

Japan is poor in nature resources.
Japanese is somehow close to Korean.

Fame: population density is becoming too large, comes with disease, especially for urban area.

Food in Japanese changes a lot over past 30 years, and the consumption of foreign foods, bread for example, is largely increased.

Rice is still staple food in Japan.

Besides exporting a lot, Japan imports a lot of raw material from all over the world. Since the Buddhist prejudice against the taking of animal life, made the Japanese for most of their history nonmeat eaters. This is partly true.

Japanese food is relatively simple and fairly bland, this is also partial due to the limited resources and the closed country (relatively).

How you find your national identity?

- Geographically?
- Language? Some sort of collection or culture?
- Share experiences?
- Same ethnic groups and values?

Japan is an isolated country and was an almost homogenous country, but now they are having more and more immigrations.

Then, how do you find you are a part of a culture? Until what happens?

Until you face people that are racially different, not culture different. You would find the difference at first glance. That is, until the coming of European Japanese does not consider the unity of the nation, they started thinking why by that time.

European developed technology revolution during the warfare.

One final, vital fact about the geographic setting of the Japanese is their relative isolation.

Isolation has had a number of important by-products. It has made other people...look on the Japanese as being somehow different and has produced in the Japanese a strong sense of self-identity and also an almost painful self-consciousness in the presence of others.

Throughout history they have displayed almost a mania for distinguishing between foreign borrowings and elements regarded as native Japanese.

The civilization of any country is much more the product of external influences than native invention.

A myth has grown up that, unlike other peoples, the Japanese are mere mimics, incapable of invention themselves and unable to understand the inner essence of what they have borrowed.

In actuality, their isolation has probably forced them to invent a greater part of their culture and develop a more distinctive set of characteristics than almost any comparable until of people in the worlds.

What distinguishes them is not their imitations but rather their distinctiveness and their skill at learning and adapting while not losing their own cultural identity.

Why is the stereotype that Japan cannot innovate persist and why does it not apply to many other nations?

Japanese are actually quite good at culturally borrowing while maintaining a distinct culture of its own. When you think of Japan in as East Asian contest, it stands out quite well in comparison to European powers around the globe. While Japanese have maintained a strong distinction between cultural borrowing and its native culture, perhaps it has overstated the difference between that is native Japanese and what is foreign, i.e., Language, physical distinct.

What's the problem of selling Catholicism and guns to Japan for those Portuguese(1), and Dutch(2)?

The emperor is the son of god in traditional Japanese, which conflict with the native religious.

Dutch confine the religion a little bit.

Japan was forcibly opened by the united state, which is called Black ships. Unlike China, Japan becomes open and accepted inequality treaty.