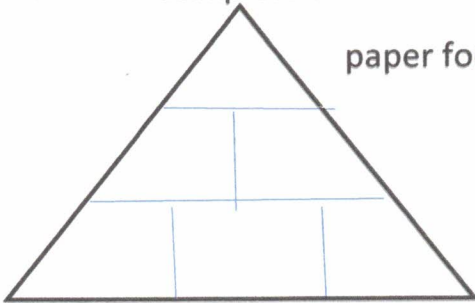
7th Grade Social Studies Periods 2 and 5

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Day One

1. Read the attached PowerPoint slides 2-6
2. Complete a 3-2-1 summary for this information. Use a separate sheet of

paper for this assignment.



In the bottom three key ideas learned from the reading

In the middle define two words or identify and describe two people or places

In the top, 1 question that can be answered by the bottom levels.

Days Two and Three

1. Read through the rest of the powerpoint slides
2. Complete the feudal hierarchy worksheet. You may create your own as well, but it must be in the shape of the pyramid
3. Complete 1 WRAP. Refer to the WRAP handouts you were given before school let out. If you need another, please let me know.

Days Four and Five

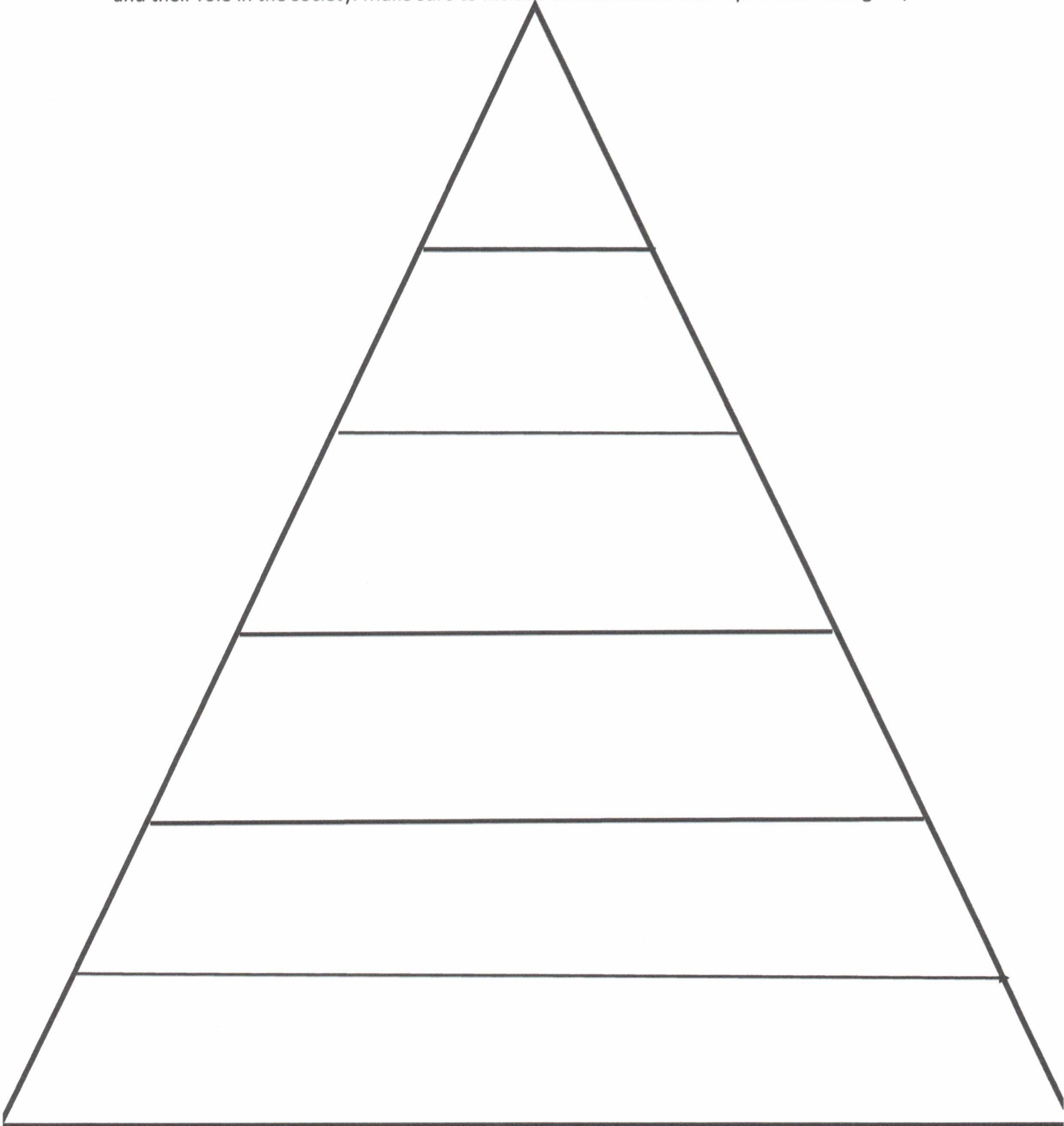
1. Read and complete the information in the "Samurai Packet."

