Task 2.A

**Constructing a Feudal Pyramid**

Standard:

1. The students will be able to illustrate and explain feudalism in Japan.
2. The students will be able to describe the effect of feudalism on different classes of Japanese society.

Task:

Hard work was a constant theme in the lives of peasants in the Feudal Japan. They worked long hours in the rice fields and had to obey the wishes of the nobles and samurai (warriors). Unfortunately, for some of the lower ranking nobles, they weren’t free to live as they chose either. They were sworn to obey more powerful land owners called Daimyo’s, who had to obey the wishes of the Shogun (king). Life in the Feudal Japan was one big web of duties and obligations. This web of duties and obligations was the way people were governed in Japan, which was known as feudalism.

***Your task for this assignment is to construct a feudal pyramid of Japan, and explain how the class system called feudalism governed Japan.***

Your feudal pyramid must include…

1. A title.
2. A separate section for each group of people in order of class hierarchy- samurai, daimyo, shogun, merchants, and peasants (that isn’t the right order, but you must put them in order).
3. **1-2 complete sentences** describing the role of each group in the feudal system. In your description explain each group’s role in Japanese society (farmers, protection, land owners, etc.) and how they support the classes above and below them.

Your feudal paragraphs (more than 1) must include the following…

1. A definition of Feudalism
2. Explain the roles of different groups/ classes of people in feudal Japan.
3. Japanese feudal system is different from the European feudal system based on how it values their citizens. In the European model, the citizens at the bottom of the feudal pyramid are the poorest members of society, the peasants. Whereas in Japan, the peasants are the poorest citizens but they are valued more than merchants (traders) and Artisans (store owners), describe why is this?
4. Another difference is the role of the Emperor in Japan and King in Europe. What is this difference and how are both rulers viewed and valued in society?

Rubric:

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| **Criteria** | **0 - 59** | **60 - 69** | **70 - 79** | **80 - 89** | **90 - 100** |
| **Lists the groups of the feudal**  **System** | All 4 groups are not identified and in incorrect order | All 4 groups are identified but 3 classes/groups are not in correct order | All 4 classes/groups are identified but 2 groups/classes are not in correct order | All 4 classes/ groups are identified but 1 groups/classes are not in correct order | All 4 classes/groups are identified and in the correct order |
| **Illustration**  **And**  **Conventions** | Each group/class does not have an accurate illustration (Drawings or Pictures) and paragraph contains more than 17 errors | Missing 2 or more illustration (Drawings or Pictures) of a group/class and paragraph contains 13- 16 errors | Missing one illustration of a group/class (Drawings or Pictures) and paragraph contains 9 – 12 errors | Provides all 4 illustrations (Drawings or Pictures) but the paragraph contains 5-8 errors | Provides all 4 illustrations (Drawings or Pictures) and the paragraph contains only 0 -4 errors |

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| **Paper Components:** | **0 - 59** | **60 - 69** | **70 - 79** | **80 - 89** | **90 - 100** |
| **Paragraph Explanation of Feudalism** | Student created a **few sentences** that **does not define**  feudalism and did not accurately explain the roles of all 4 groups/ classes. | Student composed **a few sentences** defining feudalism but did not accurately explain 3 of the 4 group/class roles. | Student **composed a paragraph** defining feudalism but did not accurately explain 2 of the 4 group/class roles. | Student composed a **well written paragraph** defining feudalism and the role of each group/class. | Student composed a **well written and detailed paragraph** defining feudalism and the role of each class. |
| **Paragraph Explanation of Societal Ranking** | Student composed a brief paragraph **explaining** only 1 similarity & 1 difference between European & Japanese feudalism and did not state why member of certain groups in Japan were valued more. | Student composed a brief paragraph **explaining** only 1 similarity & 1 difference between European & Japanese feudalism and why member of certain groups in Japan were valued more. | Student composed a **paragraph** **explaining** some similarities and differences between European and Japanese feudalism and why member of certain groups were valued more. | Student composed a **well written paragraph explaining** 2 similarities and 2 differences between European and Japanese feudalism and why member of certain groups in Japan were valued more. | Student composed a **well written and detailed paragraph** **explaining 3** similarities and 3 differences between European and Japanese feudalism & why member of certain groups in Japan were valued more. |

**2% point Bonus for above and beyond creativity and effort.**

**Teacher Comments: 10% grade reduction if late.**

**Total Points: /400**