

HISDSC352T

HISTORY OF JAPAN FROM 1852 TO 1945 CE

UNIT-I

1. Decline of Shogunate.
2. U.S.-Japan relation: Perry Mission, Treaty of Kanagawa
3. The Meiji Restoration of 1868, Nature of Restoration

UNIT-II

1. Economic Development in the Meiji Era:
 - a) Agrarian Settlement
 - b) Industrialization and Capitalism
 - c) Women's Rights in the Meiji Era.
2. The Meiji Constitution of 1889-90

UNIT-III

1. The territorial expansion:
 - a) Sino –Japanese war 1894-95
 - b) The Anglo-Japanese Alliance of 1902
 - c) Russo- Japanese War 1904-05 and its Consequences
2. Emergence of Japan as an Imperialist Power.

UNIT-IV

1. Japan's relation with Korea (1870- 1905)
2. Role of Japan in the First World War: 21 Demands.
3. Washington Conference.

4. Manchurian Crisis

UNIT-V

1. Rise of Militarism in Japan
2. 2nd Sino-Japanese War 1937: Causes, Effects
3. Japan's Joining the Second World War: Circumstances
4. Role of Japan in Second World War.



CAREER STUDY
The Learning App

UNIT – 1

ONE MARK:

1. Who was the ruler of Japan during the Tokugawa period?
The Shogun.
2. What was the Tokugawa Shogunate?
The military government that ruled Japan from 1603 to 1868.
3. In which year did the Tokugawa Shogunate begin?
1603.
4. In which year did the Tokugawa Shogunate end?
1868.
5. What policy kept Japan isolated from foreign countries during the Tokugawa period?
The Sakoku (closed country) policy.
6. Who led the American mission to Japan in 1853?
Commodore Matthew Perry.
7. In which year did Commodore Perry arrive in Japan?
1853.
8. Which country forced Japan to open its ports to foreign trade?
The United States of America.
9. What was the Treaty of Kanagawa?
A treaty signed between the United States and Japan in 1854.
10. In which year was the Treaty of Kanagawa signed?
1854.
11. Which two Japanese ports were opened by the Treaty of Kanagawa?
Shimoda and Hakodate.
12. What was the main result of the Perry Mission?
It opened Japan to trade and diplomatic relations with Western countries.

13. Who was the Emperor during the Meiji Restoration?
Emperor Meiji.

14. In which year did the Meiji Restoration take place?
1868.

15. What was the Meiji Restoration?
The restoration of imperial rule in Japan after the fall of the Tokugawa Shogunate.

16. What was the main aim of the Meiji Restoration?
To modernize and strengthen Japan.

17. Which class dominated Japanese society during the Tokugawa period?
The Samurai class.

18. What was one major cause of the decline of the Shogunate?
Foreign pressure and internal dissatisfaction.

19. Which slogan became popular during the Meiji Restoration movement?
“Sonno Joi” (Revere the Emperor, Expel the Barbarians).

20. What happened to the Shogunate after the Meiji Restoration?
The Shogunate system was abolished.

21. Which city became the capital of Japan after the Meiji Restoration?
Tokyo.

22. What was the former name of Tokyo?
Edo.

23. What type of government was established after the Meiji Restoration?
A centralized imperial government.

24. What was the significance of the Meiji Restoration?
It transformed Japan into a modern and industrial nation.

25. What was the nature of the Meiji Restoration?

It was a political revolution that modernized Japan and restored imperial authority.

TWO MARK:

1. What do you understand by the Tokugawa Shogunate?

The Tokugawa Shogunate was the military government that ruled Japan from 1603 to 1868. During this period, the Shogun held real political power while the emperor had only symbolic authority. The government maintained peace and stability but followed an isolation policy that limited foreign relations and trade.

2. What were the main causes of the decline of the Shogunate?

The decline of the Shogunate was caused by internal political weakness, economic problems, dissatisfaction among the samurai and common people, and pressure from Western countries to open Japan. The arrival of foreign powers exposed the weakness of the Shogunate and led to growing opposition against it.

3. What was the Sakoku policy?

The Sakoku policy was the isolation policy followed by Japan during the Tokugawa period. Under this policy, Japan limited contact with foreign countries and restricted foreign trade. The aim was to protect Japanese culture and political stability by preventing foreign influence.

4. Who was Commodore Matthew Perry?

Commodore Matthew Perry was an American naval officer who arrived in Japan in 1853 with a fleet of warships. He demanded that Japan open its ports to American trade and diplomatic relations. His

mission played an important role in ending Japan's long period of isolation.

5. What was the Perry Mission?

The Perry Mission refers to the diplomatic expedition led by Commodore Matthew Perry to Japan in 1853–1854. Its main objective was to establish trade and diplomatic relations between the United States and Japan. This mission forced Japan to open its ports to foreign countries.

6. What was the Treaty of Kanagawa?

The Treaty of Kanagawa was an agreement signed between the United States and Japan in 1854. According to this treaty, Japan opened the ports of Shimoda and Hakodate to American ships and agreed to provide protection and supplies to American sailors.

7. What was the significance of the Treaty of Kanagawa?

The Treaty of Kanagawa was significant because it ended Japan's isolation policy. It opened Japanese ports to foreign trade and diplomatic relations. The treaty also encouraged other Western countries to sign similar agreements with Japan.

8. How did foreign pressure affect Japan in the 19th century?

Foreign pressure forced Japan to open its ports and trade with Western nations. This exposed Japan to modern technology, military power, and new ideas. As a result, many Japanese leaders realized the need to modernize the country to protect its independence.

9. What was the Meiji Restoration?

The Meiji Restoration was a political revolution in Japan in 1868 that ended the rule of the Tokugawa Shogunate and restored power to the

emperor. It marked the beginning of a new era of modernization, reform, and national strengthening in Japan.

10. Who was Emperor Meiji?

Emperor Meiji was the Japanese ruler during the Meiji Restoration. Under his leadership, Japan introduced many reforms in politics, economy, education, and the military. These reforms helped transform Japan into a modern and powerful nation.

11. What were the causes of the Meiji Restoration?

The causes of the Meiji Restoration included the decline of the Shogunate, foreign pressure from Western countries, dissatisfaction among the samurai class, and the desire to strengthen Japan. Many leaders believed that restoring imperial power would help modernize the country.

12. What was the slogan of the Meiji Restoration movement?

The popular slogan of the Meiji Restoration movement was “Sonno Joi,” which means “Revere the Emperor, Expel the Barbarians.” This slogan reflected the desire to restore the emperor’s authority and protect Japan from foreign domination.

13. What happened to the Shogunate after the Meiji Restoration?

After the Meiji Restoration in 1868, the Tokugawa Shogunate was abolished and political power was restored to the emperor. A new centralized government was established, which introduced reforms to modernize Japan’s political, economic, and social systems.

14. Why is the Meiji Restoration considered important?

The Meiji Restoration is considered important because it transformed Japan from a feudal society into a modern industrial nation. It

introduced political, economic, military, and educational reforms that helped Japan become a strong and powerful country.

15. What changes took place in Japan after the Meiji Restoration?

After the Meiji Restoration, Japan experienced major reforms in government, industry, education, and the military. The country adopted modern Western technologies and institutions, which helped it develop rapidly and compete with powerful Western nations.

16. What was the role of the samurai in the decline of the Shogunate?

Many samurai became dissatisfied with the weak policies of the Shogunate, especially its inability to resist foreign pressure. Some samurai supported movements to restore the emperor's authority and played an important role in bringing about the Meiji Restoration.

17. How did the Perry Mission influence Japanese politics?

The Perry Mission revealed the military superiority of Western powers and exposed the weakness of the Shogunate government. This created political unrest within Japan and strengthened the movement that demanded political reform and the restoration of imperial power.

18. Why did the United States want to establish relations with Japan?

The United States wanted to establish relations with Japan to expand trade in Asia and to obtain ports for American ships traveling across the Pacific Ocean. Japan's strategic location made it important for trade and naval purposes.

19. What was the nature of the Meiji Restoration?

The Meiji Restoration was both a political revolution and a process of modernization. It ended feudal rule and established a centralized government under the emperor. It also aimed to strengthen Japan by adopting modern Western institutions and technology.

20. How did the Meiji Restoration help Japan become a modern state?

The Meiji Restoration introduced reforms in administration, industry, education, and the military. These reforms strengthened the country and promoted economic growth. As a result, Japan quickly developed into a modern industrial nation and became a major power in Asia.

BROAD ANSWER:

1. Discuss the causes of the decline of the Tokugawa Shogunate in Japan.

The Tokugawa Shogunate ruled Japan for more than two and a half centuries from 1603 to 1868. It was a military government where the Shogun held real political power while the emperor remained only a symbolic figure. During the early period, the Tokugawa rulers successfully maintained peace and political stability. However, by the nineteenth century the system began to weaken and eventually collapsed. Several political, social, economic, and external factors contributed to the decline of the Tokugawa Shogunate.

One of the major causes of the decline was the rigid feudal social structure. Japanese society was divided into four main classes: samurai, peasants, artisans, and merchants. The samurai class enjoyed special privileges while the lower classes had limited opportunities for social mobility. Over time, this rigid structure created dissatisfaction among different sections of society.

Economic problems also played an important role in weakening the Shogunate. Although Japan experienced economic growth during the Tokugawa period, the feudal economic system became outdated. Many samurai fell into debt because their income remained fixed while prices increased. At the same time, the merchant class became economically powerful but had little political influence. This imbalance created tension within society.

Another important factor was the growing dissatisfaction among the samurai class. Traditionally the samurai were warriors who served the Shogun and regional lords known as daimyo. However, during the long period of peace, their military role declined. Many samurai faced financial difficulties and became unhappy with the Shogunate government. Some of them later supported movements to restore the authority of the emperor.

The policy of isolation known as Sakoku also contributed to the decline of the Shogunate. Under this policy, Japan limited contact with foreign countries and restricted foreign trade. While this policy initially helped preserve Japanese culture and stability, it prevented Japan from learning about modern developments in science, technology, and military organization.

The most important factor in the decline of the Shogunate was foreign pressure from Western countries. During the nineteenth century, Western nations were expanding their influence in Asia. In 1853, Commodore Matthew Perry of the United States arrived in Japan with a fleet of warships and demanded that Japan open its ports to trade. The Shogunate was unable to resist this demand because of its weak military power.

The signing of unequal treaties with Western powers further damaged the reputation of the Shogunate. Many Japanese people believed that the government had failed to protect national independence. As a result, opposition movements began to grow across the country.

One such movement was based on the slogan “Sonno Joi,” which means “Revere the Emperor, Expel the Barbarians.” Supporters of this

movement believed that the emperor should regain political power and lead the nation in resisting foreign influence.

Eventually, powerful regional leaders and samurai groups supported the movement against the Shogunate. In 1868 the Tokugawa Shogunate was overthrown and political authority was restored to the emperor. This event is known as the Meiji Restoration.

In conclusion, the decline of the Tokugawa Shogunate was the result of several internal and external factors, including social inequality, economic difficulties, dissatisfaction among the samurai, the isolation policy, and foreign pressure. These factors together led to the collapse of the Shogunate and the beginning of a new era in Japanese history.

2. Describe the Perry Mission and its impact on Japan.

The Perry Mission was one of the most important events in the history of modern Japan. It marked the end of Japan's long period of isolation and opened the country to diplomatic and commercial relations with Western nations. The mission was led by Commodore Matthew Perry of the United States in the mid-nineteenth century.