Assignments can be turned in to the office on May____, 2020

Or at the end of the week electronically, by either scanning and sending or by directly emailing it me.

Japanese Feudal Hierarchy

After Reading slides 35-50, complete the Feudal Hierarchy below by naming the social classes and their role in the society. Make sure to include an illustration that represents each group.



7th Grade Social Studies

Mrs. Martin

Week Two Distance Learning

Days 4 and 5

Samurai Information



Samurai Training

Samurai were taught from an early age to unquestionably obey their mother, father, and daimyo. When they grew older they were trained by Zen Buddhist masters in meditation and the Zen concepts of impermanence and harmony with nature. They were also taught about painting, calligraphy, nature poetry, mythological literature, flower arranging, and the tea ceremony.

Samurai have been described as "the most strictly trained human instruments of war to have existed." They were expected to be proficient in the martial arts of aikido and kendo as well as swordsmanship and archery---the traditional methods of samurai warfare---which were viewed not so much as skills but as art forms that flowed from natural forces that harmonized with nature.

As part of their military training, samurai were taught to sleep with their right arm underneath them so if they were attacked in the middle of the night and their left arm was cut off they could still fight with their right arm. Samurai that tossed and turned at night were cured of the habit by having two knives placed on either side of their pillow.

An individual didn't become a full-fledged samurai until he wandered around the countryside as a begging pilgrim for a couple of years to learn humility. When this was completed, they achieved samurai status and received a salary from his daimyo paid from taxes (usually rice) raised from the local populace.

Question 1 - Why is it important to train a samurai from a young age?

Question 2 - Why is a samurai described as "the most strictly trained human instruments of war to have existed"?

Question 3 - How does samurai training teach humility?

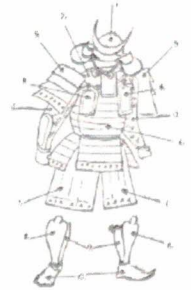
Question 4 - How is a samurai compensated (paid) for his services?

Question 5 - Describe how samurai learn to sleep.

Question 6 - List one "Fun Fact" about samurai training.



Parts of Samurai Armor



Shoulder guards (*sode*) – These guards consisted of layered scales designed to deflect sword attacks away from the body while in hand-to-hand combat.

Homed helmet (*kuwagata kabuto*) – Designed to show rank, look impressive, and protect the samurai's head, the helmet was highly ornate and was made out of forged, riveted metal.

Breastplate & Backplate (*do*) - A piece of armor consisting of breastplate and backplate fastened together which featured different construction—scales, lamellae, or full-plate—during different periods of Japanese history. It is the largest part of any armor.

Skirt (*kusazuri*) – The armor plating was achieved by interlacing silk and leather with lacquered iron scales.

Shin guards (*suneate*) – Like modern-day footballing shin-protectors, these cloth and iron guards protected the samurai's legs from damage in the field.

Boots (*bu-tsu*) – Another element of the samurai's armor that denoted rank, the boots had little protection.

Footwear (*tsuranuki*) - Shoes made of bear fur which symbolizes the intrinsic ferocity, strength, and courage of a samurai warrior.

Right (*sendan-no-ita*) & Left (*kyubi-no-ita*) Armpit Protector - Movable sections attached to the shoulder straps. Both were made of steel or, rarely, leather.

Throat Guard (*nodowa*) - A moveable throat protector that is made from either hard leather or iron plate.

Armored Sleeves (*kote*) - Up to the middle of the 12th century the armored sleeves actually were only one sleeve, worn on the left arm to protect it from the bow-string. In the second part of the century sleeves for both arms began to appear and their functions and construction were changed in order to add protection against edge weapons,

Samurai Armor



The strangest thing about the samurai is probably their weird-looking, ornate armor. However, each piece of it was functional. Unlike the armor worn by European knights, the samurai armor was designed for mobility. Heavy armor offers protection but also limits movement and slows a samurai down. Samurai armor weighs near 20 kilograms and takes 40 minutes to put on.

Samurai armor was made of leather or lacquered steel plates laced together with silk cord, and sometimes adorned with lacquered wood, gilded copper, lacquered leather, and gold. The main pieces were a breastplate, a similar covering for the back, and body armor for the shoulders and lower bodies. These pieces were often made of strips of deer hide and overlapping layers of small lacquered leather tiles called *kozane*. The primary purpose of the armor was to protect the wearer from slings and arrows. The arms were protected by large, rectangular shoulder shields and light, armored sleeves. The right hand was often left without a sleeve to allow maximum movement.

