

The Meiji Restoration



Photograph Interpretation / Compare and Contrast

AIM: To understand the transition from feudal to modern Japan.

Do Now: Explain how these images show a change in Japanese society.



Figure A



Figure B



Early Attitudes Toward Foreigners



Directions:

1. Listen for your assigned role to follow.
2. Analyze the video clip from Shogun.
- 3a. Using 6 words (no more, no less), explain how the Japanese viewed the British.
- 3b. Using 6 words (no more, no less), explain how the British viewed the Japanese.
4. Be prepared to share your answers with the class.

Japanese thought the British were barbarians.

British thought the Japanese were uncivilized.



Can't We All Just Get Along?



Based upon what we have just discussed, is it possible for these two regions to establish positive relations with one another?



→ *If yes, list the steps that need to be taken to reach that goal.*



→ *If no, list the reasons why it will never happen.*

四



九

In Japan, it is believed that the numbers four and nine are ominous.

Shi – means four but it also means death.

Ku – means nine but it also means suffering.

Let's Go Back In Time...

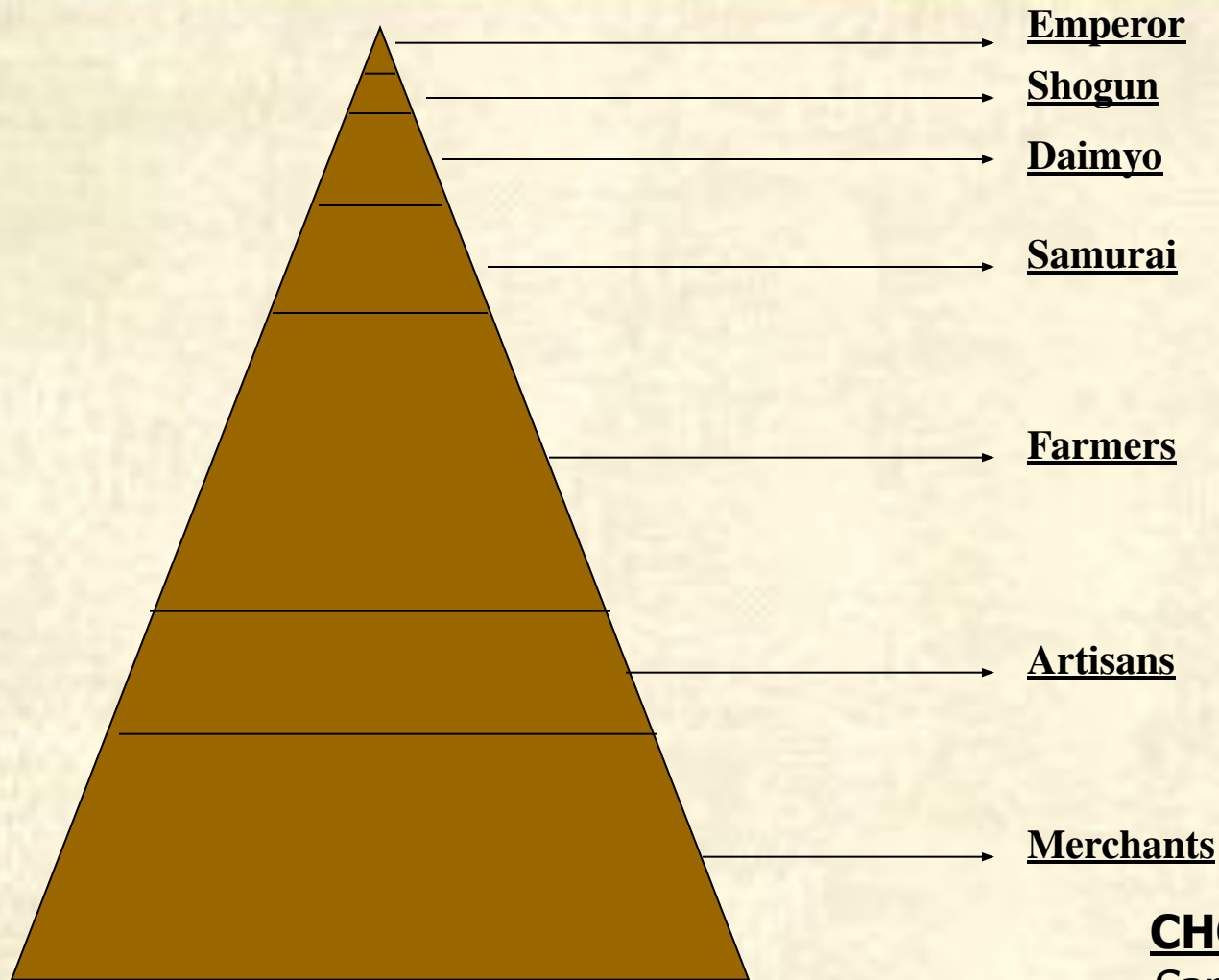
Tokugawa Period (1600-1868)



