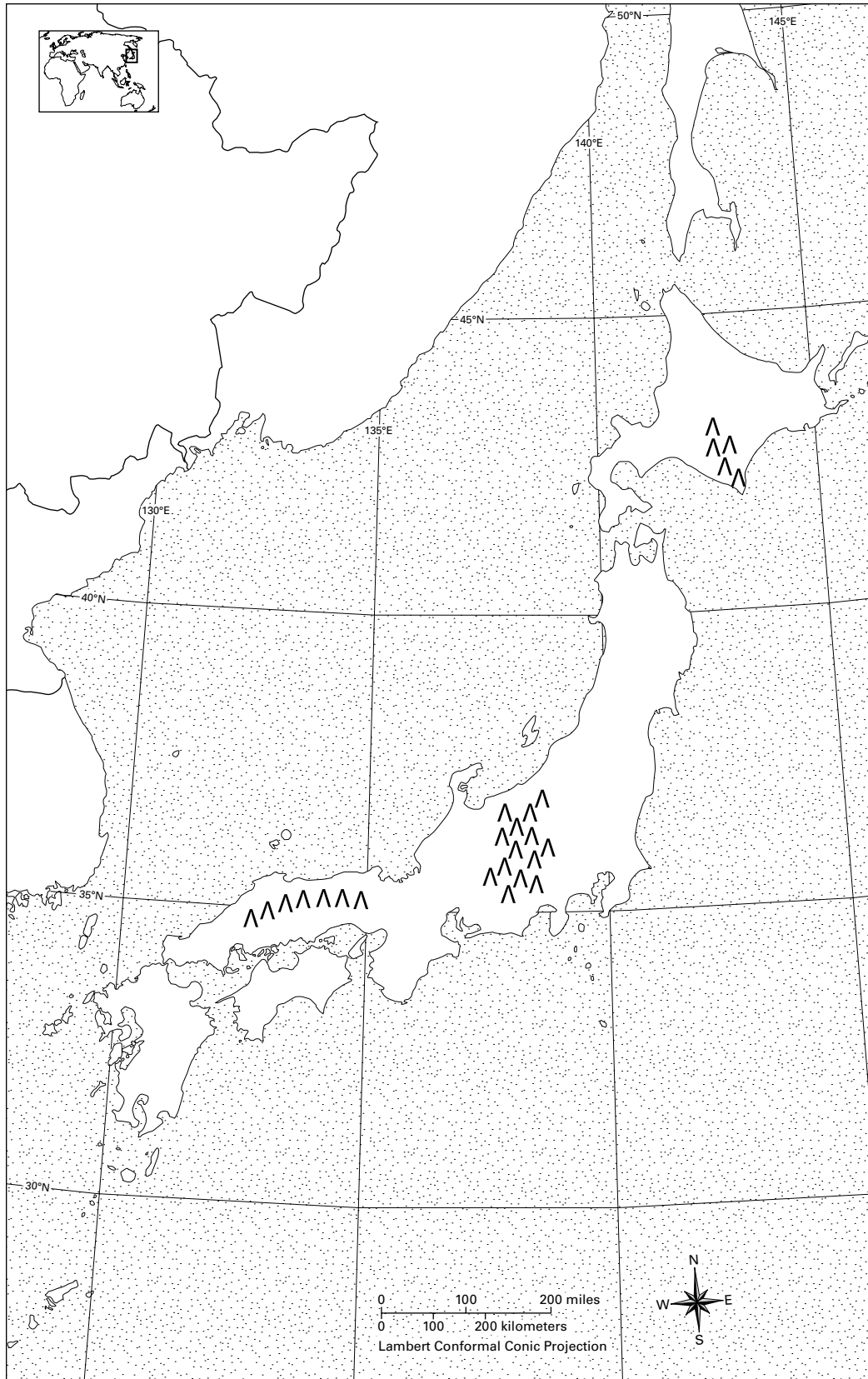


Japan



Geography Skills

Analyze the maps in “Setting the Stage” in your book. Then answer the following questions and fill out the map as directed.

1. Locate the Japanese islands of Honshu, Kyushu, Hokkaido, and Shikoku. Label them. About how far does Japan extend from north to south? About how many miles wide is Japan at its widest point?
2. Label the countries that are closest to Japan. At what point is the distance between Japan and the Asian continent the shortest? Is the distance from Japan to the Asian continent shortest between Japan and Korea, or is it shortest between Japan and China?
3. Locate the Kanto Plain. Label it. On which Japanese island is it located?
4. Locate and label the ancient cities of Nara and Kyoto.
5. Which percent—90 percent, 60 percent, or 15 percent—do you think best expresses the amount of land Japan can use for agriculture?
6. Label the Sea of Japan (East Sea), the East China Sea, and the Pacific Ocean. In what ways did these bodies of water influence Japan’s history?
7. Locate the Chugoku Range, the Japanese Alps, and the Hidaka Range. Label them.
8. Use the “Political Features of the World” map in the back of your book to answer the following question: What present-day country lies to the east of Japan, across the Pacific Ocean?

Critical Thinking

Answer the following questions in complete sentences.