Before the arrival of Perry, Japan followed a strict policy of isolation known as Sakoku. Under this policy, the Tokugawa Shogunate restricted foreign trade and limited contact with other countries. Only a small amount of trade was allowed with the Dutch and Chinese through the port of Nagasaki. The purpose of this policy was to maintain political stability and protect Japanese culture from foreign influence.

However, during the nineteenth century Western countries were expanding their influence in Asia and the Pacific region. The United States wanted to establish trade relations with Japan and also needed ports where American ships could obtain supplies and protection. Therefore, the American government decided to send a diplomatic mission to Japan.

In 1853 Commodore Matthew Perry arrived in Japan with a fleet of powerful warships, which were called “Black Ships” by the Japanese because of the smoke coming from their steam engines. Perry delivered a letter from the President of the United States to the Japanese authorities. The letter demanded that Japan open its ports for trade and establish diplomatic relations with the United States.

The Japanese government was shocked by the arrival of Perry’s modern warships. The Tokugawa Shogunate realized that it did not have the military strength to resist Western powers. After some negotiations, Japan agreed to discuss the American demands.

In 1854 Perry returned to Japan, and the two countries signed the Treaty of Kanagawa. This treaty opened the Japanese ports of Shimoda and Hakodate to American ships. It also allowed the United States to establish a consulate in Japan and ensured protection and assistance for American sailors.

The Perry Mission had a profound impact on Japan. First, it ended Japan’s long period of isolation and forced the country to interact with the outside world. Soon after the Treaty of Kanagawa, several other Western countries such as Britain, France, and Russia also signed similar treaties with Japan.

Second, the mission exposed the military and technological superiority of Western powers. Japanese leaders realized that their country was far behind the West in terms of modern weapons, industry, and technology. This realization encouraged many people to demand reforms and modernization.

Third, the Perry Mission weakened the authority of the Tokugawa Shogunate. Many Japanese people believed that the Shogunate had failed to protect the country from foreign pressure. As a result, opposition movements began to grow across Japan.

Finally, the events that followed the Perry Mission led to the overthrow of the Tokugawa Shogunate in 1868 and the establishment of a new

government under the emperor. This event is known as the Meiji Restoration.

In conclusion, the Perry Mission played a crucial role in transforming Japan. It ended the country's isolation, exposed the weaknesses of the Shogunate government, and encouraged the process of modernization that later made Japan a powerful modern nation.

3. Explain the Treaty of Kanagawa and discuss its significance.

The Treaty of Kanagawa was one of the most important treaties in the history of Japan because it ended the country's long period of isolation and opened the door for relations with Western nations. The treaty was signed between Japan and the United States in 1854 after the arrival of Commodore Matthew Perry.

Before the treaty, Japan followed a strict policy of isolation known as Sakoku. Under this policy, the Tokugawa Shogunate limited contact with foreign countries and restricted foreign trade. Only limited trade with the Dutch and Chinese was allowed at the port of Nagasaki. The main purpose of this policy was to protect Japanese society from foreign influence and maintain political stability.

However, during the nineteenth century Western countries were expanding their influence in Asia and the Pacific region. The United States was particularly interested in establishing trade relations with Japan. American ships traveling across the Pacific Ocean needed ports where they could obtain food, water, and other supplies. Therefore, the United States decided to send a diplomatic mission to Japan.

In 1853 Commodore Matthew Perry arrived in Japan with a fleet of powerful warships. The Japanese called them "Black Ships" because of the smoke coming from their steam engines. Perry delivered a letter from the President of the United States demanding that Japan open its ports to American ships.

The Japanese government was shocked by the arrival of the American fleet. The Tokugawa Shogunate realized that it could not resist the military power of the United States. After careful consideration, the Japanese authorities agreed to negotiate with the Americans.

In 1854 Perry returned to Japan, and the Treaty of Kanagawa was signed between the two countries. The treaty included several important provisions. First, Japan agreed to open the ports of Shimoda and Hakodate to American ships. These ports would provide supplies and assistance to American sailors. Second, the treaty ensured good treatment for American shipwrecked sailors. Third, the United States was allowed to establish a consulate in Japan.

The Treaty of Kanagawa had great significance for Japan. One of its most important effects was that it ended Japan's long isolation from the outside world. After the signing of the treaty, several other Western countries such as Britain, Russia, and France demanded similar agreements with Japan.

Another important impact of the treaty was that it exposed Japan's military weakness. The Japanese realized that their country was not strong enough to resist Western powers. This realization encouraged many leaders to support modernization and reform.

The treaty also weakened the authority of the Tokugawa Shogunate. Many Japanese people believed that the government had failed to protect national independence. As a result, opposition movements began to grow against the Shogunate.

Finally, the Treaty of Kanagawa played an important role in the political transformation of Japan. The dissatisfaction with the Shogunate eventually led to the overthrow of the Tokugawa government in 1868 and the restoration of imperial power under Emperor Meiji.

In conclusion, the Treaty of Kanagawa was a turning point in Japanese history. It ended Japan's isolation, opened the country to foreign

relations, and created the conditions for political change and modernization.

4. Discuss the Meiji Restoration of 1868.

The Meiji Restoration of 1868 was one of the most significant events in the history of Japan. It marked the end of the Tokugawa Shogunate and the restoration of political power to the emperor. The restoration began a new era in Japanese history characterized by modernization, reform, and national development.

Before the Meiji Restoration, Japan was ruled by the Tokugawa Shogunate. The Shogun held real political authority while the emperor had only ceremonial importance. The government followed a feudal system in which regional lords known as daimyo controlled different territories. Although the Tokugawa government maintained peace for a long period, it gradually became weak and ineffective.

Several factors contributed to the Meiji Restoration. One of the most important causes was the arrival of Western powers in Japan. In 1853 Commodore Matthew Perry forced Japan to open its ports to foreign trade. This event exposed the weakness of the Shogunate and created dissatisfaction among many Japanese people.

Another cause of the restoration was the economic and social problems within Japan. Many samurai faced financial difficulties, while merchants became wealthy but had little political power. This situation created tension within society and weakened the traditional feudal system.

A powerful political movement also emerged against the Shogunate. Many leaders believed that the emperor should regain political authority and lead the country. The slogan “Sonno Joi,” meaning “Revere the Emperor, Expel the Barbarians,” became popular among supporters of this movement.

Powerful regional domains such as Satsuma and Choshu played an important role in the movement against the Shogunate. Their leaders formed alliances and organized military resistance against the Tokugawa government. Eventually, the Shogunate lost its power and authority.

In 1868 the Tokugawa Shogunate was officially overthrown, and Emperor Meiji was restored to political power. This event is known as the Meiji Restoration. The new government established a centralized administration and began implementing major reforms.

The leaders of the Meiji government believed that Japan needed to modernize quickly in order to resist Western domination. Therefore, they introduced reforms in various fields such as politics, education, industry, and the military. These reforms transformed Japan into a modern nation.

One of the first steps taken by the new government was the abolition of the feudal system. The power of the daimyo was removed, and the country was reorganized into modern administrative divisions. The government also introduced modern legal and political institutions.

In conclusion, the Meiji Restoration of 1868 marked a turning point in Japanese history. It ended feudal rule and restored imperial authority. More importantly, it opened the path for modernization and national development that later helped Japan become a major world power.

5. Explain the nature and significance of the Meiji Restoration.

The Meiji Restoration was not only a political revolution but also a process of transformation that changed Japan's social, economic, and political structure. It played a crucial role in turning Japan from a feudal society into a modern and powerful nation.

The nature of the Meiji Restoration can be understood in several ways. First, it was a political revolution. The restoration ended the rule of the Tokugawa Shogunate and restored power to the emperor. Although the

emperor became the symbol of authority, the real power was exercised by a group of modernizing leaders who worked in the name of the emperor.

Second, the restoration was a movement for national unity and centralization. The feudal system that divided Japan into different domains was abolished. The government established a centralized administration that strengthened national unity and political stability.

Third, the Meiji Restoration was a process of modernization. Japanese leaders realized that their country needed to adopt Western knowledge and technology in order to become strong and independent. Therefore, they introduced reforms in many areas of society.

In the field of politics, the government introduced modern administrative institutions. Later, a constitution was adopted, and a parliamentary system was established. These reforms helped create a modern political structure.

In the economic field, the government encouraged industrial development. New industries, factories, railways, and communication systems were established. These developments contributed to rapid economic growth.

Education was also greatly improved during the Meiji period. The government introduced a modern education system based on Western models. Schools and universities were established across the country, which helped spread knowledge and technical skills.

The military was also modernized. The government created a modern army and navy based on Western methods. This military strength later helped Japan defeat powerful countries such as China and Russia.

The significance of the Meiji Restoration was immense. It helped Japan become the first Asian country to modernize successfully and compete with Western powers. Within a few decades Japan transformed itself into an industrial and military power.

The restoration also strengthened Japan's national identity and unity. It encouraged people to work together for the development and progress of the country.

In conclusion, the Meiji Restoration was one of the most important turning points in Japanese history. It transformed Japan politically, economically, and socially. The reforms introduced during this period laid the foundation for Japan's emergence as a modern and powerful nation.



CAREER STUDY
The Learning App

UNIT – 2

ONE MARK:

1. In which period did Japan experience rapid economic development?

During the Meiji Era.

2. In which year did the Meiji Era begin?

1868.

3. What was the main aim of economic reforms in the Meiji period?

To modernize and strengthen Japan's economy.

4. What was the agrarian settlement in Meiji Japan?

A land revenue reform system introduced to modernize agriculture.

5. In which year was the Land Tax Reform introduced in Japan?

1873.

6. What was the main objective of the Land Tax Reform?

To create a stable source of revenue for the government.

7. Who became the legal owners of land after the agrarian settlement?

The peasants or cultivators.

8. What type of economy developed in Japan during the Meiji period?

A capitalist economy.

9. What is industrialization?

The development of industries and factories in a country.

10. Which industries developed rapidly in Meiji Japan?

Textile, shipbuilding, and steel industries.

11. What role did the government play in industrialization?

The government established and supported modern industries.

12. What were Zaibatsu?

Large industrial and financial business groups in Japan.

13. Name one famous Zaibatsu of Japan.

Mitsubishi.

14. How did industrialization affect Japan's economy?
It increased production, trade, and economic growth.
15. What was the position of women in the early Meiji period?
Women had limited rights and opportunities.
16. In which sector did many women work during the Meiji era?
Textile industries.
17. What was one major problem faced by women workers?
Low wages and poor working conditions.
18. What was the Meiji Constitution?
The first modern constitution of Japan.
19. In which year was the Meiji Constitution promulgated?
1889.
20. In which year did the Meiji Constitution come into effect?
1890.
21. Who granted the Meiji Constitution to the Japanese people?
Emperor Meiji.
22. What type of monarchy was established under the Meiji Constitution?
A constitutional monarchy.
23. What was the Japanese parliament called under the Meiji Constitution?
The Diet.
24. What were the two houses of the Japanese Diet?
The House of Peers and the House of Representatives.
25. What was the significance of the Meiji Constitution?
It introduced modern political institutions and constitutional government in Japan.

TWO MARK:

1. What do you understand by economic development in the Meiji Era?

Economic development in the Meiji Era refers to the rapid modernization of Japan's economy after 1868. The government introduced reforms in agriculture, industry, banking, and transportation. These reforms helped Japan move from a feudal economy to a modern industrial and capitalist economy.