Himeji Castle: Built in 1600s

- **Centralized feudalism**
- Ruled by Shogun
- Capital City of Edo (Tokyo)
- **Rigid Social Structure**
- **Belief Systems**
 - Shintoism
 - Zen Buddhism
 - Prohibited Christianity

Review Of Japanese Social Structure



CHOICES:

*Samurai, Shogun, Farmers,
Merchants, Daimyo,
Artisans, Emperor*

[Back to Feudal Japan](#)

[Back to "If not Shogun"](#)

Geography of Japan



What geographic features enabled Japan to pursue a policy of isolationism?

What are some positives and negatives of the geography of Japan?

1853: Matthew Perry Make "Friends" with Japan



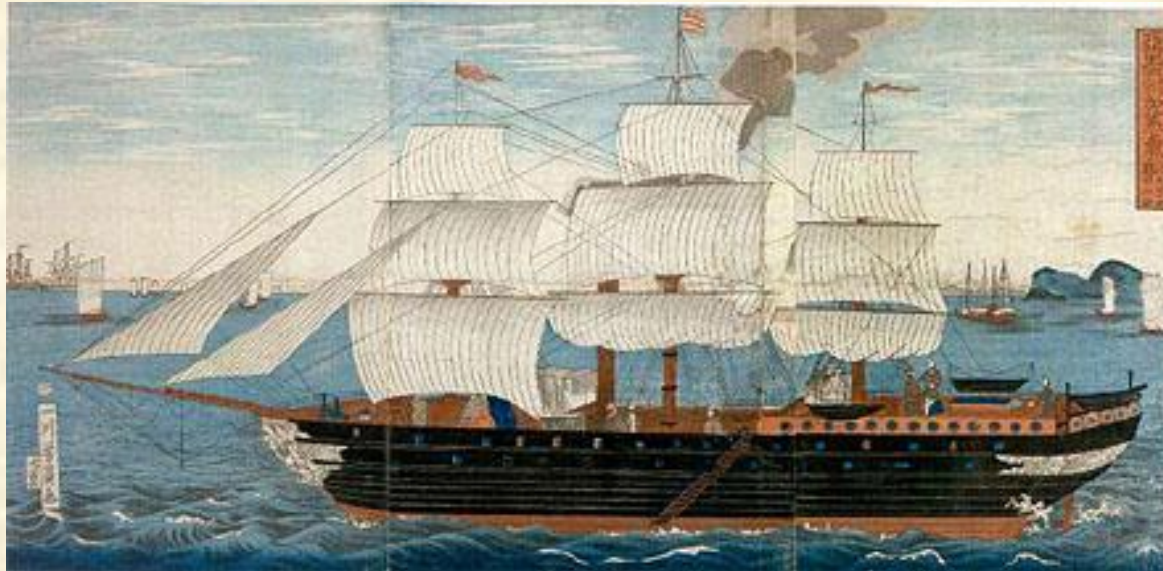
In July, 1853 Perry presented the Japanese Emperor with a proposed commercial and friendship treaty. He would return a year later to receive their answer.



The year is 1853. You are the Tokugawa Shogun of Japan. A letter has just arrived from U.S. President Millard Fillmore. Read what he has proposed and decide how you will respond. Then, answer the questions attached.

Here's The Real Deal

Perry returned in 1854. This time he appeared with seven ships - four sailing ships, three steamers – and 1600 men.



The Black Ships!

What was the Outcome of Perry's Visit?

In 1854 the Treaty of Kanagawa (神奈川条約) was signed which established:

1. "permanent" friendship between the two countries;
2. proper treatment for shipwrecked Americans;
3. fuel for American ships;
4. two ports opened for trade.