9. Which of the Japanese islands do you think became the center of power in Japan? Explain your answer.

10. Describe one advantage and one disadvantage of Japan's geography.

11. The Kanto Plain is the most populated area in Japan. Why do you think this is so?

12. As you have learned, Japan first developed in isolation because it is surrounded by water. Do you think oceans and seas are significant barriers to the movement of people, goods, and ideas today? Explain your answer.

The Influence of Neighboring Cultures on Japan

In what ways did neighboring cultures influence Japan?

P R E V I E W

The items listed below can all be found in the United States. In the chart, list the aspect of American culture each item represents. For example, an item might represent art, literature, religion, government, clothing, music, or food. Then state whether you think the item was first developed in the United States or was borrowed from another country.

Item	Aspect of Culture Represented	From the U.S. or Borrowed from Another Country?
piano		
fire engine		
blue jeans		
ice cream		
television		

READING NOTES

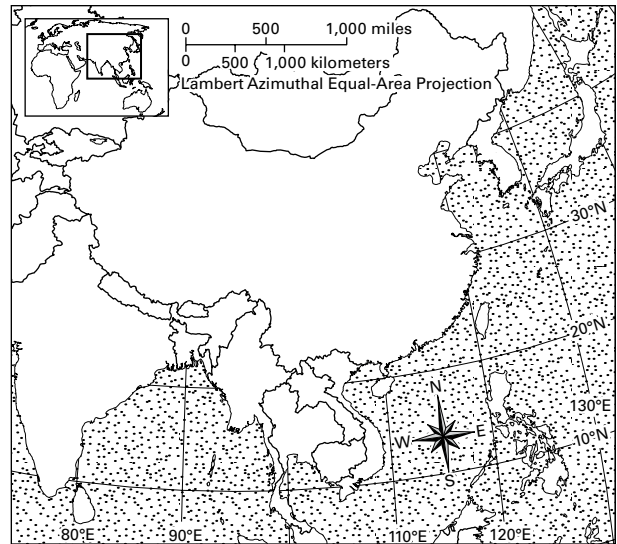
Key Content Terms

As you complete the Reading Notes, use these terms in your answers.

- | | |
|----------------|------------|
| Prince Shotoku | meditation |
| Shinto | pagoda |

Section 2

- Label the following four countries on the map below: Japan, India, China, and Korea. Then color each in a different color.
- How did Empress Suiko and Prince Shotoku come to power?



- For each category below, circle the word or phrase that best describes Japanese society and family life when Empress Suiko and Prince Shotoku began their rule.

Type of Society	industrial society	agricultural society
Main Crop	rice	wheat
Family Life	centered around the mother	dominated by the father
Government	one all-powerful emperor	power divided among uji

- List three ways by which knowledge of mainland culture came to Japan.
 -
 -
 -

If you are doing the activity, complete all questions in the following sections of Reading Notes. (Note: If you are not doing the activity, skip Question 1 in each section.)

Sections 3 to 10

Follow these steps to complete the Reading Notes for Sections 3 to 10.

1. Complete each chart.
2. Color the country where the cultural idea developed. Use the same color that you used to color your map in Section 2 of the Reading Notes.
3. Use arrows to show the path by which the idea reached Japan. It may have come directly to Japan or traveled through other countries to get there.
4. Respond to the statement(s) below the chart.

Section 3

1.	Letters of the Matching Cards		
	Country the Card Represents		



2. Describe Japan's government before it was influenced by countries on the Asian mainland.

3. Describe the new ideas about government that Japan adopted and any changes the Japanese made to these ideas.

Section 4

1.

Letters of the Matching Cards		
Country the Card Represents		



2. Describe the ideas that Japan adopted for its new capital city.



3. What were the main differences between the capital cities of Japan and China?

Section 5

1.

Letters of the Matching Cards		
Country the Card Represents		



2. Describe Japan's religion before it was influenced by countries on the mainland.



3. Describe the new religion that Japan adopted and any changes the Japanese made to this religion.

Section 6

1.

Letters of the Matching Cards		
Country the Card Represents		



2. Describe Japan's language before it was influenced by countries on the mainland.



3. Describe the new writing that Japan adopted and any changes the Japanese made to this style of writing.

Section 7

1.

Letters of the Matching Cards		
Country the Card Represents		



2. Describe the new form of poetry that the Japanese developed.



Section 8

1.

Letters of the Matching Cards		
Country the Card Represents		



2. Describe Japanese sculpture before it was influenced by countries on the mainland.



3. Explain how Japanese sculptures of Buddha are similar to those from China and Korea. How are they different?

Section 9

1.

Letters of the Matching Cards		
Country the Card Represents		



2. Describe the new style of architecture that Japan adopted.



Section 10

1.

Letters of the Matching Cards		
Country the Card Represents		



2. Describe Japan's music before it was influenced by countries on the Asian mainland.

3. Describe the new musical instrument that the Japanese adopted.

P R O C E S S I N G

Suppose that you are a visitor from mainland Asia to Japan in the 9th century. *On a separate sheet of paper*, write a letter to a friend back home describing Japanese society and culture. Your letter must include the following:

- a greeting to your friend and the name of the country he or she lives in
- descriptions of at least two elements of Japanese society or culture that are the *same or similar* to your own culture
- descriptions of at least two elements of Japanese society or culture that are *different* from your own culture
- a proper closing and a signature