

Japanese Shinto Shrine (神社)

The Introduction of the Japanese Shinto Shrine (神社の紹介) [10min.]

(Showing some pictures of and in a Shinto Shrine)

Ask the students, “What do you know about Japanese Shintoism and Shinto shrines?”

Ask some questions about the pictures, “What is it?” and “How do Japanese use this?”

(写真を見せながら、写真は何かを考えさせ、質問する。)

Explanations of the pictures (写真の内容説明)

Torii (Shinto shrine archway , the entrance)

Cho-zuya (The place for purifying hands and mouths before going into the shrine)

Saisenbako (Offertory box)

Omikuji Box (The box for drawing a fortune slip)

Haiden (Prayer room)

Chu-den (The room for the priest to serve the Gods)

Honden (The place where the Gods are enshrined)

Tourou (garden lantern)

O-takara-zuka (A kind of garden, Treasures are said to have been buried)

Ema (Votive picture tablets of animals)

Taiko (Drum)

Chou-chin (Lantern)

Show the pictures (A) and see the guidelines for teachers

(A)の写真を見せ、教師用ガイドラインに沿って説明する。

Show the pictures (B) and see the guidelines for teachers

(A) の () 内に(B)の名前と説明を入れさせ、教師用ガイドラインに沿って説明する。

The explanations about Sintoism and Shrine (神道、神社の説明) [10 min.]

About Shinto (神道について)

Shinto is the Japanese religion from ancient times, centering on the ideas of Japanese intimacy with nature and ancestor worship. Unlike Christianity or Buddhism, all things on earth were brought forth and ruled over by the gods who reside throughout all nature. So even mountains and trees often become objects of worship. The belief of Shintoism is similar to that of native Americans who believe in animism. That is one of the reasons why most Japanese believe in both Shintoism and Buddhism. Nowadays, Shintoism is more of a way of life than an actual religion. We can see it in Japanese culture easily, although most Japanese don't pray to Shinto Gods.

About Shinto-shrine (神社について)

Shrines are buildings dedicated to the Gods of Japanese-Shintoism, one of the religions in Japan. There are more than 80,000 shrines in Japan. People visit shrines on occasions such as New Year's day and the birth of a child. Many festivals are held within the shrine each season. Why don't you drop in at a shrine when you visit Japan?!

Question and Answer format – Open -Free (質疑応答) [10 min.]

Purpose: To exchange ideas between American students and a Japanese teacher. [10 min.]

During this part, Make the students compare western-cultures and eastern-cultures.

“What about Japanese culture interests you?” “”

Make the students aware of how Japanese culture takes over Chinese one.

e.g. a roof of tile (Influence of Chinese culture on Japanese culture).

Japanese Shinto Shrine (神社)

What you need to know about Japanese Shintoism
(A)

What is this? Choose the correct names and explanations from the part (B).

(Name / Explanation)



1(/)



2(/)



3(/)



4(/)



5(/)



6(/)



7(/)



8(/)



9(/)



10(/)



11(/)



12(/)

[A full view of a Shinto Shrine]



Created by: Takahiro Sakakida, Japanese Teacher Delegation – Ohio Group 2005

Japanese Shinto Shrine (神社)

(B)

[Name]	[Explanation]
a Torii	(1) The place for purifying hands and mouths before going into the shrine
b Hondesen	(2) The place where the Gods are enshrined
c Otakarazuka	(3) A garden area where treasures used to be buried
d Chu-den	(4) Offertory box
e Tourou	(5) Drum
f Taiko	(6) Garden lantern
g Haiden	(7) The box for drawing a fortune slip
h Omikuji-bako	(8) Prayer room
i Ema	(9) Lantern
j Saisen-bako	(10) The room for the priest to serve the Gods
k Chou-chin	(11) Shinto shrine archway , The entrance
l Cho-zuya	(12) Votive picture tablets of animals

(C)

The explanations about Sintoism and Shrine

Explain what they mean to Japanese.

About Shinto

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(D) Your impressions after finishing this lesson.

Japanese Shinto Shrine (神社)

Our Lesson Plan ② (How to Go Forward with our class) [25 min.]

Takahiro Sakakida

The Introduction of the Twelve Zodiac signs [5 min.] (干支の紹介)

<Examples of the pictures>

[Animals' Name]

(Chinese Character)	(Japanese)	(English)
龍	Ryu-u	Dragon
兎	Usagi	Rabbit
牛	Ushi	Ox
虎	Tora	Tiger
猪	Inoshishi	Boar (Wild boar)



Showing the picture, ask some questions, "What's this?"

