

Theme	Renaissance Europe	Edo Japan	Meiji Japan	Aztec	Spanish
Importance of trade	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •source of wealth •allowed interaction with others 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •were isolated •did not want outside influence 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •wanted trade •used western products and ideas, improved upon them and created their own products 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •source of wealth •allowed interaction with other cultures 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •source of wealth •allowed interaction with other cultures
Hierarchal social classes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •all levels, from peasants to merchants, to nobility and royalty •was some opportunity to increase social status 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •structured, from the eta and the hinin, to the samurai and political leaders •class was based on heredity, so there was little opportunity to increase social status 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •structured, as in Edo Japan •individuals could change classes with the end of the rigid feudal system 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •all levels of classes, from farmers to religious leaders •not much opportunity to increase social status 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •structured, from peasants to conquistadors to royalty •not much opportunity to increase social status
Religion and spirituality	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Roman Catholic faith •everyone should be converted 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •did not want the influence of Christianity by missionaries •wanted the daimyo to view the shogun as the ultimate authority, not a spiritual leader 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •wanted to have one common religion - Shintoism •wanted people to discard Buddhism and Confucianism 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •based on many gods that represented different aspects of life •they lived to please the gods 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •one god •everyone should be converted to Catholicism
Reactions when challenged with new ideas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •open to new ideas and new ways of thinking •used new ideas to improve life 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •did not want outside influences and new ideas •resisted change 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •knew that new ideas were necessary •worked to change culture to enable society to embrace new ideas 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •tried to defend themselves against the Spanish •adapted and tried to maintain their culture when they were defeated 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •wanted their ideas to be the influence on the cultures they met •encouraged change and new ideas - part of the Renaissance

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Exploration and expansion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •wanted to explore and gain new ideas •wanted to expand their empire 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •wanted to stay isolated •did not try and expand their territory 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •knew it was necessary to expand new ideas •did not try and expand their territory 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •wanted to expand their empire - conquered other societies •more expansion created more wealth and power 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •wanted to expand their empire - conquered other societies and expanded their territory •more expansion created more wealth and power