Result:

The signing of this treaty signaled the end of Japanese isolation .

Fall of Tokugawa Shogunate

Reasons for the fall:

- ☐ Samurai upset at “surrendering” to Westerners.
- ☐ Treaty of Kanagawa viewed as unfavorable to the Japanese.
- ☐ Tokugawa Shogunate seen as weak for ending 250 years of isolation.
- ☐ Some Daimyo saw this as an opportunity to change the social structure.



The Last Shogun, Tokugawa Yoshinobu



TASK: Before we continue on, you must rank the main causes of the fall of the Tokugawa Shogunate.

Starting with #1 being the most important cause, rank the reasons accordingly. Be sure to explain why you chose the order.



Students in Japan clean the schools everyday.
They begin doing this in first grade and it
continues throughout high school.

If Not The Shogun, Then Who?

The presence of the West triggered nationalist unrest. Who will most of the people in Japan turn to for leadership? Why?

Need a hint?

Let's look back at the traditional social structure in Japan.

People of all classes appealed to the emperor for support.

They used the slogan *sonno joi* “Revere the emperor, expel the barbarians.”



TASK: Create Your Own Slogan

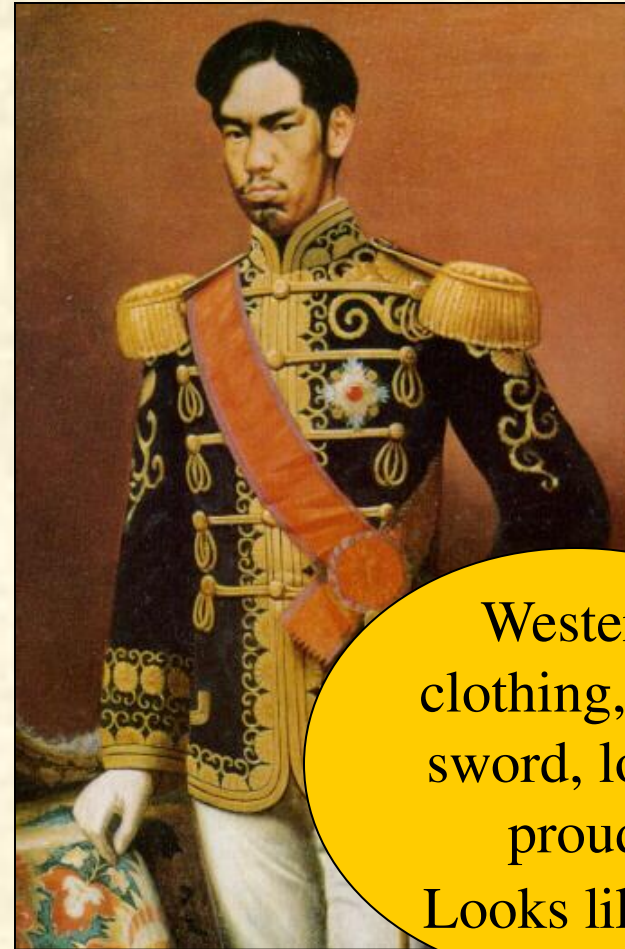
Imagine you are living in Japan and are upset with the decisions of the Tokugawa Shogunate. Create a protest sign, banner, bumper sticker, or T-shirt with a slogan that expresses your opinion.

Compare These Two Figures

Do Now:



Traditional
clothing,
hair,
sword, looks
proud
Looks like...



Western
clothing, hair
sword, looks
proud
Looks like...

1. What are the similarities and differences between the two men?
2. What adjectives would you use to describe each ruler?

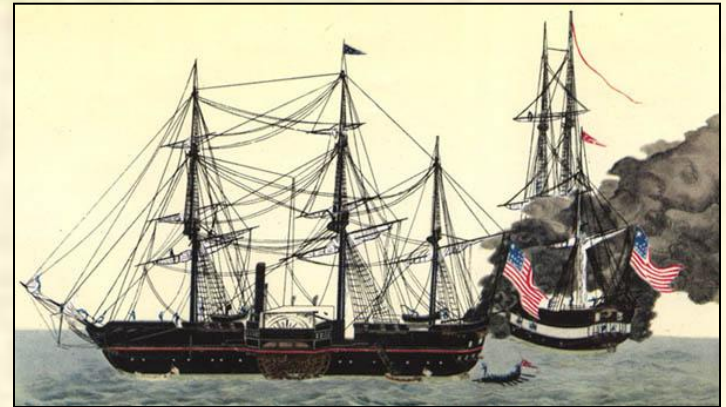
Emergence of the Emperor

- The Shogunate was defeated and a new emperor named Mutsuhito was proclaimed.
- This period is known as the Meiji Restoration – Meiji meaning enlightened rule.
- Over the next generation the whole society and its institutions were transformed to serve the needs of modernization.



