

# The Geography of Japan: Facts and Inferences

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_ Period: \_\_\_\_\_

## in·fer·ence

- a. The act or process of deriving logical conclusions from premises known or assumed to be true.
- b. The act of reasoning from factual knowledge or evidence.

**Directions:** Make inferences about life in Japan based on each of the facts below.

<b>Fact 1: Japan is an archipelago of mountainous islands off the east coast of Eurasia.</b>
<b>Inferences:</b> <i>(How does Japan's physical geography affect the lives of its people?)</i>
Example: Japan has a limited amount of flat, arable land to farm and settle in.

<b>Fact 2: Japan has limited mineral resources and arable land, yet it has one of the world's strongest and most modern industrialized economies.</b>
<b>Inferences:</b> <i>(What does this suggest about Japan's economy, industry, imports/exports, land use, etc.?)</i>
Example: Japan has a highly-developed transportation system for moving goods and people.

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**Fact 3:** Japan has a very high population density, yet its people enjoy one of the world's highest standards of living.

**Inferences:** *(How do people adapt to the crowded conditions? What can you infer about the Japanese way of life? What is it like to live there?)*

Example: Japan is highly developed in "TEETH" – technology, education, economy, transportation, healthcare/housing


**Fact 4:** Modern and traditional society exist intertwined in Japan.

**Inferences:** *(Where and how would you see evidence of the old and the new? Infer examples.)*

Example: Culture is influenced by Confucian values – family, education, honesty, respect for others, honor ancestors, the group is more important than the individual.