2. What was the Agrarian Settlement in Meiji Japan?

The Agrarian Settlement was a land reform introduced by the Meiji government to modernize agriculture. Under this system, peasants were recognized as legal landowners and were required to pay land tax directly to the government. This reform helped create a stable source of revenue for the state.

3. What was the Land Tax Reform of 1873?

The Land Tax Reform of 1873 was introduced to improve the agricultural taxation system. According to this reform, landowners had to pay tax in money rather than in crops. The tax was fixed based on the value of the land and became a major source of government income.

4. What were the effects of the Agrarian Settlement?

The Agrarian Settlement increased government revenue and strengthened the financial system of Japan. However, it also created problems for many peasants because the tax was fixed and had to be paid even during poor harvests, which sometimes caused economic hardship.

5. What is meant by industrialization in the Meiji period?

Industrialization in the Meiji period refers to the rapid development of

modern industries such as textiles, shipbuilding, mining, and steel production. The government encouraged the establishment of factories and modern technology to strengthen Japan's economy and compete with Western nations.

6. What role did the government play in industrialization?

The Meiji government played an important role in industrialization by establishing factories, railways, shipyards, and modern industries. Later, many of these industries were sold to private entrepreneurs, which helped promote private industrial development in Japan.

7. What were Zaibatsu in Japan?

Zaibatsu were large business and financial groups that dominated the Japanese economy during the Meiji period. These organizations controlled major industries, banks, and trade. Famous Zaibatsu families included Mitsubishi, Mitsui, and Sumitomo.

8. How did industrialization affect Japanese society?

Industrialization created new job opportunities and increased economic growth in Japan. However, it also led to social problems such as poor working conditions, long working hours, and low wages for factory workers, especially women.

9. What was the role of women in the Meiji economy?

Women played an important role in the industrial development of Japan, especially in textile factories. Many young women worked in industries under difficult conditions and received low wages. Their labour contributed significantly to Japan's economic growth.

10. What were the conditions of women workers in the Meiji period?

Women workers in the Meiji period often worked long hours in factories under poor conditions. They received low wages and had limited rights. Despite these difficulties, their work played a crucial role in the development of Japan's textile industry.

11. How did the Meiji government improve education for women?

The Meiji government introduced a modern education system that included schooling for girls. Although women still had limited social rights, access to education gradually improved their status and created new opportunities in society.

12. What was the Meiji Constitution of 1889?

The Meiji Constitution was the first modern constitution of Japan. It was promulgated by Emperor Meiji in 1889 and came into effect in 1890. The constitution established a constitutional monarchy and introduced modern political institutions in Japan.

13. What type of government was established under the Meiji Constitution?

The Meiji Constitution established a constitutional monarchy. In this system, the emperor remained the supreme authority, but a modern government structure with ministers, a parliament, and administrative institutions was also created.

14. What was the Diet in the Meiji Constitution?

The Diet was the national parliament established under the Meiji Constitution. It was responsible for discussing laws and government policies. The Diet consisted of two houses: the House of Peers and the House of Representatives.

15. What were the two houses of the Japanese Diet?

The Japanese Diet consisted of the House of Peers and the House of Representatives. The House of Peers included nobles and appointed members, while the House of Representatives was elected by the people.

16. What powers did the Emperor have under the Meiji Constitution?

Under the Meiji Constitution, the emperor held significant powers. He was the head of the state, commander of the military, and had authority to appoint ministers and approve laws. The emperor was considered sacred and supreme.

17. What rights were granted to the people under the Meiji Constitution?

The Meiji Constitution granted certain civil rights to the Japanese people, such as freedom of speech, assembly, and religion. However, these rights were limited and could be controlled by the government.

18. What was the significance of the Meiji Constitution?

The Meiji Constitution was important because it introduced modern political institutions and a constitutional system in Japan. It helped establish a modern state and strengthened the authority of the central government.

19. How did economic reforms strengthen Japan during the Meiji period?

Economic reforms improved agriculture, promoted industrial development, and increased government revenue. These reforms helped Japan modernize its economy and become a strong and competitive nation.

20. Why is the Meiji period considered important in Japanese economic history?

The Meiji period is important because Japan transformed from a feudal agricultural society into a modern industrial nation. The reforms in agriculture, industry, education, and governance laid the foundation for Japan's future economic power.

BROAD ANSWER:

1. Discuss the economic development of Japan during the Meiji Era.

The Meiji Era, which began in 1868 after the Meiji Restoration, was a turning point in the economic history of Japan. During this period, the Japanese government introduced several reforms to modernize the country and transform it into a strong and industrialized nation. The leaders of the Meiji government understood that economic development was essential for national strength and independence. Therefore, they adopted modern economic policies inspired by Western countries.

One of the most important features of economic development during the Meiji Era was the transformation of agriculture. Agriculture was the main source of income for the Japanese economy. The government introduced land reforms and improved agricultural techniques to increase production. The Land Tax Reform of 1873 was a major step in this direction. Under this reform, peasants were recognized as legal landowners and were required to pay land tax directly to the government in money rather than in crops. This system provided a stable and reliable source of revenue for the state.

Another important aspect of economic development was industrialization. The Meiji government strongly encouraged the establishment of modern industries. Initially, the government itself established factories, shipyards, railways, and mines. Later, many of

these industries were sold to private entrepreneurs. This policy helped promote private industrial development in Japan.

The textile industry was one of the first industries to develop rapidly during this period. Silk and cotton textile factories were established across the country. These industries became important sources of export income for Japan. Other industries such as shipbuilding, mining, iron and steel production, and machinery also developed during the Meiji period.

The government also invested heavily in modern infrastructure. Railways, telegraph lines, ports, and roads were constructed to improve communication and transportation. These developments helped expand domestic and international trade.

Another important feature of the Meiji economy was the rise of large business groups known as Zaibatsu. These were powerful industrial and financial organizations that controlled many industries and banks. Famous Zaibatsu families included Mitsubishi, Mitsui, and Sumitomo. They played a significant role in Japan's industrial and economic growth.

Education and technical training were also promoted during the Meiji period. The government established schools and universities to train engineers, administrators, and skilled workers. Many students were also sent abroad to study modern science and technology.

However, economic development during this period also created social challenges. Industrial workers often faced poor working conditions, long hours, and low wages. Many peasants struggled to pay the land tax, especially during poor harvests. Despite these difficulties, the overall economic progress of Japan during the Meiji period was remarkable.

In conclusion, the Meiji Era witnessed rapid economic development through agricultural reforms, industrialization, modernization of infrastructure, and the growth of private enterprise. These reforms transformed Japan from a feudal agricultural society into a modern

industrial nation and laid the foundation for its emergence as a major world power.

2. Explain the Agrarian Settlement and Land Tax Reform of the Meiji period.

The Agrarian Settlement and Land Tax Reform were among the most important economic reforms introduced by the Meiji government in Japan. These reforms aimed to modernize the agricultural system and create a stable financial foundation for the new government.

Before the Meiji Restoration, agriculture in Japan was organized under the feudal system. Land was controlled by feudal lords known as daimyo, and peasants cultivated the land while paying taxes in the form of crops. The system was inefficient and did not provide a stable source of revenue for the government.

After the Meiji Restoration in 1868, the new government realized that agricultural reform was necessary to modernize the country. Agriculture was the backbone of the Japanese economy, and improving agricultural productivity was essential for economic development.

The most important reform in agriculture was the Land Tax Reform of 1873. Under this reform, peasants were recognized as the legal owners of the land they cultivated. The government issued land ownership certificates to farmers, which provided them with greater security and encouraged them to improve agricultural productivity.

Another major feature of the reform was the introduction of a new taxation system. Instead of paying taxes in crops, farmers were required to pay taxes in money. The tax was calculated based on the value of the land rather than the amount of agricultural production. The tax rate was initially fixed at about three percent of the land value.

This new taxation system provided the government with a stable and predictable source of revenue. The income generated from land tax became one of the main sources of government finance during the early

Meiji period. This revenue helped fund important projects such as industrial development, education, and military modernization.

The Agrarian Settlement also encouraged the growth of a market economy in rural areas. Farmers could now sell their agricultural products in markets and earn money. This helped integrate agriculture with the modern economic system.

However, the reform also created certain problems. Many peasants found it difficult to pay the fixed tax during years of poor harvests. As a result, some farmers lost their land and became tenant farmers. In some areas, protests and rural unrest occurred due to the heavy tax burden.

Despite these challenges, the Agrarian Settlement and Land Tax Reform were significant steps toward modernizing Japan's agricultural system. They strengthened the financial position of the government and encouraged agricultural productivity.

In conclusion, the Agrarian Settlement and Land Tax Reform played a crucial role in Japan's economic modernization during the Meiji period. These reforms transformed the traditional feudal agricultural system into a modern land ownership and taxation system that supported Japan's broader economic development.

3. Discuss the position and development of women's rights in the Meiji Era.

The Meiji Era (1868–1912) was a period of significant political, social, and economic transformation in Japan. During this time, the government introduced many reforms to modernize the country and bring it closer to Western nations. However, the position of women in Japanese society during the Meiji period remained complex. While some improvements were made in education and employment opportunities for women, they still faced many social and legal restrictions.

Traditionally, Japanese society was deeply influenced by Confucian values, which emphasized a strict hierarchical family structure. According to these traditional ideas, women were expected to obey their fathers before marriage, their husbands after marriage, and their sons in old age. This principle was often referred to as the system of **“three obediences.”** Women were mainly responsible for household duties such as managing the home, raising children, and supporting their husbands.

During the Meiji period, the government began to reform the education system. In 1872, the government introduced a modern national education system which allowed both boys and girls to attend school. This was an important step toward improving the social position of women. Girls’ education mainly focused on basic literacy, moral training, and domestic skills. The aim was to prepare women to become good wives and wise mothers, a concept known as **“Good Wife, Wise Mother” (Ryōsai Kenbo).**

Industrialization during the Meiji period also created new employment opportunities for women. Many young women began working in factories, particularly in the textile and silk industries. These industries became the backbone of Japan’s early industrial economy. Female workers formed a large portion of the labor force in textile factories.

However, the working conditions for women in factories were often very difficult. They had to work long hours, sometimes up to twelve or fourteen hours a day. Wages were very low, and living conditions in factory dormitories were often poor. Despite these hardships, women workers played an important role in Japan’s industrial growth.

Legally and politically, women still had very limited rights during the Meiji period. The Civil Code of 1898 reinforced the patriarchal family system and gave authority to the male head of the household. Women had little control over property and had limited legal rights. They were also excluded from political participation and were not allowed to vote or join political organizations.

Despite these limitations, the Meiji period saw the beginning of women's awareness about their rights. Some educated women and social reformers began to advocate for women's education, better working conditions, and social reforms. Early women activists such as **Fukuda Hideko and Kishida Toshiko** played important roles in raising awareness about women's rights.

In conclusion, the Meiji Era brought some improvements in the status of women, especially in education and employment. However, traditional social values and legal restrictions continued to limit women's freedom and equality. Although women did not achieve full rights during this period, the foundations were laid for future movements for gender equality in Japan.

4. Explain the main features and significance of the Meiji Constitution of 1889–90.

The Meiji Constitution of 1889 was one of the most important political developments in modern Japanese history. It marked Japan's transition from a feudal political system to a modern constitutional government. The constitution was officially promulgated on **11 February 1889** by Emperor Meiji and came into effect in **1890**.