Emperor Mutsuhito, *Meiji*.

Why Modernize?



Perry's Black Ships



Based on these images, what factors caused the Japanese to modernize?

Changes During The Meiji Restoration

Fukoku Kyohei: “Enrich the country and strengthen the military”

Emperor promises to institute political and social reforms and work to strengthen the nation.

Major Changes:

- ✓ Abolished **feudalism**
- ✓ Eliminated **samurai armies**
- ✓ Reformed **education**
- ✓ Created a **centralized gov't** and encouraged **loyalty to the emperor**
- ✓ Created Japan's first Western-style **constitution** (1889), followed the next year by the country's first elected **Diet**.
- ✓ Adopted Western **technology**
- ✓ Opened up **trade** (ended isolation)



Changes Were Noticed By Young And Old

In 1878, this song was taught to Japanese children who sang it while they bounced a ball. Every time they bounced the ball they sang a line.



“Gas lamps

Steam engines

Horse carriages

Cameras

Telegrams

Lightning conductors

Newspapers

Schools

Postal System

Steamboats”



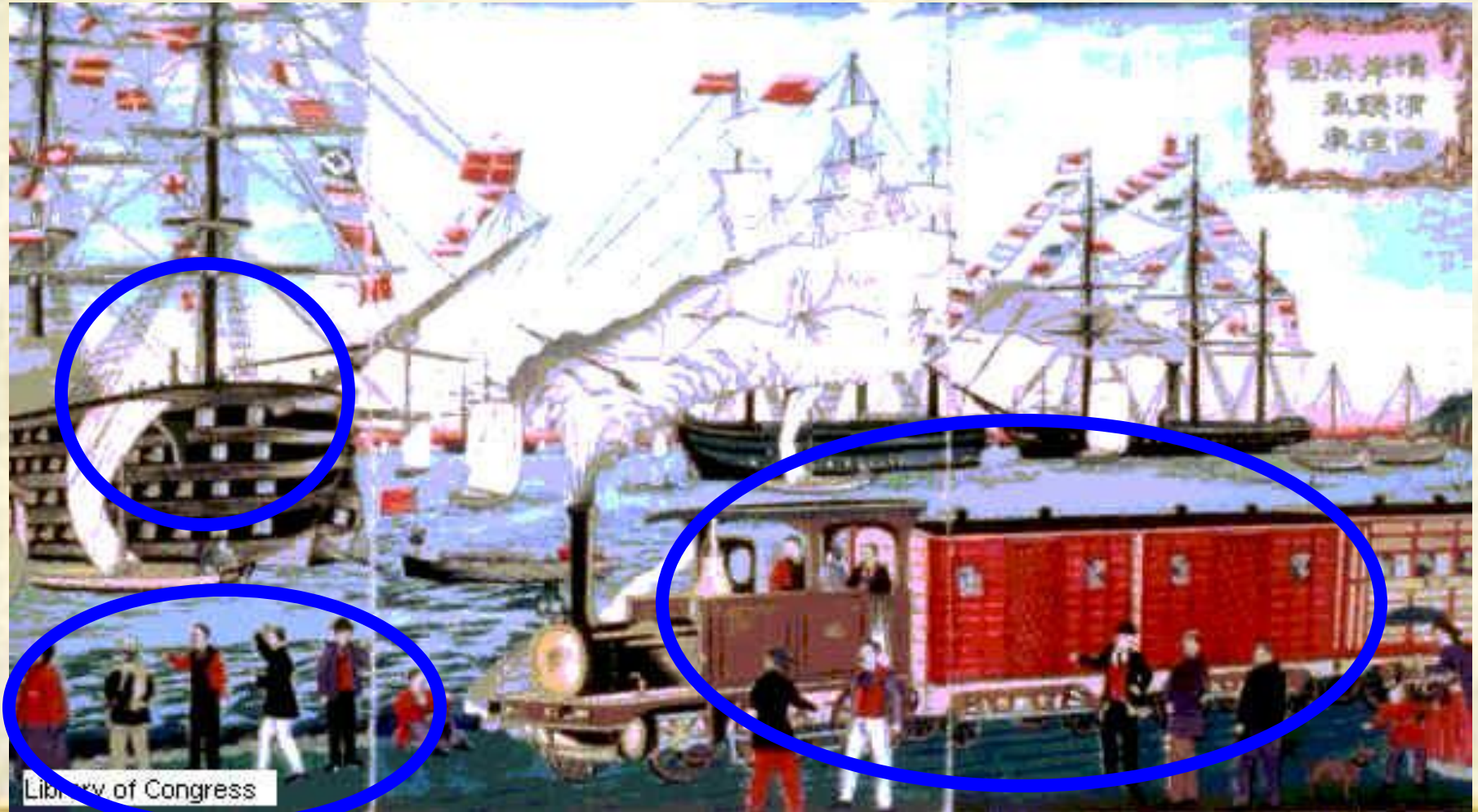
How did Westernization Impact the Japanese?



