

Area: 145,745 sq. mi. (377,480 km<sup>2</sup>). Population: 122,000,000. Capital: Tokyo. 8,500,000. Government: Constitutional monarchy. Language: Japanese. Religion: Shintoism; Buddhism. Exports: Cars, trucks, ships, consumer electronics, chemicals, fish, and textiles. Climate: Temperate, with heavy seasonal rainfall; north is cold. □ The "Land of the Rising Sun" has risen from the ruins of World War II to become the world's second largest industrial economy. The military-dominated monarchy which directed Japan's war machine was replaced by US-imposed democratic institutions as well as aid to rebuild its factories. Despite having to import all of its raw materials, revenues from product sales have made Japan the world's number one financial power and foreign investor. Living space is at a premium—half the population lives on 2% of the land. Three quarters of the population live on Honshu Island; the metropolitan area of Tokyo and Yokohama has over 25 million people. The fourth and northernmost island, Hokkaido, is a winter recreation area and the home of Japan's only minority group, the Ainu tribe. These 15,000 Caucasians are descendants of the country's original inhabitants. Hokkaido is cooled by the offshore Oyashio Current; the southern islands are warmed by the Kuroshio (Japan) Current (Plate 44). Every square inch of arable land is carefully cultivated. The Shinto religion reveres many gods in nature. The reverence for natural forms is readily seen in Japanese architecture and landscaping. Most people practice a blend of religions and observe the holidays of both Buddhism and Shintoism. There is also a strong Confucian influence from China which teaches respect for family and authority. Today's Japanese culture is a fascinating combination of the traditional and the modern. This can be seen in the summer ritual of climbing Mt. Fuji, the sacred extinct volcano. What was formerly the practice of religious pilgrims is now a recreational pursuit of tens of thousands who seek the exercise and the magnificent view. Cone-shaped, snowcapped Fuji is probably the most commonly reproduced graphic symbol of Japan.

## JAPANESE

### DATA:

1. FROM WHAT DIRECTION DOES THE SUN RISE? NORTH, SOUTH, EAST, OR WEST \_\_\_\_\_
2. WHY IS JAPAN CALLED "THE LAND OF THE RISING SUN"? \_\_\_\_\_
3. WHAT HAPPENED TO JAPANESE INDUSTRY BY THE END OF WWII? \_\_\_\_\_
4. WHO HELPED REBUILD JAPAN AT THE END OF WWII? \_\_\_\_\_
5. LIST TWO NATURAL RESOURCES THAT THE JAPANESE MUST IMPORT FOR INDUSTRIALIZATION. \_\_\_\_\_ & \_\_\_\_\_
6. THE MAJORITY OF THE POPULATION IN JAPAN LIVES ON THE ISLAND OF \_\_\_\_\_
7. THIS ISLAND WOULD BE CONSIDERED THE LAKE PLACID OF JAPAN WITH MANY WINTER SPORTS, NAME THIS ISLAND. \_\_\_\_\_
8. THIS INDIVIDUAL FROM CHINA INFLUENCED JAPANESE THINKING. LIST THE INDIVIDUAL. \_\_\_\_\_
9. RELIGION FOUND IN JAPAN THAT REVOLVES AROUND NATURE-WORSHIP. \_\_\_\_\_
10. THIS RELIGION FOUND IN SOUTH ASIA DIFFUSED THROUGH CHINA INTO JAPAN, NAME THIS RELIGION. \_\_\_\_\_