

Religion in Japan: Shrine and Temple Worksheet

I. Fill in the blanks using the words in the box.

kami	torii	Buddha
other countries	religion	otera



Shinto is Japan's own _____ . The symbol of Shinto is the _____ gate. Followers of Shinto believe in gods or spirits called _____ .

Buddhism was brought to Japan from _____ around 1500 years ago. Buddhist temples are called _____ . In temples, you can see statues of _____ .

II. Match the pictures to the descriptions.



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• On New Year's Eve it is rung 108 times



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• It is a place to wash one's hands and mouth before praying



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• It can be bought to tell you what kind of luck you will have



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• It separates the everyday world from the home of the gods



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• It is a wooden board used to write wishes on



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• It is a statue found in temples

III. Make an ema board!

Ema are wish or prayer boards. People write their wishes on ema and hang them up when they visit shrines. The wooden boards are then burned so that the prayers reach the gods. You are going to make an ema and write your own wish on it.



Write your wish below and have it checked before you write it on the back of your ema board:

Ema designs

Use the template below to sketch the design for your ema board. You can use any design you like. It can be related to your wish or a drawing of something lucky. Below are a few examples of traditional and lucky items in Japan.