

Name _____

Discovering Japan - A Journey into Culture and Traditions

Short Answer Key

1. The kimono holds significance in Japanese culture as a traditional garment known for its elaborate design and vibrant colors. It is typically worn on special occasions, such as weddings, festivals, and ceremonies.
2. The tea ceremony (chanoyu) is important in Japanese culture as it involves the ritualized preparation and consumption of matcha (green tea). It embodies principles of harmony, respect, purity, and tranquility. Traditional tea ceremonies are still held in Japan, emphasizing cultural traditions and etiquette.
3. The concept of "wa" influences social interactions in Japanese society by emphasizing group harmony and the prioritization of collective needs over personal desires. It encourages cooperation and maintaining a peaceful atmosphere within a group.
4. One famous Japanese festival is the cherry blossom festival (known as "Hanami"). It celebrates the blooming of cherry blossoms and typically involves picnics under cherry blossom trees, enjoying food and drinks, and appreciating the beauty of the blossoms. The festival signifies the arrival of spring and the transient nature of life.
5. Education is highly valued in Japan because it is seen as a pathway to success and personal development. Students are expected to work diligently and excel academically. The Japanese education system includes uniforms, a strong emphasis on punctuality, and participation in various extracurricular activities.