After the Meiji Restoration of 1868, the leaders of Japan realized the need to modernize the country's political system. They believed that adopting a constitutional government similar to Western nations would strengthen Japan and gain international respect. As a result, the government began studying the political systems of European countries, especially Germany and Prussia.

The Meiji Constitution established Japan as a **constitutional monarchy**. In this system, the emperor remained the supreme ruler and held significant political authority. The emperor was considered sacred and inviolable. According to the constitution, all political power ultimately came from the emperor.

The emperor had several important powers. He was the head of the state and the commander of the armed forces. He had the authority to declare war, make peace treaties, appoint government officials, and approve laws. The emperor also had the power to dissolve the parliament.

One of the most important institutions created under the Meiji Constitution was the **Imperial Diet**, which served as the national parliament of Japan. The Diet consisted of two houses: the **House of Peers** and the **House of Representatives**.

The House of Peers was composed of members of the royal family, nobles, and individuals appointed by the emperor. The House of Representatives was made up of elected representatives chosen by the people. However, voting rights were limited only to wealthy male citizens who paid a certain amount of tax. As a result, only a small portion of the population could participate in elections.

The constitution also established a modern administrative system with a cabinet and government ministries. Ministers were appointed by the emperor and were responsible to him rather than to the parliament. This meant that the emperor retained strong control over the government.

Another important aspect of the Meiji Constitution was the recognition of certain civil rights for the people. These rights included freedom of speech, religion, and assembly. However, these rights were not absolute and could be restricted by law whenever the government considered it necessary.

The Meiji Constitution played a crucial role in Japan's modernization. It helped establish a stable political structure and allowed the country to develop modern institutions. At the same time, it preserved the traditional authority of the emperor and maintained strong centralized control.

However, the constitution also had certain limitations. Political power remained concentrated in the hands of the emperor and a small group of elites. The parliament had limited authority, and democratic participation was restricted.

In conclusion, the Meiji Constitution of 1889 was a major milestone in Japan's political development. It introduced a modern constitutional system while maintaining the traditional authority of the emperor. The constitution played an important role in shaping Japan's political system until it was replaced after the Second World War.

5. Discuss the growth of industrialization and capitalism in the Meiji period.

The Meiji period (1868–1912) marked a major turning point in the economic history of Japan. After the Meiji Restoration of 1868, the new Japanese leaders realized that rapid economic development was necessary to protect the country from Western domination. They believed that industrialization and the development of a modern capitalist economy were essential for national strength and modernization. As a result, the government introduced several reforms that helped transform Japan from a feudal agricultural society into a modern industrial nation.

One of the first steps toward industrialization was the abolition of the feudal system. During the Tokugawa period, economic activities were restricted by feudal regulations. After the Meiji Restoration, the government abolished the feudal domains and established a centralized administration. This created a unified national market and allowed free movement of goods, labor, and capital throughout the country.

Agricultural reforms also played an important role in supporting industrial development. The Land Tax Reform of 1873 provided the government with a stable source of revenue. Farmers were required to pay taxes in money instead of crops, which helped the government collect regular income. This revenue was used to finance industrial projects, infrastructure development, and modernization programs.

The Meiji government played a very active role in promoting industrialization. In the early stage, the government itself established many modern industries. These included textile mills, shipyards, iron

and steel factories, glass factories, and mining industries. The government also built railways, telegraph lines, modern ports, and transportation systems. These developments improved communication and trade within the country.

The textile industry became the first major modern industry in Japan. Silk and cotton textiles were produced in large quantities and exported to foreign markets. Textile factories employed a large number of workers, especially young women from rural areas. The growth of the textile industry helped Japan earn foreign exchange and expand international trade.

As industrial development progressed, the government gradually transferred many state-owned industries to private businessmen. This encouraged the growth of private enterprise and capitalism in Japan. Wealthy merchant families and entrepreneurs began investing in industries, banking, and trade. This led to the rise of large business groups known as **Zaibatsu**.

Zaibatsu were powerful financial and industrial organizations that dominated the Japanese economy. These groups controlled banks, factories, shipping companies, and trading firms. Some of the most famous Zaibatsu families were **Mitsubishi, Mitsui, Sumitomo, and Yasuda**. They played a major role in promoting industrial growth and expanding Japan's economic power.

Industrialization also led to the development of modern financial institutions. Banks were established to provide loans and capital for industrial investment. The government introduced a modern currency system and established the Bank of Japan in 1882 to regulate the financial system.

Education and technical training also contributed to industrial growth. The Meiji government established schools, universities, and technical institutes to train engineers, scientists, and skilled workers. Many students were also sent to Western countries to learn modern science and technology.

However, industrialization also created several social problems. Factory workers often faced long working hours, low wages, and poor working conditions. Women and children were widely employed in factories, especially in the textile industry. Despite these hardships, industrial development provided employment opportunities and contributed to economic growth.

In conclusion, the growth of industrialization and capitalism during the Meiji period transformed Japan into a modern industrial nation. Through government reforms, development of infrastructure, encouragement of private enterprise, and the rise of powerful business groups, Japan successfully built a strong economic foundation. This rapid economic transformation later helped Japan emerge as one of the major powers in the world.



CAREER STUDY
The Learning App

UNIT – 3

ONE MARK:

1. When did the First Sino–Japanese War take place?

Ans: The First Sino–Japanese War took place from **1894 to 1895**.

2. Which countries fought in the Sino–Japanese War (1894–95)?

Ans: **Japan and China** fought in the Sino–Japanese War.

3. What was the main cause of the Sino–Japanese War?

Ans: The main cause was the **conflict over control of Korea**.

4. Which treaty ended the Sino–Japanese War?

Ans: The **Treaty of Shimonoseki (1895)** ended the Sino–Japanese War.

5. Which territory did China give to Japan after the Sino–Japanese War?

Ans: China ceded **Taiwan (Formosa)** to Japan.

6. In which year was the Anglo–Japanese Alliance signed?

Ans: The Anglo–Japanese Alliance was signed in **1902**.

7. Which two countries signed the Anglo–Japanese Alliance?

Ans: **Britain and Japan** signed the Anglo–Japanese Alliance.

8. What was the main purpose of the Anglo–Japanese Alliance?

Ans: The main purpose was to **maintain peace and balance of power in East Asia**.

9. When did the Russo–Japanese War take place?

Ans: The Russo–Japanese War took place between **1904 and 1905**.

10. Which countries fought in the Russo–Japanese War?

Ans: **Russia and Japan** fought in the Russo–Japanese War.

11. What was the main cause of the Russo–Japanese War?

Ans: The conflict over **control of Manchuria and Korea** caused the war.

12. Which treaty ended the Russo–Japanese War?

Ans: The **Treaty of Portsmouth (1905)** ended the war.

13. Who mediated the Treaty of Portsmouth?

Ans: **U.S. President Theodore Roosevelt** mediated the treaty.

14. Which country won the Russo–Japanese War?

Ans: **Japan** won the Russo–Japanese War.

15. What was one major result of Japan’s victory in the Russo–Japanese War?

Ans: Japan became a **major power in East Asia**.

16. What is meant by imperialism?

Ans: Imperialism means a **policy of extending a country's power through conquest or political influence over other territories**.

17. Which Asian country first defeated a European power in modern history?

Ans: Japan defeated Russia in the Russo–Japanese War.

18. Which country became a Japanese protectorate after the Russo–Japanese War?

Ans: Korea became a protectorate of Japan.

19. In which year did Japan formally annex Korea?

Ans: Japan annexed Korea in 1910.

20. Why is Japan considered an imperialist power in the early 20th century?

Ans: Japan expanded its territory and influence by conquering Korea, Taiwan, and gaining control over parts of China.

TWO MARK:

1. What was the Sino–Japanese War of 1894–95?

The Sino–Japanese War of 1894–95 was fought between China and Japan mainly over control of Korea. Japan wanted to increase its influence in East Asia. Japan defeated China easily due to its modern army and navy. The war marked Japan’s emergence as a strong power in Asia.

2. What were the causes of the Sino–Japanese War?

The main cause of the Sino–Japanese War was the rivalry between China and Japan over Korea. Korea was politically unstable, and both countries wanted to control it. Japan also wanted to expand its influence in East Asia and challenge China’s traditional dominance in the region.

3. What was the Treaty of Shimonoseki?

The Treaty of Shimonoseki was signed in 1895 to end the Sino–Japanese War. According to the treaty, China recognized Korea’s independence and ceded Taiwan and the Liaodong Peninsula to Japan. China also agreed to pay a large war indemnity to Japan.

4. What were the results of the Sino–Japanese War?

Japan’s victory greatly increased its power and prestige in East Asia. China lost influence in Korea and had to give Taiwan to Japan. The war also exposed the weakness of China and encouraged Western powers to increase their influence in Chinese territories.

5. What was the Anglo–Japanese Alliance of 1902?

The Anglo–Japanese Alliance was a military agreement signed between Britain and Japan in 1902. Its main aim was to maintain peace and balance of power in East Asia. Britain supported Japan in protecting its interests against other powers, especially Russia.

6. Why was the Anglo–Japanese Alliance important?

The Anglo–Japanese Alliance was important because it recognized Japan as a major international power. It also strengthened Japan’s position in East Asia and provided diplomatic support against Russia. The alliance improved Japan’s global status and influence.

7. What was the Russo–Japanese War of 1904–05?

The Russo–Japanese War was fought between Russia and Japan from 1904 to 1905. The conflict arose over control of Korea and Manchuria. Japan launched a surprise attack on the Russian fleet and eventually defeated Russia, gaining international recognition.

8. What were the causes of the Russo–Japanese War?

The war was mainly caused by rivalry between Russia and Japan over control of Korea and Manchuria. Russia wanted to expand its influence in East Asia, which threatened Japanese interests.

Diplomatic negotiations failed, leading to war between the two nations.

9. What was the Treaty of Portsmouth?

The Treaty of Portsmouth was signed in 1905 to end the Russo–Japanese War. It was mediated by U.S. President Theodore Roosevelt. The treaty recognized Japan’s dominance in Korea and gave Japan control over southern Manchuria and parts of Sakhalin Island.

10. What were the consequences of the Russo–Japanese War?

Japan’s victory made it the first Asian nation to defeat a European power in modern times. It increased Japan’s international prestige and strengthened its influence in East Asia. The war also weakened Russia and encouraged nationalist movements in Asia.

11. Why was Japan’s victory over Russia historically important?

Japan’s victory over Russia was significant because it showed that an Asian nation could defeat a powerful European country. This victory increased Japan’s prestige and inspired many Asian countries to resist Western imperialism and colonial domination.

12. What role did Korea play in Japan’s expansion?

Korea was strategically important for Japan’s security and economic interests. After defeating China and Russia, Japan gradually increased its control over Korea. In 1905 Korea became a Japanese protectorate, and in 1910 it was formally annexed by Japan.

13. What is meant by territorial expansion?

Territorial expansion refers to the process by which a country increases its land and influence by conquering or controlling other regions. During the late 19th and early 20th centuries, Japan expanded its territory through wars and political agreements.

14. What factors helped Japan expand territorially?

Japan's modernization, strong military power, industrial growth, and strategic leadership helped it expand territorially. Military victories over China and Russia allowed Japan to gain new territories and strengthen its position as a major power in East Asia.