1. How does this cartoonist show the effect of Western imperialism on Japan?
2. Pick out examples of symbolism used in this cartoon?
3. Why do you think this choice is so difficult for the Japanese man?
4. Which of the choices symbolized by this cartoon did the Japanese people finally make? Was their choice good for them?
5. Create a title for this cartoon.

Industrialization of Japan, 1890s

What time period in Japanese history is depicted in this painting? How do you know?



Hiking Through The West, 1870

- Kanagaki Robun

You guys are *soooo* last year.

Hey, you've got to keep up with the times.

This fraud in the top hat is a disgrace to Japanese culture.



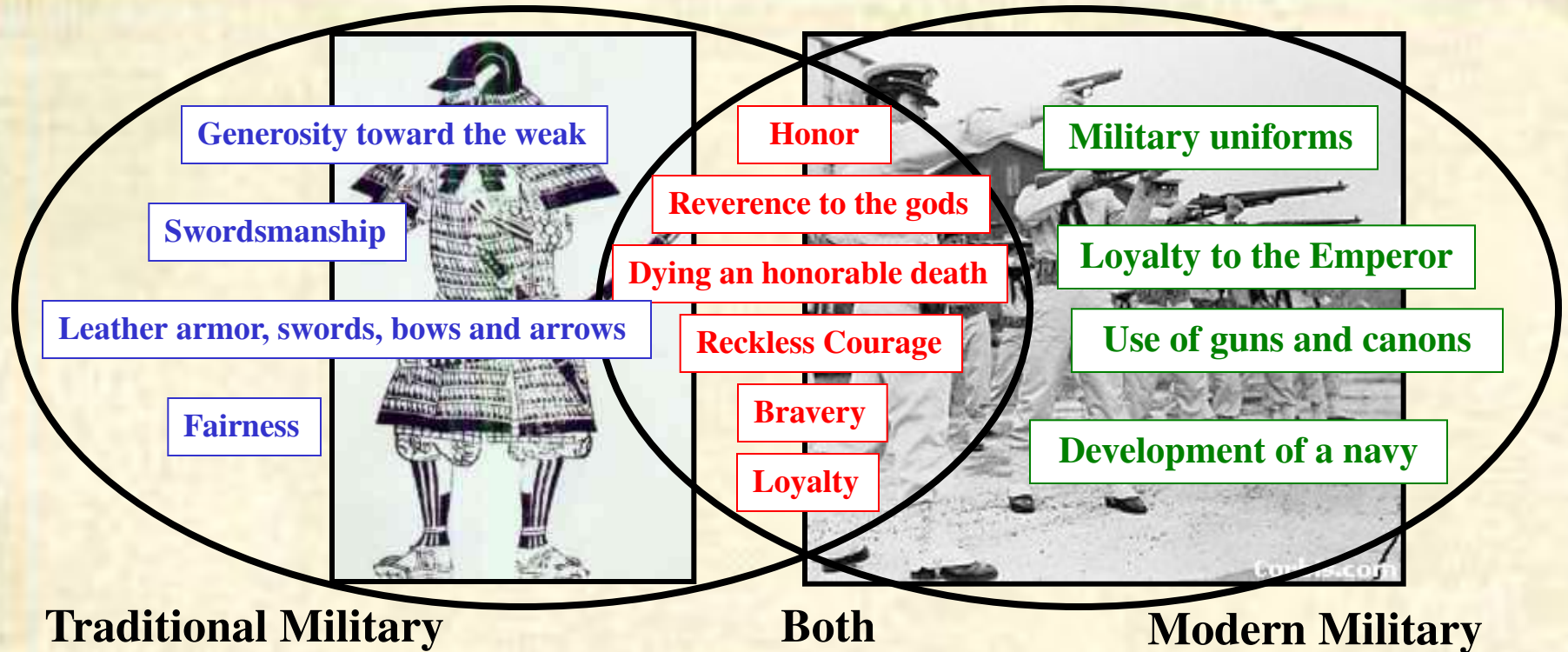
Enlightened Man

Half-enlightened Man

Un-enlightened Man

How does this image show a change in the way the Japanese view the West?

How Did The Change In Military Impact Japan?



What characteristics of the old way, the Bushido code, do you think continued?

Loyalty to the Emperor	Dying an honorable death	Reckless Courage	Development of a navy	
Honor	Reverence to the gods	Generosity toward the weak	Use of guns and canons	Bravery
Military uniforms	Loyalty	Swordsmanship	Fairness	Leather armor, swords, bows and arrows

Unquestioning Admiration Of The West?



What is the main idea of this picture?
What is the author's point of view?

Reactions to Westernization

The Satsuma Rebellion 1877



Takamori Saigo

Many samurai were desperate with their situation and the loss of their former status.

They gathered under Takamori Saigo and fought the battle of Satsuma In 1877. It was a clash of traditional samurai weapons against a modern army.

60,000 government troops faced 40,000 rebels. The battle was a short one. The samurai rebels were completely defeated in a bloody battle.

Takamori Saigo was wounded and committed suicide in samurai tradition. He became a hero for the Japanese.

