

Name: _____

Date: _____

The Takamikura throne kept in the Kyoto Imperial Palace.



Japan

Japan is in Asia and is made up of several thousand islands. The four largest islands are Hokkaido, Honshu, Shikoku and Kyushu. The largest island is Honshu. Japan is about the size of California in America or Germany in Europe. There are 47 prefectures in Japan. The currency used in Japan is the Japanese Yen.

Most of Japan is covered in mountains and forests. The population is about 125 million. Tokyo is the capital and the largest city in Japan.

Since Japan is in a region, there are many earthquakes. Sometimes earthquakes cause tidal waves also known as a tsunami. There are about 108 volcanoes. Japan's most famous volcano and highest mountain is Mount Fuji.

Japan also has a lot of typhoons in late summer and early autumn. Japan has four seasons, summer, fall, winter and spring. The winters are cold and the summers are hot and humid. There is a rainy season that starts in early June and lasts six weeks. Hokkaido is the coldest area in Japan and sometimes has blizzards. In Okinawa, the temperature is still warm in January.

Japan has an emperor. In 1989, Emperor Akihito became the 125th emperor. He is married to Empress Michiko. The oldest son is Crown Prince Naruhito and he is next in line to the Chrysanthemum throne. The family lives in the Imperial Palace in Tokyo. The Prime Minister has most of the power in Japan.

Circle the correct answer.

1. What are the four largest islands?

- a. Honshu, Hokkaido, Kyushu, Sushi
c. Honshu, Hokkaido, Shikoku, Kyushu

- b. Fukuoka, Hokkaido, Kyushu, Shikoku
d. Hokkaido, Shikoku, Kumamoto, Honshu

2. How many prefectures are in Japan?

- a. 50 b. 47 c. 4 d. 48

3. What is the capital of Japan?

- a. Honshu b. Akihito c. Tokyo d. Kyushu

4. What does Japan have a lot of?

- a. deserts and volcanoes b. forests and deserts
c. earthquakes and volcanoes d. tornadoes and earthquakes