15. How did Japan emerge as an imperialist power?

Japan emerged as an imperialist power by expanding its influence and control over other territories such as Taiwan, Korea, and parts of Manchuria. Its military victories and strong economy allowed it to compete with Western imperialist powers.

16. What role did military strength play in Japan's expansion?

Japan developed a strong modern army and navy after the Meiji Restoration. This military strength enabled Japan to defeat powerful nations like China and Russia. Military success helped Japan gain new territories and establish itself as an imperialist power.

17. What territories did Japan gain after the Sino–Japanese War?

After the Sino–Japanese War, Japan gained Taiwan and the Liaodong Peninsula from China. Although international pressure forced Japan to return Liaodong to China, Taiwan remained under Japanese control and became an important colony.

18. How did imperialism influence Japan's foreign policy?

Imperialism influenced Japan's foreign policy by encouraging territorial expansion and military power. Japan sought to secure resources, markets, and strategic locations by controlling neighboring regions such as Korea and parts of China.

19. What impact did Japan's expansion have on Asia?

Japan's expansion changed the political balance in East Asia. It weakened China, challenged Russian influence, and brought Korea under Japanese rule. Japan's rise as a powerful nation also inspired nationalist movements in many Asian countries.

20. Why is the early 20th century considered the period of Japanese imperialism?

The early 20th century is considered the period of Japanese imperialism because Japan expanded its territories through wars and political control. It acquired colonies such as Taiwan and Korea and increased its influence in Manchuria and other parts of Asia.

BROAD ANSWER:

1. Discuss the causes, course and results of the Sino-Japanese War (1894–95).

The Sino-Japanese War of 1894–95 was an important event in the history of East Asia. It was fought between China and Japan mainly over the control and influence in Korea. At that time, Korea was traditionally under Chinese influence, but Japan wanted to expand its political and economic power in the region. The war demonstrated the rising strength of Japan and the weakness of the Chinese Empire.

The main cause of the war was the rivalry between China and Japan over Korea. Korea was strategically important because of its geographical position and economic resources. Japan believed that

control over Korea was necessary for its national security and economic expansion. On the other hand, China considered Korea a tributary state and wanted to maintain its influence there.

Internal instability in Korea also contributed to the conflict. In 1894, a major peasant uprising known as the **Tonghak Rebellion** took place in Korea. The Korean government requested military assistance from China to suppress the rebellion. According to earlier agreements, China informed Japan about sending troops to Korea. However, Japan also sent its own troops and soon began to take control of the Korean government. This led to direct conflict between China and Japan.

The war began in July 1894. Japan had a well-trained modern army and navy due to the reforms introduced during the Meiji Restoration. In contrast, China's military was poorly organized and lacked modern equipment. Japanese forces quickly defeated Chinese troops both on land and at sea. Major battles took place in Korea and Manchuria, and the Japanese navy also destroyed the Chinese fleet in the Yellow Sea.

Japan achieved several important victories during the war. Japanese forces captured important Chinese territories such as Port Arthur and advanced into Manchuria. The Chinese government was unable to resist the strong Japanese military power and was forced to seek peace.

The war ended with the signing of the **Treaty of Shimonoseki** in April 1895. According to the terms of the treaty, China recognized the independence of Korea, which effectively removed Chinese influence from the region. China also ceded Taiwan (Formosa), the Pescadores Islands, and the Liaodong Peninsula to Japan. In addition, China agreed to pay a large war indemnity to Japan and opened several ports for Japanese trade.

However, soon after the treaty, three European powers—Russia, Germany, and France—intervened and forced Japan to return the Liaodong Peninsula to China. This event is known as the **Triple Intervention**. Although Japan had to give up some territorial gains, the war greatly increased its prestige and influence.

The Sino–Japanese War had several important consequences. First, it marked the emergence of Japan as a major military power in Asia. Japan’s victory demonstrated the success of its modernization efforts under the Meiji government. Second, the war revealed the weakness of the Chinese Qing Dynasty, which later led to internal reforms and revolutionary movements in China.

Third, Japan’s victory encouraged its expansionist policies and imperial ambitions in East Asia. Control over Taiwan and influence in Korea strengthened Japan’s strategic position. Finally, the war changed the balance of power in East Asia and increased competition among imperialist powers in the region.

In conclusion, the Sino–Japanese War of 1894–95 was a turning point in Asian history. It marked the rise of Japan as a modern military power and signaled the decline of traditional Chinese dominance in East Asia.

2. Explain the Anglo–Japanese Alliance of 1902 and its significance.

The Anglo–Japanese Alliance of 1902 was an important diplomatic agreement between Britain and Japan. It was the first military alliance between a Western power and an Asian nation. The alliance played a significant role in shaping international relations in East Asia during the early twentieth century.

At the end of the nineteenth century, several European powers were competing for influence in East Asia. Russia, Germany, and France were expanding their control over territories in China and surrounding regions. Russia, in particular, was becoming increasingly powerful in Manchuria and Korea. This expansion threatened both British and Japanese interests in the region.

Britain was concerned about maintaining the balance of power in East Asia and protecting its trade routes and colonial interests. However, Britain also wanted to avoid direct military confrontation with Russia. Japan, on the other hand, was worried about Russian expansion near its

borders. Japan had already become a modern military power after the Meiji reforms and wanted international recognition.

These shared concerns led Britain and Japan to form a strategic alliance. The Anglo–Japanese Alliance was signed on **30 January 1902** in London. The main purpose of the alliance was to maintain peace and stability in East Asia and to counter the growing influence of Russia.

According to the terms of the alliance, both countries agreed to respect the independence and territorial integrity of China and Korea. They also agreed to support each other in protecting their respective interests in the region. If either country was involved in a war with another power, the other ally would remain neutral. However, if one of them was attacked by two or more powers, the other would provide military assistance.

The alliance was very beneficial for Japan. It gave Japan diplomatic support from a powerful Western nation. This strengthened Japan's international position and increased its confidence in dealing with other imperial powers. For Britain, the alliance helped protect its interests in East Asia without requiring large military commitments.

The importance of the alliance became clear during the **Russo–Japanese War of 1904–05**. Because of the alliance, other European powers did not intervene against Japan. Britain's support helped Japan fight Russia without fear of international opposition.

The Anglo–Japanese Alliance also had wider international significance. It marked the recognition of Japan as a major world power. It also demonstrated the success of Japan's modernization efforts under the Meiji government.

The alliance was renewed and expanded several times, in 1905 and 1911, reflecting the growing cooperation between the two nations. However, after the First World War, international politics changed. The alliance eventually ended in 1923 following the Washington Naval Conference.

In conclusion, the Anglo–Japanese Alliance of 1902 was an important milestone in international diplomacy. It strengthened Japan’s position as a global power and helped maintain the balance of power in East Asia during the early twentieth century.

3. Discuss the causes, course and consequences of the Russo–Japanese War (1904–05).

The Russo–Japanese War of 1904–05 was one of the most important events in the history of modern Asia. It was fought between Russia and Japan over control of Manchuria and Korea. The war was significant because it marked the first time in modern history that an Asian nation defeated a major European power. Japan’s victory greatly increased its international prestige and influence.

The main cause of the war was the rivalry between Russia and Japan for control over Manchuria and Korea. Both regions were strategically and economically important. Japan considered Korea essential for its security and economic expansion. Russia, on the other hand, wanted to extend its influence in East Asia and gain access to warm-water ports.

After the Sino–Japanese War of 1894–95, Japan gained influence in Korea and Manchuria. However, Russia opposed Japan’s expansion and gradually increased its own military presence in the region. Russia also built the **Trans-Siberian Railway**, which strengthened its position in Manchuria.

Diplomatic negotiations between the two countries failed. Japan demanded that Russia recognize its special interests in Korea and withdraw its troops from Manchuria. Russia refused to accept these demands. As tensions increased, Japan decided to take military action.

The war began in February 1904 when Japan launched a surprise naval attack on the Russian fleet at **Port Arthur** in Manchuria. Japan quickly gained the advantage due to its well-trained army and modern navy. Several important battles took place during the war.

One of the major battles was the **Battle of Port Arthur**, where Japanese forces successfully captured the Russian naval base after a long siege. Another important battle was the **Battle of Mukden**, one of the largest land battles of the early twentieth century. Japanese forces defeated the Russian army and forced them to retreat.

The most decisive event of the war was the **Battle of Tsushima** in May 1905. The Japanese navy destroyed the Russian Baltic Fleet, which had traveled thousands of miles from Europe to fight in the war. This naval victory completely weakened Russia's military position.

Russia suffered heavy losses during the war and faced growing political unrest at home. As a result, Russia agreed to negotiate peace. The war ended with the **Treaty of Portsmouth** in September 1905. The treaty was mediated by **U.S. President Theodore Roosevelt**.

According to the treaty, Russia recognized Japan's dominant position in Korea. Japan also gained control of the southern part of **Sakhalin Island** and the Russian lease of the **Liaodong Peninsula**, including Port Arthur. Japan also obtained railway rights in southern Manchuria.

The consequences of the war were very significant. First, Japan emerged as a major military and political power in the world. Its victory demonstrated the success of the modernization reforms introduced during the Meiji period.

Second, the war weakened Russia and contributed to political unrest in the country. The defeat was one of the factors that led to the **Russian Revolution of 1905**.

Third, Japan's victory inspired many Asian countries that were under European colonial rule. It showed that a non-Western nation could successfully challenge Western powers.

In conclusion, the Russo-Japanese War was a turning point in world history. It established Japan as a powerful imperial nation and changed the balance of power in East Asia.

4. Explain the consequences of the Russo–Japanese War.

The Russo–Japanese War of 1904–05 had far-reaching consequences for both Asia and the world. The war not only changed the political balance in East Asia but also had significant political, military, and social effects in many countries.

One of the most important consequences of the war was the rise of Japan as a major world power. Japan's victory over Russia demonstrated the strength of its modern army and navy. It proved that Japan had successfully adopted Western military technology and organizational methods during the Meiji period. After the war, Japan gained greater respect and recognition in international politics.

Another important consequence was the expansion of Japanese influence in East Asia. According to the Treaty of Portsmouth, Russia recognized Japan's dominant position in Korea. This allowed Japan to strengthen its control over Korea, which later became a Japanese protectorate in 1905 and was formally annexed in 1910.

Japan also gained important territorial and economic advantages. It obtained the southern half of Sakhalin Island and control over the Liaodong Peninsula and Port Arthur. Japan also acquired railway rights in southern Manchuria, which increased its economic influence in the region.

The war also had serious consequences for Russia. Russia's defeat damaged its international prestige and exposed the weaknesses of its government and military system. The heavy losses suffered during the war created widespread dissatisfaction among the Russian people.

This dissatisfaction contributed to the outbreak of the **Russian Revolution of 1905**. Workers, peasants, and soldiers protested against the government, demanding political reforms. Although the revolution was eventually suppressed, it forced the Russian government to introduce some political changes.

The victory of Japan also had a psychological impact on many Asian nations. For the first time, an Asian country had defeated a powerful

European nation. This inspired nationalist movements in countries such as India, China, and other parts of Asia. Many people believed that Western domination could be challenged.

However, Japan's growing power also created new tensions in the region. Japan began to pursue an aggressive imperialist policy, expanding its influence in Korea, Manchuria, and other parts of Asia. This expansion later contributed to conflicts in the twentieth century.

In conclusion, the consequences of the Russo–Japanese War were significant and far-reaching. The war strengthened Japan's position as a world power, weakened Russia, and inspired nationalist movements in Asia. It also changed the balance of power in East Asia and contributed to the rise of Japanese imperialism.