Cultures Combine



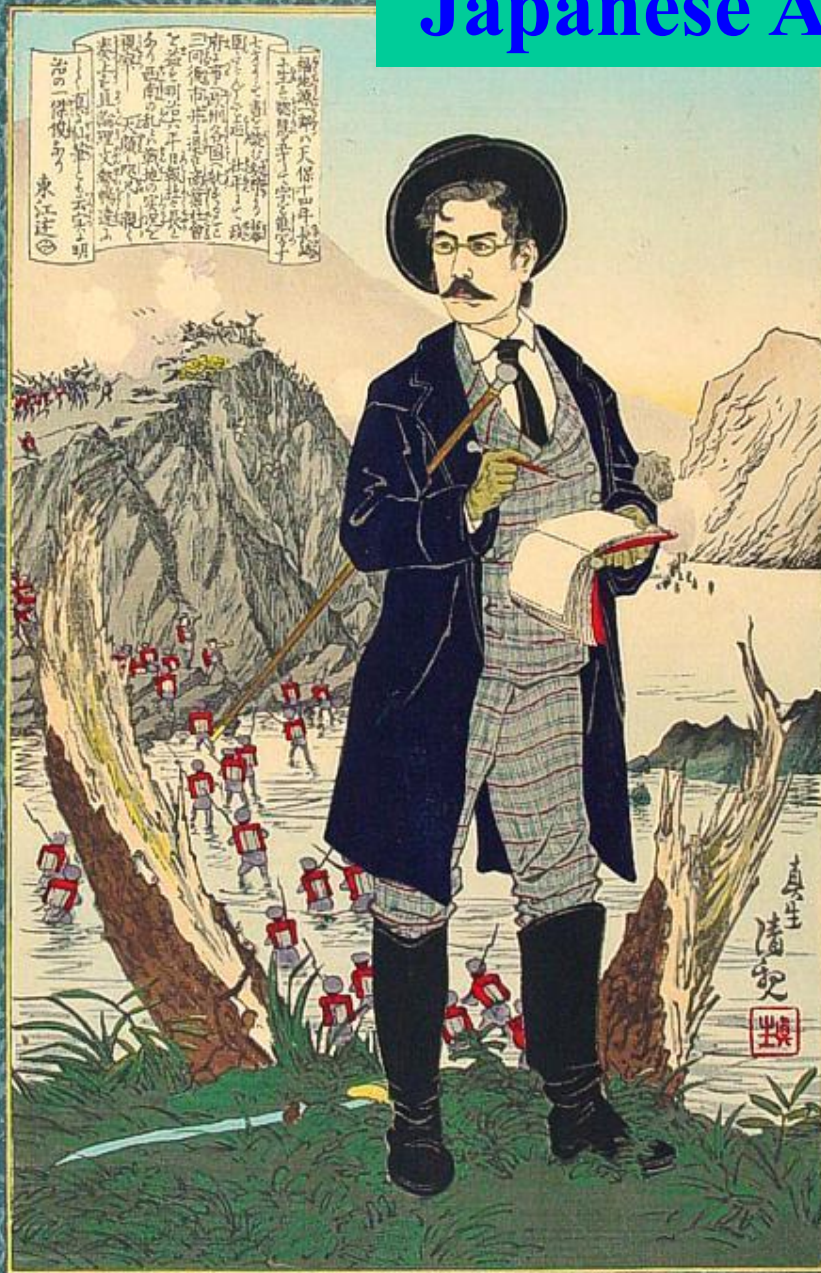
Fukuchi Gen'ichiro

Editor-in-chief of first Tokyo newspaper who personally covered the Satsuma Rebellion and reported events to the Emperor.

Question:

How does this painting reflect both Japanese and Western culture?

Japanese Art Over Time



Social Changes and Continuities

Changes:

- Universal education system stressing science, technology, and loyalty to the nation.
- Adopted western fashions in dress, personal care, calendar, metric system
- Urbanization led to smaller families, high divorce rate

Continuities:

- Shintoism gained followers
- Women still seen as inferior
- Manners, formalities, and diet remained constant

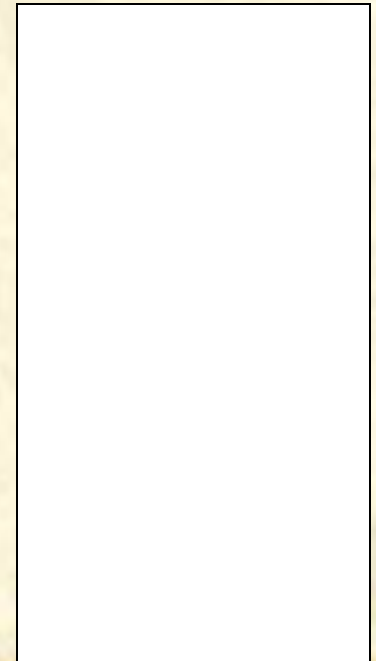
Strains of Modernization

Problems:

- Poor living standards existed in crowded cities
- Political differences led to instability and frequent assassinations of leaders
- Constant questioning and debate about Westernization
- Disgruntled Samuarai class
- Need for raw materials

Solutions:

- Urged loyalty to the Emperor as a center of national identity
- Sino-Japanese War 1894-1895
- Russo-Japanese War 1904
- Imperialism of Korea: Annexed in 1910

