

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

## SOCIAL STUDIES

### OTHER NATIONS, OTHER CULTURES - JAPAN

**INSTRUCTIONS:** Read the information and study the map carefully below, then answer question (a). Use your background knowledge about JAPAN to answer questions (b), (c), (d), and (e).

#### CLIMATE

“Temperate monsoon” in central and southern parts: winters are dry and cool, and summers are hot and wet.

In the north, summers are cooler and winters are very cold. There is more rain in the south. Snow may fall anywhere in the winter

**Area** 378 000 square kilometers

**Population** 126.8 million

**Capital city** Tokyo

**Sports** karate, judo, sumo wrestling

**Industries** electronics, textiles, banking  
Electrical engineering  
heavy engineering  
(cars, ships)

**Companies** Hitachi, Nissan,  
Toshiba, Matsushita  
Sony, Honda,  
Toyota, NEC



(a) What is the name of the second largest island in Japan?

\_\_\_\_\_ [1]

(b) ‘Like The Bahamas, Japan celebrates many special days. One such day is Children’s Day.’ What is another name for the Children’s Day festival and when is it held? [2]

Event: \_\_\_\_\_ Date/Time \_\_\_\_\_

(c) In Japan, Iris leaves are placed in the bath water of little boys.

According to Japanese culture, this action is important because it gives them \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_. [2]

\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.

(d) ‘The Bahamas and Japan share many similarities.’

I. How are Japan and The Bahamas alike in their geographical makeup? [1]

- A. Volcanic islands
- B. Peninsulas
- C. Archipelagos
- D. Continents

(e) “In Japan, traditional New Year’s Day foods have special meanings.” Write the name of one food next to its correct meaning in the table below.

SPECIAL MEANING	FOOD ITEMS
_____ Brings happiness to you	<b>A.</b> rice cakes (mochi)
_____ Brings you good fortune	<b>B.</b> foods made from seaweed
_____ Drives away evil spirits	<b>C.</b> potatoes
_____ Gives you energy and power	<b>D.</b> iris leaves
	<b>E.</b> carp
	<b>F.</b> sweet rice