The armor moved along with the warriors' body movements, giving him added mobility. The armor had a swiveling torso to accommodate turning, for instance. With this emphasis on mobility, their armor also allowed the samurai to ride a horse without needing to carry a shield for protection.

Although the samurai armor went through significant changes over time, its overall look always remained fairly consistent to the untrained eye. It was so well-made and effective that the US Army actually based the first modern flak jackets on samurai armor.

Question 1 - What does "kozane" mean?

Question 2 - Other than appearance, what is a significant difference between samurai armor and the armor worn by European knights?

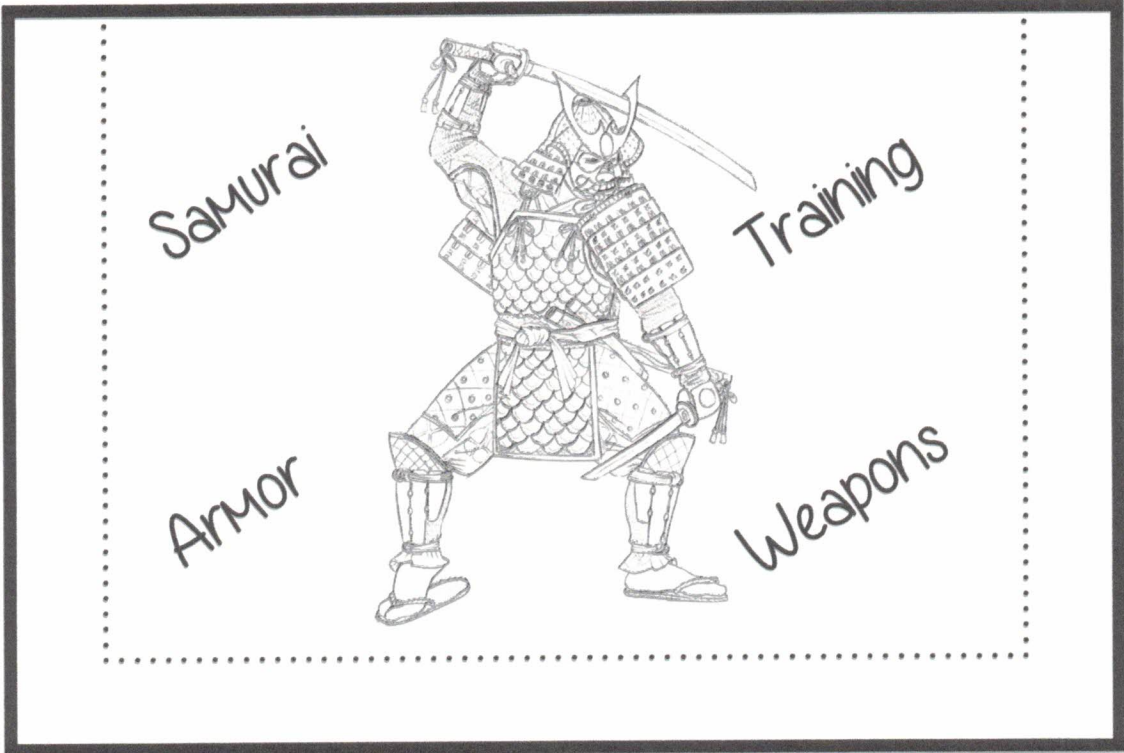
Question 3 - Why don't samurai warriors carry shields?

Question 4 - How long does it take to put on a suit of samurai armor?

Question 5 - Why did the samurai not have a protective sleeve for his right arm?

Question 6 - List at least one "Fun Fact" about samurai armor.

Samurai Training, Weapons, & Armor



Samurai Armor Parts

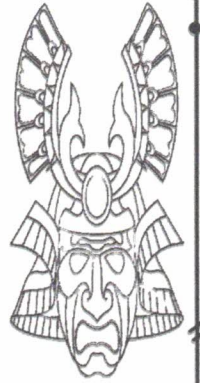
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11. _____

Samurai Helmet

The strangest and most convoluted part of the armor was the kabuto helmet. The helmet served the double purpose of protecting the face and confusing enemies by enhancing the warrior's ferocious appearance. It protected the entire head and face with its metal mask and throat guard. The samurai tried to befuddle and frighten their enemies by wearing masks that looked like animals or evil spirits.