5. Discuss the emergence of Japan as an imperialist power.

The emergence of Japan as an imperialist power was one of the most important developments in modern Asian history. During the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, Japan transformed from a relatively isolated nation into a powerful imperial state. This transformation was largely the result of the political, economic, and military reforms introduced during the Meiji period.

After the Meiji Restoration in 1868, Japan began a process of rapid modernization. The leaders of Japan realized that in order to survive in a world dominated by Western imperial powers, the country needed to strengthen its military, economy, and political institutions. They adopted modern technologies, established a strong central government, and developed a modern army and navy.

Industrialization also played an important role in Japan's rise as an imperialist power. The growth of modern industries increased Japan's demand for raw materials and new markets. Since Japan had limited natural resources, it began to look for territories abroad where it could obtain resources and expand trade.

The first major step in Japan's imperial expansion was the **Sino-Japanese War of 1894–95**. Japan's victory over China gave it control of Taiwan and increased its influence in Korea. This war marked the beginning of Japan's expansionist policy in East Asia.

Another important event was the **Anglo-Japanese Alliance of 1902**, which strengthened Japan's international position. The alliance with Britain gave Japan diplomatic support and recognition as a major power.

Japan's victory in the **Russo-Japanese War of 1904–05** further strengthened its imperial ambitions. By defeating Russia, Japan gained control over important territories and increased its influence in Korea and Manchuria.

Following these victories, Japan gradually expanded its territorial control. Korea became a Japanese protectorate in 1905 and was formally annexed in 1910. Japan also increased its economic and political influence in Manchuria and other parts of China.

Japan's imperial expansion was motivated by several factors. Economic needs, military security, national pride, and the desire to compete with Western powers all contributed to its expansionist policies.

However, Japan's imperialism also created tensions with other countries. Its expansion in Asia led to conflicts with China, Russia, and later with Western powers. These conflicts eventually contributed to the outbreak of major wars in the twentieth century.

In conclusion, Japan emerged as an imperialist power through a combination of modernization, military strength, economic expansion, and strategic diplomacy. Its victories in major wars and acquisition of new territories established Japan as one of the leading powers in Asia and the world.

UNIT – 4

ONE MARK:

1. Which treaty established early diplomatic relations between Japan and Korea?

Ans: The Treaty of Kanghwa (1876).

2. In which year was the Treaty of Kanghwa signed?

Ans: 1876.

3. Which country forced Korea to sign the Treaty of Kanghwa?

Ans: Japan.

4. What was the main objective of Japan in Korea during the late 19th century?

Ans: To expand its political and economic influence in Korea.

5. Which war helped Japan gain influence in Korea?

Ans: The Sino–Japanese War (1894–95).

6. Which treaty ended the Sino–Japanese War?

Ans: The Treaty of Shimonoseki (1895).

7. Which country recognized Japan's dominance over Korea after the Russo–Japanese War?

Ans: Russia.

8. In which year did Korea become a Japanese protectorate?

Ans: 1905.

9. In which year did the First World War begin?

Ans: 1914.

10. Which side did Japan support in the First World War?

Ans: The Allied Powers.

11. Which German territories in China were captured by Japan during World War I?

Ans: Shandong (Shantung).

12. In which year did Japan present the Twenty-One Demands to China?

Ans: 1915.

13. What were the Twenty-One Demands?

Ans: A set of demands made by Japan to increase its political and economic control over China.

14. Which international conference was held to discuss naval disarmament and peace in the Pacific?

Ans: The Washington Conference (1921–22).

15. In which city was the Washington Conference held?

Ans: Washington D.C.

16. What was the main aim of the Washington Conference?

Ans: To limit naval armaments and maintain peace in the Pacific region.

17. In which year did the Manchurian Crisis begin?

Ans: 1931.

18. Which incident led to the Manchurian Crisis?

Ans: The Mukden Incident (1931).

19. Which puppet state was created by Japan in Manchuria?

Ans: Manchukuo.

20. Which international organization criticized Japan for the Manchurian invasion?

Ans: The League of Nations.

TWO MARK:

1. Write a short note on the Treaty of Kanhwa (1876).

Ans:

The Treaty of Kanhwa was signed between Japan and Korea in 1876. It forced Korea to open its ports to Japanese trade and declared Korea an independent state from China. This treaty increased Japan's political and economic influence in Korea and marked the beginning of Japanese expansion in East Asia.

2. Explain Japan's interest in Korea during the late 19th century.

Ans:

Japan considered Korea strategically important for its security and economic expansion. Korea was geographically close to Japan and could serve as a base for foreign powers. Therefore, Japan tried to control Korea politically and economically, which later led to conflicts with China and Russia.

3. Write a short note on Japan's control over Korea by 1905.

Ans:

After defeating Russia in the Russo-Japanese War (1904–05), Japan strengthened its influence in Korea. In 1905, through the Treaty of Portsmouth and subsequent agreements, Korea became a Japanese protectorate. Japan controlled Korea's foreign affairs and gradually established political authority over the country.

4. Discuss Japan's role in the First World War.

Ans:

Japan joined the First World War in 1914 on the side of the Allied Powers. Japan attacked German territories in China and the Pacific Ocean and captured them. By participating in the war, Japan expanded its influence in Asia and strengthened its position as a major power.

5. What were the Twenty-One Demands?

Ans:

The Twenty-One Demands were a set of demands made by Japan to China in 1915 during the First World War. These demands aimed to increase Japan's political and economic control over China, especially in Manchuria and Shandong, and to weaken China's sovereignty.

6. Why did Japan present the Twenty-One Demands to China?

Ans:

Japan presented the Twenty-One Demands in 1915 to expand its influence in China while European powers were busy in World War I. Japan wanted special economic privileges, control over strategic territories, and greater political influence in Chinese affairs.

7. Write a short note on the Washington Conference (1921–22).

Ans:

The Washington Conference was held in Washington D.C. from 1921 to 1922. It aimed to reduce naval armaments and maintain peace in the Pacific region. Major powers such as the USA, Britain, Japan, France, and Italy participated and signed agreements to limit naval strength.

8. What was the significance of the Washington Naval Treaty?

Ans:

The Washington Naval Treaty of 1922 limited the naval strength of major powers including the USA, Britain, and Japan. It established a ratio for battleships to prevent an arms race. The treaty aimed to maintain peace and stability in the Pacific region.

9. Explain Japan's position after the Washington Conference.

Ans:

After the Washington Conference, Japan agreed to limit its naval power according to the treaty ratio. Although Japan accepted the agreements, many Japanese nationalists felt that the country was treated unfairly compared to Western powers, which later increased militarism in Japan.

10. What was the Manchurian Crisis?

Ans:

The Manchurian Crisis began in 1931 when Japan invaded Manchuria in northeastern China. Japan claimed that Chinese forces attacked a Japanese railway near Mukden. Using this as an excuse, Japan occupied the region and established its control over Manchuria.

11. What was the Mukden Incident?

Ans:

The Mukden Incident occurred in September 1931 when a section of the Japanese railway in Manchuria was damaged. Japan blamed Chinese forces for the attack and used it as a reason to invade Manchuria and expand its military presence in the region.

12. What was Manchukuo?

Ans:

Manchukuo was a puppet state established by Japan in Manchuria in 1932. Japan placed the former Chinese emperor Puyi as the ruler. However, the real political and military control remained in the hands of the Japanese government and army.

13. How did the League of Nations react to the Manchurian Crisis?

Ans:

The League of Nations investigated the Manchurian Crisis through the Lytton Commission. The commission declared that Japan's actions were aggressive and illegal. However, the League failed to take strong action, which showed its weakness in maintaining international peace.

14. Why did Japan withdraw from the League of Nations?

Ans:

Japan withdrew from the League of Nations in 1933 after the organization criticized its invasion of Manchuria. Japan rejected the League's report and left the organization, showing its growing militarism and disregard for international cooperation.

15. Explain the importance of Korea in Japan's foreign policy.

Ans:

Korea was very important for Japan because of its strategic location and economic resources. Japan believed that controlling Korea would protect its national security and expand its power in East Asia. Therefore, Japan gradually increased its influence and finally dominated Korea.

16. What were the results of Japan's expansion in Manchuria?

Ans:

Japan's expansion in Manchuria strengthened its military power and access to natural resources. However, it also increased tensions with China and other countries. The crisis weakened international peace and contributed to the growing conflict that eventually led to World War II.

17. Why was the Washington Conference important for international relations?

Ans:

The Washington Conference was important because it was one of the first major international attempts to reduce armaments and maintain peace after World War I. It promoted cooperation among major powers and aimed to prevent future conflicts in the Pacific region.

18. How did Japan benefit from the First World War?

Ans:

Japan benefited from the First World War by capturing German territories in China and the Pacific. It also expanded its economic and political influence in Asia. The war helped Japan emerge as an important international power.

19. What was the significance of the Twenty-One Demands in Chinese history?

Ans:

The Twenty-One Demands increased Japanese influence in China and created strong opposition among the Chinese people. It led to the growth of Chinese nationalism and protests against foreign control. This event also damaged the relations between China and Japan.

20. Why is the Manchurian Crisis considered important in world history?

Ans:

The Manchurian Crisis is important because it exposed the weakness of the League of Nations and encouraged aggressive policies by militarist states. It increased tensions in East Asia and became one of the early steps leading toward the Second World War.

BROAD ANSWER:

1. Discuss Japan's relations with Korea from 1870 to 1905.

Answer:

Japan's relations with Korea between 1870 and 1905 played an important role in the expansion of Japanese power in East Asia. Korea was geographically very close to Japan and had long been influenced by China. However, after the Meiji Restoration of 1868, Japan began to modernize rapidly and aimed to expand its political and economic influence in neighboring regions. Korea became one of the most important areas for Japanese foreign policy.

The first major step in Japan's involvement in Korea was the **Treaty of Kanghwa in 1876**. Japan used military pressure to force Korea to sign this treaty. According to the treaty, Korea opened three ports to

Japanese trade and granted Japan special privileges. The treaty also declared Korea an independent country rather than a Chinese tributary state. This weakened China's traditional influence over Korea and strengthened Japan's position.

During the late nineteenth century, Korea became a center of rivalry among China, Japan, and Russia. China tried to maintain its traditional control, while Japan aimed to expand its influence. This conflict eventually led to the **Sino-Japanese War of 1894–95**. Japan defeated China in this war and forced China to sign the **Treaty of Shimonoseki in 1895**. Through this treaty, China recognized the independence of Korea, which allowed Japan to increase its control over the Korean government.

However, Japan's influence in Korea was soon challenged by Russia. Russia also wanted to expand its power in East Asia and saw Korea as strategically important. This rivalry between Russia and Japan led to the **Russo-Japanese War of 1904–05**. Japan achieved a surprising victory over Russia, which greatly increased its prestige in international politics.

After the war, the **Treaty of Portsmouth in 1905** confirmed Japan's dominant position in Korea. In the same year, Korea was forced to sign the **Protectorate Treaty of 1905**, which placed Korean foreign affairs under Japanese control. This treaty effectively made Korea a protectorate of Japan.

The period from 1870 to 1905 therefore marked the gradual expansion of Japanese influence in Korea. Through treaties, wars, and diplomatic pressure, Japan strengthened its political and economic control. Korea eventually lost its independence and later became formally annexed by Japan in 1910.

