

COURSE ESSAYS: CHOOSE YOUR TITLE FROM THIS LIST

1. What is the difference between advertising and propaganda? What are the similarities? Discuss and give examples from this course.
2. Japan had a positive image in the West in Meiji and early Taishō. By early Shōwa, Japan's image had become extremely negative, but by the 1990s, Japan's image was neither negative nor positive but simply boring. Discuss, and give examples.
3. After the defeat of 1945, Japan's image changed from The Menace to the Victim, the Phoenix and in the 1970s and 1980s, the Busy Bee. Which image do you think was the most accurate?
4. If you got a job creating propaganda for Japan today, what image would you try to create, and why?
5. Does Tora-san represent the real Japan? How is he a representative figure, and how is he not. Give examples.
6. Is Japan understood or misunderstood in the West? Discuss and give examples.
7. Compare Japan's modern image with the modern image of China. How are they different? How are they similar?
8. Are you (or your family) typically Japanese? (a) Define 'typically Japanese'. Then (b) Show how you/your family fit that image. Then (c) show how you/your family are different. Then (d) come to a conclusion.
9. The 60th anniversary of the end of the Pacific War fell in August 2005. In a survey of foreign press comment, to what extent do you feel Japan's reasons, first, for going to war in China in 1937, and, second, for going to war in the Pacific in 1941, are understood.
10. What images of Japan are present in The Simpsons episode "Thirty Minutes Over Tokyo" [Week 12]? Why do you think these images are entertaining to American audiences?

ESSAY NOTES

BASIC RULES

- 1 Length: 800 or more words in English.
 - 2 Essays must be typed using a pc (not *keitai*).
 - 3 Please check your spelling carefully.
 - 4 Write your name, student number, date, course name and essay title, at the top of the page.
 - 5 You can use illustrations, charts or photographs
 - 6 Essays must follow the model: 1 Introduction - 2 Thesis - 3 Antithesis - 4 Conclusion
 - 7 Deliver by July deadline [to be announced]
- ▶ **No essay or late essay = no grade on this course** ◀

ORGANISING YOUR IDEAS

Ideally, essays should follow the model: Introduction, Thesis, Antithesis, Conclusion.

INTRODUCTION: introduce the subject of the essay. Say why it is important, or why it is controversial, or why it is interesting.

THESIS Write what you believe is the true situation. Give your opinion and give facts and figures.

ANTITHESIS: Now write the opposing argument to yours. Give other opinions, and give some of their facts and figures if you want to.

CONCLUSION: Summarise the arguments supporting your opinion (in Thesis) and the arguments against your opinion (in Antithesis). Make your conclusion.

REFERENCES If you mention a book, or a source or a quotation or a table or a statistic, you must cite it: book title, year of publication, author etc. If you get information from my course material, you must say so. If you got information from the Internet, give the url and the name of the website.

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