

Undokai: Maru Batsu Quiz

The Japan Society (2020)

True or False Quiz - Sample Questions

Ask someone to be the Quiz Master and read some of the questions out loud. A circle (*maru* in Japanese) indicates the statement is true. A cross (*batsu* in Japanese) means the statement is false.

Geography

- The capital of Japan is Tokyo. **O/maru**
- There is an average of 57 earthquakes in a year in Japan. **X/batsu. There are over a 1000 every year.**
- Japan is smaller than the UK. **X/batsu. Japan is larger and has roughly double the UK population.**
- Japan has 4 seasons. **O/maru.**
- Japan is an archipelago that consists of around 5000 islands. **X/batsu. The Japanese archipelago consists of over 6800 islands.**
- Like the UK, Japan has long days in summer and shorter days in winter. **X/batsu. Japan is located closer to the equator and the hours of sunlight are similar in both winter and summer.**

Food

- Sushi is always made with raw fish and rice. **X/batsu. Sushi is often made with raw fish and vinegared rice, but can also be made with other seafood and vegetables instead of fish.**
- Instant noodles were invented in Japan. **O/maru.**
- Sushi is a traditional Japanese breakfast. **X/batsu. A traditional Japanese breakfast consists of cooked fish, rice, pickles, and miso soup.**
- Fruit is expensive and considered a luxury in Japan. **O/maru. Mangos, melons, and strawberries are some of the most expensive, with some very special varieties costing over £100 each.**
- The Japanese eat more fish than meat. **O/maru. As an island country it has plenty of easy access to fish and limited space for livestock (most of the land consists of housing and mountain/forests).**
- Japan is the largest producer of rice in the world. **X/batsu. It is not even in the top three.**

Culture

- Japanese people visit temples and shrines on New Year's Eve. **X/batsu. Many Japanese visit shrines or temples to pray on New Year's Day.**
- Four is an unlucky number in Japan. **O/maru. The word for 'four' can also be read as 'death' and is considered unlucky.**
- Only Japanese people are allowed to become Sumo wrestlers. **X/batsu. There are many professional sumo wrestlers who are not Japanese.**

- Japanese hot springs are called sentō. **X/batsu.** Japanese hot springs are called onsen. Sento are Japanese public bathhouse.
- Shinto is an ancient religion/faith in Japan. **O/maru.** Today, Shinto shrines, festivals and religious practices exist alongside Buddhist ones in Japan.

School Life

- In Japan, all students take a packed lunch to school. **X/batsu.** At primary and secondary school all students eat a school lunch.
- Japanese students have to clean their own classrooms. **O/maru.** Every day after lunch Japanese students take out cleaning equipment and clean the school.
- In a Japanese school, each class can have up to 40 students. **O/maru.**
- The Japanese school year starts in January. **X/batsu.** The school year starts in April in Japan.
- Japanese students change their shoes when they get to school. **O/maru.** Japanese students have a different pair of shoes to wear inside school.
- Japanese students never have homework. **X/batsu.** Japanese students have homework too!

Other

- Like England has a Queen, Japan has a King. **X/batsu.** Japan has an Emperor.
- The Japanese flag is blue and yellow. **X/batsu.** The flag is red and white
- The red circle in the Japanese flag represents the sun. **O/maru**
- Karate and Judo are both Japanese sports. **O/maru**
- The Japanese currency is called the Japanese dollar. **X/batsu.** The Japanese currency is called 'Yen'.