

Name \_\_\_\_\_

## Japan's Unique Geography - From Mountains to Coastlines

### Short Answer Key

1. Japan's geography has influenced agriculture by limiting arable land due to its mountainous terrain. As a result, flat coastal plains are extensively used for rice cultivation and other crops, and terraced rice paddies are common in hilly areas.
2. The Shinkansen (bullet train) is important in Japan as it provides high-speed transportation across the country. Its development was influenced by Japan's challenging geography, allowing for efficient travel between regions and cities. It has become a symbol of advanced technology and convenience in Japan.
3. Local communities in Japan undertake various measures and preparations to mitigate the impact of tsunamis. These include early warning systems, the construction of tsunami barriers along the coast, and well-defined evacuation plans to ensure the safety of residents.
4. Hot springs (onsen) contribute to Japan's tourism industry and local economies by attracting both domestic and international tourists. Visitors come to relax in these natural geothermal baths, which are known for their therapeutic properties. This tourism helps support local businesses, including traditional inns (ryokan) that offer onsen experiences.
5. Cherry blossom viewing (hanami) is a significant cultural event in Japan associated with the blooming of cherry blossoms in spring. It is a time for people to gather, have picnics, and enjoy the beauty of the blossoms. This tradition is related to Japan's climate because cherry blossoms bloom during the spring, marking the end of winter and the arrival of a more pleasant season.