Samurai helmets were made from over 100 pieces of metal riveted together. Lacquered paper was added to allow for more intricate designs. Its bowl was made of riveted metal plates, while the face and brow were protected by a piece of armor that tied around behind the head and under the helmet. The most famous feature of the helmet was its neck. It defended the wearer from arrows and swords coming from all angles. Helmets were often very ornate. Many helmets also featured ornaments and attachable pieces, including a mustached, demonic mengu mask that both protected the face and frightened the enemy. A leather cap worn underneath the helmet provided much-needed padding. Frequently helmets sported attachment to the helmet called "mons" which were clan symbols in the shapes of horns or dragons.

The most elaborate helmets, known as *kawari kabuto* (samurai parade masks), were created for ceremonial parades to Edo, not battles. They featured a mind-boggling variety of decorative motifs, inspired by things like family crests, abalone shells, fans, carp's tails, clamshells, whirlpools, bat's ears, mountains, rivers, valleys and morning glory flowers. A number were made with large rabbit ears. Rabbits were admired by samurai because their speed. Others have what look like Mickey Mouse ears. Sometimes these were worn in battles to help samurai identify who was one their side and who wasn't. In fact, the samurai helmet, with its visor and ear coverings, was the inspiration for the Darth Vader mask in the Star Wars films.



Question 1 - What is the purpose of the kabuto?

Question 2 - Why were samurai helmets made to look demonic?

Question 3 - What is the purpose of a kawari kabuto?

Question 4 - What are some motifs that decorate a kabuto?

Question 5 - List at least one "Fun Fact" about samurai helmets.

Question 6 - Draw an image of a samurai helmet that represents you.



Samurai Weapons

As soldiers, samurai employed a number of different weapons. The oldest weapon of the samurai is the bow and arrow. They were constructed using hardwoods and laminated with bamboo on the front and back. The long bow (yumi) measured between 6 and 8 feet and were some of the longest bows in the world. The bowstrings were made from hemp or silk while the arrows, or "ya," could be made out of many different materials. The skill of archery was known to Japanese warriors as "shagei" and was the first skill a samurai had to master. Some samurai foot soldiers used both long bows and short bows. Samurai cavalry were skilled at shooting arrows while riding on a galloping horse. Some of them wore iron stirrups that were designed to smash the faces of enemy foot soldiers.

The samurai was required to carry a sword which was traditionally the preferred weapon of samurai. They originally carried a sword called a "chokuto," which was essentially a slimmer, smaller version of the straight swords later used by medieval knights. However, as sword-making techniques progressed, the samurai switched to the curved sword. A samurai's "daisho" consisted of a pair of matched swords with curved blades: a longer blade, called the katana, was usually around 24 inches long while a shorter blade, the wakizashi, was 16 to 20 inches long. Worn at the waists, these swords served as both weapons and symbols of samurai authority. The swords of high-ranking samurai were decorated with elaborate engravings of dragons and other beasts. Interestingly, only samurai could carry both of swords. The peasant class was forbidden from using either one.

Swords in Japan have long been symbols of power and honor and seen as works of art. Often times, swordsmiths were more famous than the people who used them. The swords themselves were often works of art with finely decorated metal hilts and scabbards made of lacquered wood. The point of a samurai sword is called the kissaki. It is the hardest part to forge and often determines the overall quality. While the katana was not always permitted indoors, the wakizashi could be carried inside for potential battles. Sometimes the samurai warriors would use both blades simultaneously to defeat an enemy.

What gives Japanese swords their strength and flexibility is the fact that the metal is folded over many times. When a sword is forged it is heated and then hammered flat, and after the metal is flat enough it is folded over. The same process is repeated many times until literally thousands of layers of metal are fused together. To ensure that the sword is of the highest quality and won't break in battle, new samurai swords were tested on prisoners - live human beings!

Bushido (the samurai code) dictated that a samurai's soul was in his katana which made it the most important weapon he carried. Samurai gave their swords names as they believed the sword contained their warrior spirit.

Other samurai battle weapons like the *etsu* (giant battle ax), and the *geki* (two pronged spear) became important as personal bravery on the battlefield was eventually replaced by meticulous planning and tactics. When gunpowder was introduced in the 16th century, the samurai abandoned their bows in favor of firearms and cannons. Their long-distance weapon of choice was the tanegashima, a matchlock rifle that became popular among Edo-era samurai and their footmen. Cannons and other gunpowder weapons were also commonly employed.

Question 1 - What weapon have samurai been using the longest? Describe it.

Question 2 - What is a "chokuto" and how is it different than a katana?

Question 3 - What makes up a samurai's daisho?

Question 4 - Explain how samurai swords get their strength.

Question 5 - Why do samurai name their swords?

Question 6 - List at least one "Fun Fact" about samurai swords.