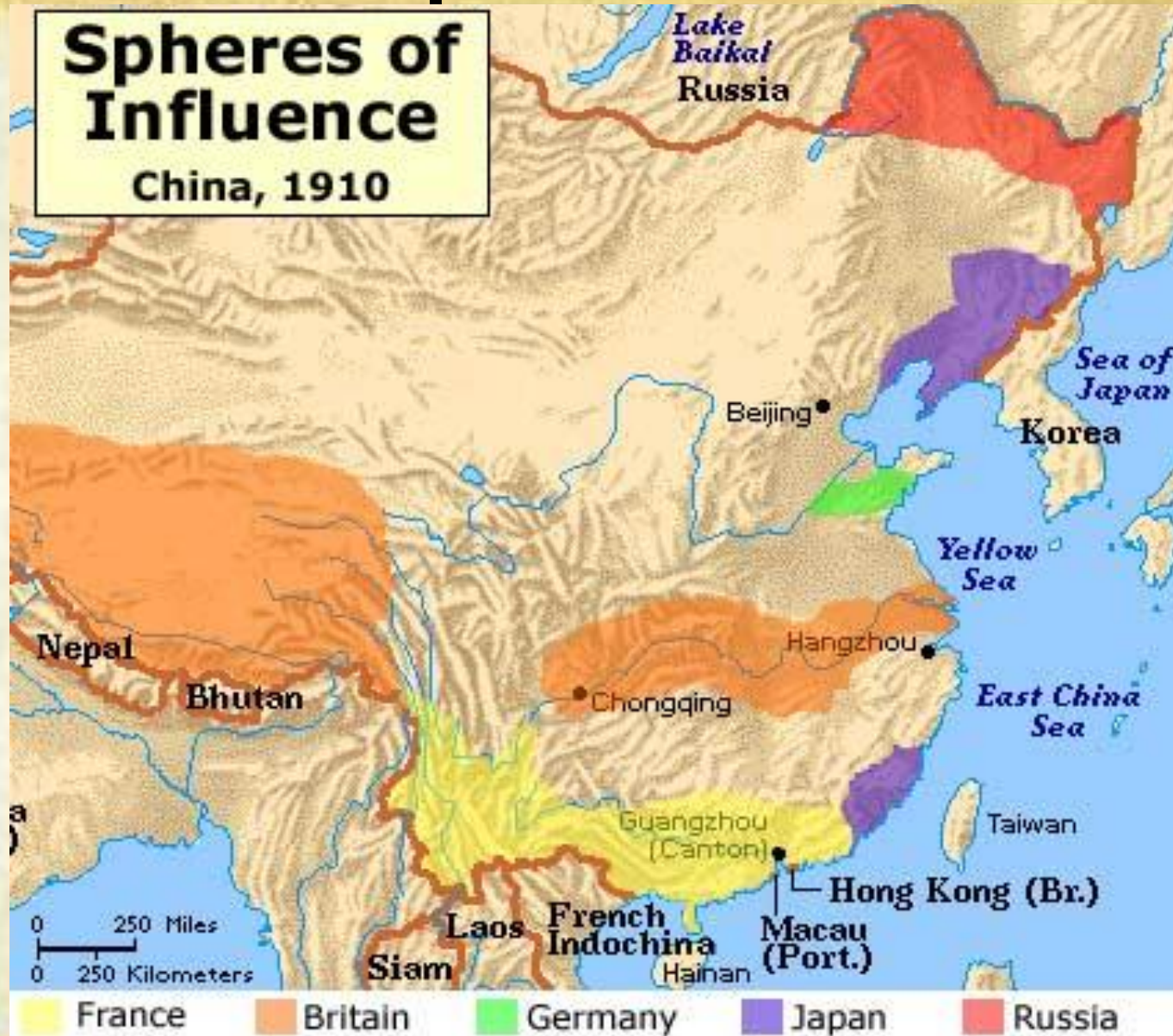


Comparison to China



1. Compare the actions of Japan and China in these two political cartoons.
2. What do you think led to the condition of each nation?

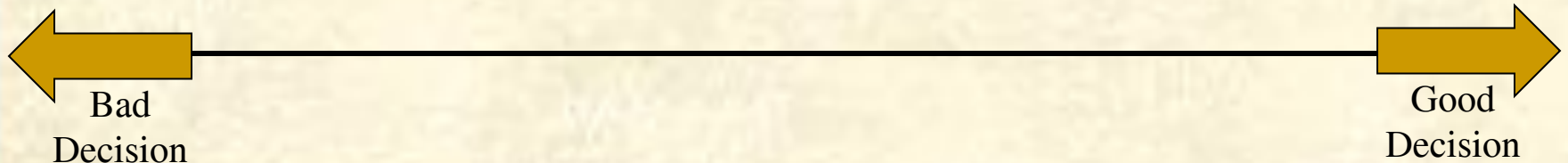
Imperialism in East Asia



Which nation surprisingly has a sphere of influence in China?

Value Line

After viewing the problems that Japan has had to face, decide if you think Westernization was a good decision, a bad decision, or somewhere along the spectrum. Once you have decided, take your place accordingly on the value line in the front of the room. Be ready to explain the reasoning behind your position.



Final Thoughts

Western **technology** was adopted which allowed the Japanese to fully **industrialize** in less than 50 years. By the end of the Meiji Restoration, the Japanese no longer feared that they would be **imperialized**. Rather, they set out to practice imperialism themselves to obtain power and **natural resources**. Japan was quickly emerging as a world-class power using western technology and methods while still maintaining its **traditional cultural** values.

This period was known as the **Meiji Restoration**.

