

# Samurai WebQuest

*Adapted by Aura and Adrianna based on Bradley Penchey's original idea*



**Introduction**—Japan is filled with a rich and colorful history. One major aspect of this history is the Japanese warrior--the Samurai. For many years, law and order was maintained in Japan due to these brave and honorable military men.

You must search in the web to find the required information about the Japanese Samurai. Your group's mission is to create a video presentation that will educate your classmates on different aspects of the Samurai. In order to do this your group must work efficiently in order to accomplish all the requirements (See evaluation).

**The Task**— You will need to focus on three basic aspects and find the answers for the given questions.

## History

To see a historical context is important to understand the specific mission of samurais.

- ❖ Who are the Samurai and why did they come into existence in pre-industrialized Japan?
- ❖ What period in Japanese history did the Samurai emerge?
- ❖ What is a Shogun?
- ❖ When did the era of the Samurai end and why?

## Dress

For the Samurai, the clothes and armor they wore was very important. Some questions to consider when researching the dress of the traditional Samurai are:

- ❖ What did the Samurai wear in battle?
- ❖ Did styles change throughout time?
- ❖ What are the different parts of Samurai armor?
- ❖ What weapons did the Samurai wear?
- ❖ Did the Samurai dress for different occasions?

## ***Role of tradition and beliefs***

Tradition and honor played a major role in the life of a Samurai warrior. Explain 4 from the 7 items given below:

- ❖ The Samurai Creed
- ❖ The role religion played in the Samurai's life
- ❖ Tradition of the Samurai
- ❖ Feelings on death for the Samurai
- ❖ Honor of the Samurai
- ❖ Bushido
- ❖ 7 Principles of the Samurai

## ***The Process and Resources—***

Here we give the sites you will use for this project.

<b><i>History</i></b>	<a href="#"><u>Samurai Information</u></a> <a href="#"><u>Shogun</u></a> <a href="#"><u>Japanese Traditions</u></a> <a href="#"><u>Samurai--Wikipedia</u></a> <hr/>
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<b><i>Dress</i></b>	<a href="#">Samurai Clothing</a> <a href="#">Fire Dress of the Samurai</a> <a href="#">Defensive weapons of the Samurai</a> <a href="#">Pictures of Samurai Armor</a>
<b><i>Role of Tradition and Beliefs</i></b>	<a href="#">Japanese Culture</a> <a href="#">Japanese Traditions</a> <a href="#">Samurai--Wikipedia</a> <a href="#">Samurai Creed</a>

## ***Additional resources:***

The following are some resources that may help in your research for this assignment:

- ❖ [Religions of Japan](#)
- ❖ [Samurai Images](#)
- ❖ [National Geographic--The Samurai Way](#)
- ❖ [Origins of the Samurai](#)
- ❖ [The Samurai and Their Use of Bushido](#)

***Evaluation***—There are two things to be seen in this webquest:

1. The completeness, the extent, the quality of the answers given to the questions:

Item	Questions	Points
History	4	5
Dress	5	5
Role of traditions and beliefs	4	10
	Total	20

2. This webquest. Please let us know what you think about the sections of this webquest by writing down two things you liked and two you would change.

**Conclusion**—We hope that you have found this investigation as rewarding as we set out to make it. The Japanese culture is one of great interest and the Samurai is an important part of the study of this culture. Our hope is that this web quest has inspired you to further your research and to become comfortable using the internet to find out new information.

Now that you are an expert of the Samurai, you can go on to expand your knowledge of other aspects of Japanese society and history.