Thus, Japan's relations with Korea during this period were mainly driven by strategic interests, economic ambitions, and the desire to become a major imperial power in East Asia.

2. Discuss the role of Japan in the First World War and explain the Twenty-One Demands.

Answer:

The First World War (1914–1918) was a major international conflict that involved many countries of Europe and Asia. Japan played a limited but important role in this war. Although the main battles took place in Europe, Japan used the opportunity to expand its influence in East Asia and the Pacific region.

When the war began in 1914, Japan joined the war on the side of the **Allied Powers**, which included Britain, France, and Russia. Japan had earlier signed the **Anglo-Japanese Alliance in 1902**, which encouraged cooperation between Britain and Japan in maintaining peace in East Asia. Therefore, Japan declared war against Germany in August 1914.

Japan's main objective during the war was to capture German territories in Asia. At that time, Germany controlled several important territories, including the port of **Shandong (Shantung)** in China and various islands in the Pacific Ocean. Japanese forces quickly attacked and captured these territories with little resistance.

By capturing German possessions, Japan expanded its economic and strategic influence in the region. The war also strengthened Japan's position as a rising power in international politics.

One of the most controversial actions taken by Japan during the war was the presentation of the **Twenty-One Demands to China in 1915**. These demands were designed to increase Japan's political and economic control over China.

The Twenty-One Demands were divided into five groups. They included several important provisions such as recognition of Japanese control over former German territories in Shandong, extension of Japanese rights in Manchuria and Inner Mongolia, and special economic privileges for Japanese businesses in China. The final group

of demands was particularly controversial because it would have given Japan significant control over Chinese political and military affairs.

The Chinese government strongly opposed these demands, and there was widespread public protest in China. International criticism also forced Japan to withdraw the most extreme demands. However, China was eventually forced to accept many of the demands in May 1915.

The Twenty-One Demands greatly damaged relations between China and Japan and increased anti-Japanese feelings among the Chinese people. At the same time, the event demonstrated Japan's growing ambition to dominate East Asia.

In conclusion, Japan's role in the First World War helped it expand its influence in Asia. By capturing German territories and presenting the Twenty-One Demands, Japan strengthened its position as a major regional power, although these actions also created tension with neighboring countries.

3. Discuss the Washington Conference and its significance in international relations.

Answer:

The Washington Conference, held between **1921 and 1922**, was an important international meeting aimed at maintaining peace and stability after the First World War. The conference took place in Washington D.C. and was attended by major world powers including the United States, Britain, Japan, France, and Italy.

After the First World War, many countries were concerned about the rapid growth of naval armaments. There was a fear that competition in building warships could lead to another major conflict. The United States therefore invited several countries to discuss the problem and find a peaceful solution.

One of the most important agreements signed at the conference was the **Washington Naval Treaty**. This treaty limited the number and size of

battleships that each country could possess. The treaty established a ratio for naval strength among the major powers: the United States and Britain were allowed the largest naval forces, followed by Japan, France, and Italy.

Although Japan accepted these limitations, many Japanese leaders felt that the ratio was unfair because Japan was given a smaller share compared to the Western powers.

Another important agreement was the **Four-Power Treaty**, signed by the United States, Britain, Japan, and France. This treaty aimed to maintain peace in the Pacific region and required the countries to consult each other in case of disputes.

The conference also produced the **Nine-Power Treaty**, which emphasized respect for China's sovereignty and supported the policy of equal trading opportunities in China.

The Washington Conference was significant because it was one of the first major international efforts to promote disarmament and peaceful cooperation after the First World War. It temporarily reduced tensions among the major powers and prevented an immediate naval arms race.

However, the agreements also had limitations. Some countries were dissatisfied with the restrictions, and nationalist feelings continued to grow, especially in Japan.

Despite these challenges, the Washington Conference remains an important example of international diplomacy aimed at maintaining global peace.

4. Explain the causes and events of the Manchurian Crisis.

Answer:

The Manchurian Crisis of 1931 was a major turning point in the history of East Asia. It demonstrated the growing militarism of Japan and the weakness of international organizations such as the League of Nations.

Manchuria, located in northeastern China, was a region rich in natural resources such as coal, iron, and agricultural land. Japan had strong economic interests in this region, especially through the **South Manchurian Railway**, which was controlled by Japanese companies.

During the late 1920s and early 1930s, Japan faced economic difficulties caused by the global economic depression. Many Japanese military leaders believed that expanding into Manchuria would solve economic problems by providing resources and new markets.

The immediate cause of the crisis was the **Mukden Incident in September 1931**. A small explosion occurred on a railway line near Mukden (modern Shenyang), which was controlled by Japan. Japanese military authorities blamed Chinese forces for the attack, although historians believe the incident was planned by Japanese officers.

Using the incident as an excuse, the Japanese army quickly occupied large parts of Manchuria. Within a few months, Japan had taken complete control of the region.

In 1932, Japan established a new puppet state called **Manchukuo**. The former Chinese emperor **Puyi** was placed as the ruler, but real power remained in the hands of the Japanese military.

China appealed to the **League of Nations** for help. The League sent the **Lytton Commission** to investigate the situation. The commission concluded that Japan had acted aggressively and recommended that Manchuria should remain under Chinese sovereignty.

Japan rejected the League's report and withdrew from the organization in 1933. This event clearly showed the weakness of the League of Nations in preventing aggression.

The Manchurian Crisis increased tensions in East Asia and encouraged further expansionist policies by Japan. It is often considered one of the early steps that eventually led to the outbreak of the Second World War.

5. Examine the significance of the Manchurian Crisis in the history of international relations.

Answer:

The Manchurian Crisis of 1931 had a major impact on international relations during the interwar period. It demonstrated the growing power of aggressive nationalism and militarism in Japan and revealed the inability of international organizations to maintain peace.

One of the most important consequences of the crisis was the **weakening of the League of Nations**. The League had been created after the First World War to prevent future conflicts and maintain international peace. However, during the Manchurian Crisis, the League failed to take effective action against Japan.

Although the League condemned Japan's actions and recommended the return of Manchuria to China, it did not impose strong economic or military sanctions. As a result, Japan ignored the League's decisions and withdrew from the organization in 1933.

The crisis also encouraged aggressive policies by other countries. Seeing the weakness of the League, nations such as Germany and Italy became more confident in pursuing their expansionist ambitions. This contributed to the breakdown of the international system established after the First World War.

For Japan, the crisis strengthened the influence of the military in politics. Japanese military leaders believed that expansion was necessary for national survival and economic growth. As a result, Japan continued to pursue an aggressive foreign policy in Asia.

The crisis also increased hostility between China and Japan. Japanese control of Manchuria created deep resentment among the Chinese population and contributed to the outbreak of further conflicts between the two countries.

In a broader sense, the Manchurian Crisis marked the beginning of a period of increasing international instability during the 1930s. It demonstrated that collective security systems were ineffective when major powers refused to cooperate.

In conclusion, the Manchurian Crisis was a significant event in international history. It weakened the League of Nations, strengthened militarism in Japan, and contributed to the series of events that eventually led to the Second World War.



CAREER STUDY
The Learning App

UNIT – 5

ONE MARK:

1. What is meant by militarism?

Ans: Militarism is a political system where the **military has strong influence over government and national policies.**

2. In which decade did militarism rise strongly in Japan?

Ans: Militarism rose strongly in Japan during the **1930s.**

3. Name one major reason for the rise of militarism in Japan.

Ans: One major reason was the **economic crisis caused by the Great Depression.**

4. Which incident marked the beginning of the Second Sino–Japanese War?

Ans: The **Marco Polo Bridge Incident (1937).**

5. In which year did the Second Sino–Japanese War begin?

Ans: **1937.**

6. Which two countries fought in the Second Sino–Japanese War?

Ans: **China and Japan.**

7. Who was the leader of China during the Second Sino–Japanese War?

Ans: **Chiang Kai-shek.**

8. Which Chinese city witnessed a major massacre by Japanese forces in 1937?

Ans: Nanjing (Nanking).

9. What was the Nanjing Massacre?

Ans: It was the mass killing and violence committed by Japanese soldiers in Nanjing in 1937.

10. Which alliance did Japan join during the Second World War?

Ans: The Axis Powers.

11. Which countries were the main Axis Powers?

Ans: Germany, Italy, and Japan.

12. Which pact connected Japan with Germany and Italy in 1940?

Ans: The Tripartite Pact (1940).

13. Which event led the United States to enter the Second World War?

Ans: The Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor (1941).

14. When did Japan attack Pearl Harbor?

Ans: 7 December 1941.

15. Where is Pearl Harbor located?

Ans: Hawaii, United States.

16. Which country dropped atomic bombs on Japan in 1945?

Ans: The United States of America.

17. Which two Japanese cities were destroyed by atomic bombs?

Ans: Hiroshima and Nagasaki.

18. When was the atomic bomb dropped on Hiroshima?

Ans: 6 August 1945.

19. When did Japan officially surrender in the Second World War?

Ans: 2 September 1945.

20. Who was the emperor of Japan during the Second World War?

Ans: Emperor Hirohito.

TWO MARK:

1. What is meant by militarism in Japan?

Ans:

Militarism in Japan refers to the increasing influence of the military in the government and national policies during the 1930s. Military leaders believed that Japan should expand its territory through war to gain resources and strengthen national power. As a result, the army and navy gained strong control over Japanese politics.

2. Mention two causes of the rise of militarism in Japan.

Ans:

The rise of militarism in Japan was mainly caused by economic

problems and political instability. The Great Depression of 1929 created unemployment and poverty. Many people believed that territorial expansion would solve these problems. Weak civilian governments also allowed the military to gain more influence in national decision-making.

3. Write a short note on the Second Sino–Japanese War.

Ans:

The Second Sino–Japanese War began in 1937 between Japan and China after the Marco Polo Bridge Incident. Japan aimed to expand its control over Chinese territories. The war caused widespread destruction and heavy loss of life. It continued for several years and later became part of the broader Second World War.

4. What was the Marco Polo Bridge Incident?

Ans:

The Marco Polo Bridge Incident occurred in July 1937 near Beijing between Chinese and Japanese troops. A small conflict between the two armies quickly developed into a large war. This event marked the beginning of the Second Sino–Japanese War between China and Japan.

5. Write a short note on the Nanjing Massacre.

Ans:

The Nanjing Massacre took place in 1937 after Japanese forces captured the Chinese city of Nanjing. Japanese soldiers committed large-scale killings, destruction, and violence against civilians and prisoners of war. This event became one of the most tragic incidents of the Second Sino–Japanese War.

6. Why did Japan expand into China?

Ans:

Japan expanded into China mainly to obtain natural resources, markets, and strategic territories. Japan lacked many essential resources such as oil, coal, and iron. By controlling Chinese territories, Japan hoped to strengthen its economy and increase its influence in East Asia.

7. Write a short note on the Tripartite Pact.

Ans:

The Tripartite Pact was signed in 1940 between Germany, Italy, and Japan. Through this agreement, these three countries formed the Axis alliance during the Second World War. The pact aimed to support each other in military and political matters against the Allied Powers.

8. Why did Japan join the Second World War?

Ans:

Japan joined the Second World War to expand its empire and gain control over resources in Asia and the Pacific region. Increasing conflicts with Western powers, especially the United States, also pushed Japan toward war. Japanese leaders believed that military action was necessary for national security.

