

## **Japanese Culture**

### **Comparing the Japanese educational system to the American**

Mr. Parish World Studies

#### **Lesson Summary**

Students will be practicing discovery of information using a KWL graphic organizer and Writing for Understanding by completing an editorial.

The goal of this lesson is to provide the frame work so students will have a basic understanding of the Japanese Educational System. Students will be able to compare the similarities and differences between the American and the Japanese systems. Students will be able to complete a graphic organizer detailing the differences between the systems. They will be able to write an editorial for the school newspaper to inform the student body about the Japanese educational system.

**Time** 3 class periods

#### **Pre-Assessment**

Oral questioning and KWL graphic organizer. Ask students about their typical day in and out of school. List on board. Then have students list what they believe as a typical day of a Japanese student. Fill in the KWL

*Scoring Guidelines - none*

#### **Post-Assessment**

Students will write an editorial for the school newspaper comparing the American and the Japanese educational systems. The Editorial will have an introduction, information of elementary education, junior high school, High school, juku (cram schools), and University. Then express their opinion on which system is best and why

*Scoring Guidelines - Editorial - Introduction 5 points, The following topics 10 points each; School calendar and curriculum, Teachers and instruction, Parental involvement, School uniforms, Kumi (homeroom), Clubs and extra curricular activities, Preparation for entrance exams, Entrance exams, University. (5 points for description of Japanese education and 5 points for the American system) Opinion piece is worth 25 points. Points are based on the WHY – the reasoning and substance of the opinion. Completed KWL will be a homework grade of 50 points. Oral daily questions to gage learning.*

#### **Instructional Procedures**

Pre-assessment instruction

Explain the assignment and post assessment scoring.

Project the website <http://www.k111.k12.il.us/king/japan1.htm> and review Mrs. Helen DeWitt's experience in Japanese schools. Fill in the KWL , what I want to know.

Students then will explore the following websites on their own and complete KWL and the provided study questions.

<http://www.indiana.edu/~japan/digest9.html>

<http://www.indiana.edu/~japan/digest5.html>

This will be followed by class discussion reviewing KWL and the study questions.

Students will now complete a graphic organizer, a comparison chart, of the two educational systems.

Review with the students the subjects to be included in the editorial (same as comparison chart).

Student now receive a handout with condensed, specific information on each topic. This is done to help those students that may have difficulty with reading comprehension. Students will add any information missed to comparison charts. Review with students how to write an editorial. Assignment - complete editorial.

### **Differentiated Instruction**

Reduce the number of topics, Reduce the number of sources...

### **Extension**

### **Homework Options**

Review the websites and complete the KWL , study questions, and comparison charts

### **Connections – Home, Interdisciplinary, Technology, Research**

### **Materials / Resources**

History Alive Communist China and Modern Japan Lesson 2.4

<http://www.indiana.edu/~japan/digest9.html>

<http://www.indiana.edu/~japan/digest5.html>

<http://japanese.about.com/library/weekly/aa062400.htm>

<http://www.k111.k12.il.us/king/japan1.htm>

Graphic organizers; KWL and Comparison Chart

Study questions

### **Key Vocabulary**

### **General Tips**

### **Attachments**