

Name:

Date:

## Early Japan

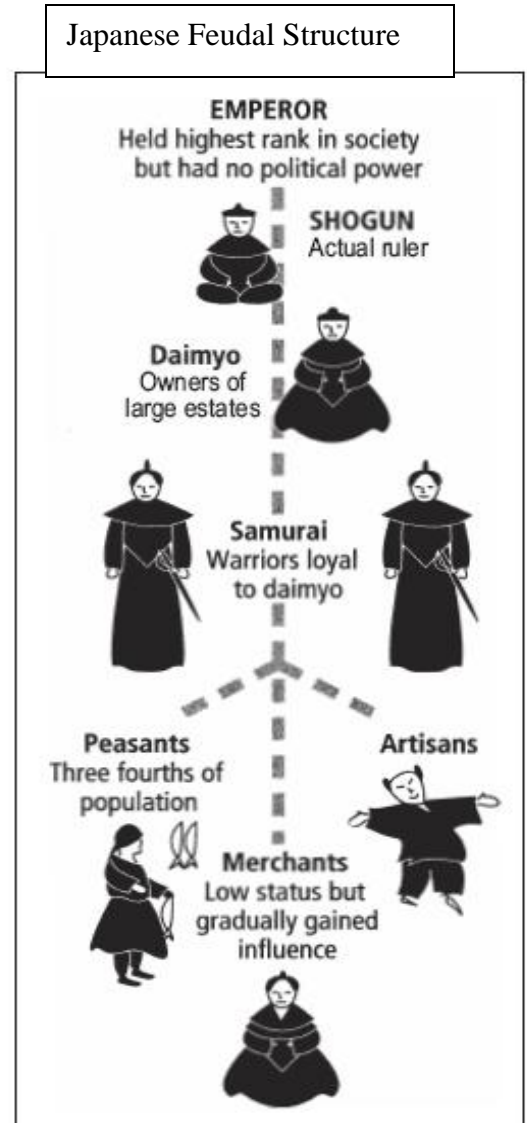
Using your 8.3 notes, pages 263-267

Intro: Japan was once centralized under Shotoku Taishi, a prince. Eventually, however, Japan's central government could not overcome the power of rich land-owners. The emperor (representing a strong unified state) continued to exist, but held no REAL political power. Instead, this power transferred back to rich land owners (daimyo).

1. Describe the role of a samurai. How did they help the Daimyo?

2. Compare Japanese samurai weaponry with European knight weaponry

3. What was the relationship between an emperor and a shogun?  
(See chart to the right as well.)



Source: *Guide to the Essentials of World History*, Prentice Hall, 1999  
(adapted)

4. Compare the life of a lord in European feudalism to that of a Japanese Daimyo (use feudalism notes).

5. What was the cause of the Onin War? What resulted?

6. Study the hierarchy on the previous page. Compare the role of merchants in Japanese society with that of merchants in Europe. What might account for these differences?

7. Consider the role of religion in early Japan. Shinto became the state religion but really did not spread to other countries. How might this have been influenced by geography?

8. Make a generalization: Why was Japan never able to unify early on?