9. What was the importance of the attack on Pearl Harbor?

Ans:

The attack on Pearl Harbor took place on 7 December 1941 when Japanese forces attacked the American naval base in Hawaii. This attack destroyed several US warships and aircraft. It led the United States to officially enter the Second World War against Japan and the Axis Powers.

10. Write a short note on Japan's early success in World War II.

Ans:

During the early years of the Second World War, Japan achieved rapid military success. Japanese forces captured many territories including Hong Kong, Malaya, the Philippines, and Indonesia. These victories expanded Japan's empire and provided access to valuable natural resources in Southeast Asia.

11. Why did Japan want to control Southeast Asia?

Ans:

Japan wanted to control Southeast Asia because the region was rich in natural resources such as oil, rubber, and tin. These resources were essential for Japan's industries and military. Control over these territories would also strengthen Japan's economic and strategic position.

12. What difficulties did Japan face during the war?

Ans:

Japan faced several difficulties during the war, including strong resistance from Allied forces and shortages of resources. As the war continued, Japan's military strength weakened. Allied attacks on Japanese territories and industries also reduced Japan's ability to continue fighting.

13. Write a short note on the atomic bombing of Hiroshima.

Ans:

On 6 August 1945, the United States dropped the first atomic bomb on the Japanese city of Hiroshima. The explosion caused massive destruction and killed thousands of people instantly. The event shocked the world and greatly weakened Japan's ability to continue the war.

14. What happened in Nagasaki in 1945?

Ans:

On 9 August 1945, the United States dropped a second atomic bomb on the Japanese city of Nagasaki. Like Hiroshima, the bombing caused enormous destruction and loss of life. The bombing further forced Japan to consider surrendering in order to end the war.

15. When did Japan surrender in the Second World War?

Ans:

Japan officially surrendered on 2 September 1945. The surrender was signed aboard the American battleship USS Missouri. This event marked the end of the Second World War and the beginning of a new political and economic transformation in Japan.

16. How did the Second Sino–Japanese War affect China?

Ans:

The Second Sino–Japanese War caused huge destruction and suffering in China. Many cities were destroyed and millions of people lost their lives. The war also weakened China economically and politically but strengthened Chinese nationalism against foreign aggression.

17. Explain the role of Emperor Hirohito during World War II.

Ans:

Emperor Hirohito was the ruler of Japan during the Second World War. Although the military leaders controlled most political decisions, the emperor remained an important national symbol. In 1945, he played a key role in announcing Japan's decision to surrender and end the war.

18. What was the impact of the Second World War on Japan?

Ans:

The Second World War caused massive destruction in Japan. Many cities were destroyed and the economy collapsed. After the war, Japan came under Allied occupation and began major political and economic reforms, including the adoption of a new democratic constitution.

19. Why is the Second Sino–Japanese War important in world history?

Ans:

The Second Sino–Japanese War is important because it was one of the largest conflicts in Asia before World War II. It weakened China and increased tensions in the region. The war later merged into the global conflict of the Second World War.

20. What were the major consequences of Japan's defeat in World War II?

Ans:

Japan's defeat ended its imperial expansion and military rule. The country came under Allied occupation led by the United States. Japan adopted democratic reforms, reduced military power, and focused on economic development, which later helped it become a major economic power.

BROAD ANSWER:

1. Discuss the rise of militarism in Japan.

Answer:

The rise of militarism in Japan during the early twentieth century was an important development in the country's political history. Militarism refers to a political system in which the military gains strong influence

over government policies and national decisions. In Japan, the growth of militarism during the 1920s and 1930s led to aggressive expansionist policies and eventually contributed to the Second World War.

One of the main causes of militarism in Japan was the **economic crisis of the 1930s**. The global economic depression that began in 1929 greatly affected Japan's economy. Industries suffered losses, unemployment increased, and agricultural prices declined. Many people believed that territorial expansion could solve these economic problems by providing new markets and resources.

Another important factor was the **weakness of democratic institutions** in Japan. Although Japan had a constitutional government, political parties were often divided and unable to solve economic and social problems. As a result, many people began to lose confidence in civilian leaders and turned toward the military for strong leadership.

The Japanese military also believed strongly in the idea of **national expansion**. Military leaders argued that Japan needed more territory and resources to survive as a powerful nation. Since Japan lacked natural resources such as oil, iron, and coal, expansion into neighboring regions like Manchuria and China was seen as necessary.

The **Manchurian Crisis of 1931** played an important role in strengthening militarism. Japanese military officers occupied Manchuria without full approval from the government. Instead of punishing them, the government supported their actions. This increased the power and influence of the military in national politics.

Nationalist ideas and emperor worship also encouraged militarism. Many Japanese believed that their country had a special mission to lead Asia. Military leaders promoted the idea of building a **Greater East Asia Co-Prosperity Sphere**, which aimed to unite Asian countries under Japanese leadership.

During the 1930s, military leaders gradually took control of the government. Political opponents were suppressed, and the military gained authority over national policies. Japan began to follow an

aggressive foreign policy, leading to conflicts with China and Western powers.

In conclusion, the rise of militarism in Japan was caused by economic problems, weak political institutions, nationalist ideology, and the desire for expansion. Militarism eventually led Japan into major conflicts, including the Second Sino–Japanese War and the Second World War.

2. Discuss the causes and effects of the Second Sino–Japanese War (1937).

Answer:

The Second Sino–Japanese War, which began in 1937, was a major conflict between Japan and China. It was one of the most significant events in East Asian history and later became part of the broader Second World War. The war was caused by political tensions, territorial ambitions, and the expansionist policies of Japan.

One of the major causes of the war was Japan's desire to expand its influence in China. Japan lacked natural resources and believed that controlling Chinese territories would provide access to raw materials and markets. Japan had already occupied Manchuria in 1931 and established the puppet state of Manchukuo.

Another cause was the growing tension between Chinese and Japanese forces in northern China. Both countries wanted control over important strategic areas. The immediate cause of the war was the **Marco Polo Bridge Incident in July 1937**, when fighting broke out between Chinese and Japanese troops near Beijing. This conflict soon developed into a full-scale war.

Japan launched large military operations and quickly captured several important Chinese cities. One of the most tragic events of the war was the **Nanjing Massacre in 1937**, when Japanese soldiers killed

thousands of civilians and prisoners of war after capturing the city of Nanjing.

The war caused widespread destruction and suffering in China. Millions of people were killed, and many cities were destroyed. The Chinese government, led by **Chiang Kai-shek**, continued to resist Japanese forces despite heavy losses.

The conflict also had important international consequences. The war increased tensions in East Asia and attracted the attention of Western powers. It later merged with the global conflict of the Second World War when Japan fought against the Allied powers.

Another important effect of the war was the strengthening of Chinese nationalism. The Chinese people united against foreign aggression, which helped to shape the future political development of China.

In conclusion, the Second Sino-Japanese War was caused by Japan's expansionist ambitions and political tensions in East Asia. The war caused massive destruction, strengthened Chinese resistance, and became a major step toward the outbreak of the Second World War.

3. Explain the circumstances under which Japan joined the Second World War.

Answer:

Japan's entry into the Second World War was the result of several political, economic, and military developments. By the late 1930s, Japan had adopted an aggressive foreign policy and aimed to expand its influence across Asia and the Pacific region.

One important factor was Japan's ongoing war with China, which began in 1937. The war required large amounts of resources such as oil, iron, and rubber. However, Japan lacked many of these essential resources and depended on imports from other countries.

Western powers, especially the United States, were concerned about Japan's expansionist policies. In response to Japan's actions in China,

the United States imposed economic sanctions and trade restrictions. These sanctions limited Japan's access to important resources, especially oil.

Japan believed that these restrictions threatened its national security and economic survival. Japanese leaders concluded that the only solution was to expand further into Southeast Asia, where valuable resources were available.

Another important development was the signing of the **Tripartite Pact in 1940**, which created an alliance between Japan, Germany, and Italy. These countries formed the Axis Powers and agreed to support each other in their conflicts against the Allied powers.

Tensions between Japan and the United States continued to increase. Diplomatic negotiations failed to resolve the conflict. Japanese military leaders eventually decided to launch a surprise attack on the American naval base at **Pearl Harbor in Hawaii**.

On **7 December 1941**, Japanese aircraft attacked Pearl Harbor and destroyed several American warships and aircraft. This attack shocked the United States and led to its immediate entry into the Second World War.

In conclusion, Japan joined the Second World War because of its expansionist ambitions, economic difficulties, and conflicts with Western powers. The attack on Pearl Harbor marked the beginning of a major conflict between Japan and the Allied powers.

4. Discuss the role of Japan in the Second World War.

Answer:

Japan played a major role in the Second World War, especially in the Asia-Pacific region. After attacking Pearl Harbor in 1941, Japan expanded its military operations across East Asia and Southeast Asia. Its aim was to create a large empire and secure valuable resources for its economy and military.

In the early years of the war, Japan achieved several important victories. Japanese forces quickly captured territories such as Hong Kong, Malaya, Singapore, the Philippines, Indonesia, and Burma. These regions were rich in natural resources like oil, rubber, and minerals.

Japan justified its expansion through the idea of the **Greater East Asia Co-Prosperity Sphere**, which claimed to free Asian countries from Western colonial rule. However, in reality, Japan established strict control over these territories and often treated local populations harshly.

As the war continued, the situation began to change. Allied forces, led by the United States, launched powerful counterattacks against Japanese forces. Important battles such as the **Battle of Midway (1942)** weakened Japan's naval power.

The Allied strategy gradually pushed Japanese forces back across the Pacific islands. Heavy bombing raids also destroyed many Japanese cities and industries.

By 1945, Japan's military and economic strength had been severely weakened. The United States dropped atomic bombs on **Hiroshima on 6 August 1945** and **Nagasaki on 9 August 1945**. These attacks caused massive destruction and loss of life.

Soon after the bombings, Japan decided to surrender. On **2 September 1945**, Japan officially surrendered, bringing the Second World War to an end.

In conclusion, Japan played a central role in the Second World War in Asia. Although it initially achieved rapid military success, it eventually faced defeat due to the strong resistance of the Allied powers.

5. Discuss the consequences of Japan's defeat in the Second World War.

Answer:

Japan's defeat in the Second World War in 1945 had major political, economic, and social consequences. The war caused widespread destruction in Japan and forced the country to undergo significant reforms.

After Japan surrendered in September 1945, the country came under the occupation of Allied forces led by the **United States**. The occupation aimed to transform Japan into a peaceful and democratic nation.

One of the most important changes was the adoption of a **new constitution in 1947**. This constitution reduced the political power of the emperor and established a democratic system of government. It also included Article 9, which renounced war and limited Japan's military power.

Another major reform was the **demilitarization of Japan**. The Japanese armed forces were disbanded, and military leaders who had played important roles during the war were removed from power.

Economic reforms were also introduced. Large industrial companies were reorganized, and land reforms were implemented to improve the conditions of farmers. These reforms helped to reduce economic inequality and promote development.

Despite the destruction caused by the war, Japan gradually rebuilt its economy. With support from the United States and strong government policies, Japan experienced rapid economic growth during the post-war period.

The war also had important social consequences. Many Japanese cities had been destroyed by bombing, and millions of people had lost their homes. However, the country worked hard to rebuild its society and economy.

In conclusion, Japan's defeat in the Second World War marked the end of its imperial ambitions and militarist policies. Although the country faced severe challenges after the war, the reforms introduced during the

occupation helped Japan become a peaceful and economically powerful nation.



CAREER STUDY
The Learning App