

ANSWER KEY
Comparative Politics Test #5: JAPAN

1. One of the key traits of the Japanese Liberal Democratic Party is:
 - a. *It is riddled with factions that compete against each other for power*
 2. The period in the late 1800s when Japan moved to rapidly reform its feudal system and industrialize is known as the Meiji Restoration, named after the young Emperor who was 'restored' to the throne.
 3. Japan is described as having a 'dual economy', which refers to:
 - b. *the gap in productivity between export-oriented and domestic-oriented sectors*
 4. The Japanese government decided in 1927 to bring northeastern China, known as Manchuria, under Japanese control in order to
 - c. *secure a market that absorbed about 70 percent of Japan's exports at the time as well as a resource base for Japanese industry.*
- OR**
- d. *demonstrate Japan's determination and ability to compete with the Western powers as a coequal player in the imperialist game long dominated by the West.*
 5. In comparing Japanese political culture to other countries, the Japanese are:
 - b. *More oriented to the interest of the group rather than the individual*
 6. Japan's postwar constitution was
 - b. *based on a draft prepared by a handful of American lawyers at General Douglas MacArthur's behest.*
 7. **FALSE** -- One of the major problems for the Japanese economy today is that it is suffering from runaway inflation (a rapid rise in average prices).
 8. Yukio Hatoyama is the current Prime Minister of Japan.
 9. The term *amakudari* ("descent from heaven") refers to:
 - d. *employment of senior government officials upon their retirement by public or private corporations, usually at high ranks.*
 10. Article 9 of the Japanese constitution:
 - a. Apologizes for the attack on Pearl Harbor
 - b. Repudiates the rights of the Emperor
 - c. Guarantees full civil rights for non-Japanese citizens
 - d. Requires the government to provide a minimum standard of living
 - e. *None of the above (it is the clause that renounces war)*

11. The reformist LDP Prime Minister who won fought the September 2005 election -- largely against the entrenched interests of his party -- promising to privatize Japan's postal system was:
d. Junichiro Koizumi

12. After the Tokugawa Shogunate was overthrown in 1868, the primary source of legitimacy that Japanese political leaders drew on was:
c. their self-proclaimed role as the official representatives of the emperor, whom they had restored as Japan's sovereign.

13. The party that won a landslide majority in the August 30, 2009 House of Representatives election is:
c. Democratic Party of Japan.

14. In attacking the US Pacific Fleet at Pearl Harbor in 1941, the Japanese hoped to:
b. hinder US retaliatory capabilities long enough to seize most of East Asia and the Pacific islands

15. The financial and industrial cliques that dominated the pre-WW II Japanese economy were known as:
a. zaibatsu

16. Until recently Japan's electoral system was unusual because it:
a. elected several deputies to the same district

17. Which of the following best describes the Japanese state in the 1930s and 1940s?
b. A militarist and fascist state legitimized by subordination to the Emperor

18. Which of the following is NOT true about the Japanese 'developmental state'?
e. The Japanese developed an extensive welfare state similar to those found in Germany and France

19. **FALSE** – The Japanese military (Self-Defense Forces) are small and minimally funded.

20. A "tribe" in Japanese party and legislative politics refers to
d. a group of veteran politicians with extensive experience, knowledge, and influence in a particular area of policymaking such as agriculture, construction, and education

EXTRA CREDIT: "Rewarding pointless knowledge since 2000"

1. What is the name of the current EMPEROR OF JAPAN?
Emperor Akihito