Introduce the rest of animals, Snake, Horse, Sheep, Chicken, Monkey, Mouse, Dog

蛇 馬 羊 鶏 猿 鼠 犬

The Explanation of the Twelve Zodiac Signs [10 min.] (干支の説明)

The explanation of the twelve zodiac signs

The twelve zodiac signs were created in ancient China. They are called Ju-nishi in Japanese, and we use them to express years and directions. For example, we can say, "I was born in the year of the dog.", expressing one's age and we use New Year's Cards which the animal expressing that year is drawn on. We count the year on the duodecimal scale and the order of the animals are decided. Based on this order, Mouse comes first, ox comes next, and tiger, rabbit, dragon, horse, sheep, monkey, chicken, and dog come by turns each year. And boar comes the last. This year, 2005 is the year of the chicken. What is your animal when you were born? Why don't you figure up?!

The explanation about ancient Chinese myth concerning with the twelve zodiac signs [10 min.]

(干支に関する童話の紹介)

Here is an interesting fairy tale concerning with the twelve zodiac signs. Let's me introduce the outline about this story to you.

A long time ago, It took place in a country named China. The Emperor of China decided to give each year the name of an animals. He ordered the wise wizard to choose twelve animals. Then the wizard called animals to gather in the Emperor's palace. Twelve animals came up to the palace. At that time, the cat could not come because he overslept. He also wanted to join them, but the wizard didn't the cat to join them. After that The wizard held a race to decide the order of the names. Finally, the mouse won the race. And ox , tiger, rabbit, dragon, horse, sheep, monkey, chicken, dog, and boar came by turns. That was how the order of the animals was decided. There is one more thing that I have to talk to you. Do you know the reason why the cat usually chase the mouse? It is because the cat hasn't forgotten that

Japanese Shinto Shrine (神社)

old occurrence and he has had a grudge against the mouse who won the race!

By the way, this year, 2005 is the year of the chicken. What is your zodiac sign?

What you need to know about Japanese Shintoism

The Introduction of Japanese Shintoism and Shrine



1 Torii



2 Cho-zuya



3 Omikuji-bako



4 Saisen-bako



5 Hai-den



6 Chu-den



7 Hon-den



8 Tourou



9 Taiko



10 Otakarazuka



11 A Shinto priest



12 A household Shinto Shelf

[A full
Shinto



view of a
Shrine]

Japanese Shinto Shrine (神社)

Explanations of the pictures

- 1 Shinto shrine archway , The entrance
- 2 The place for purifying hands and mouths before going into the shrine
- 3 The box for drawing a fortune slip
- 4 Offertory box
- 5 Prayer room
- 6 The room for the priest to serve the Gods
- 7 The place where the Gods are enshrined
- 8 Garden lantern
- 9 Drum, It is used both at the beginning and the ending of the festivals
- 10 A garden area where treasures used to be buried
- 11 A Shinto priest, wearing Kimono and administering a festival
- 12 A household Shinto Shelf

The explanations about Sintoism and Shrine

About Shinto

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If you want to learn more about Shinto, why don't you check out [<http://jinja.jp/english/index.html>]

Your impressions after finishing this lesson

Japanese Shinto Shrine (神社)

>Is Shinto related to Buddhism in any way? How?

>How has it changed over the years?

>How popular is Shinto in Japan?

>Does the Shinto religion observe any special holidays?

>Are there any major Dieties?

>Histotical/Background info on Shintoism

>Names of famous people or historical figures who were shintos

>The shinto perspective on America's religions and culture

>Any commandments/ pillars/rules?

>Is Shinto related to any martial arts?

>Any dances specific to the Shinto Religion?

>What if any are the symbols of Shinto?

>What are the proper ettiquetes associated with the religion?

>Proper ways to act and dress in public?

Japanese Shinto Shrine (神社)

My Lesson Plan ① (How to Go Forward with my class)

Takahiro Sakakida

[25 to 30 min.]

The Introduction of the Japanese Shinto Shrine (神社の紹介) [10 min.]

To make the students guess what the pictures are. 生徒に写真は何か考えさせる)

To explain what pictures are in each picture. (写真の内容を説明する。)

[Examples of the pictures] (写真の内容)

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The explanations about Shintoism and Shrine (神道、神社についての説明) [10 min.]

To explain what they mean to Japanese people.

See the guidelines for teachers

教師用ガイドラインに沿って、神道、神社について説明する。

Question and Answer format – Open -Free (質疑応答) [10 min.]

To exchange the ideas between American students and a Japanese teacher. 生徒と意見交換をする。

Japanese Shinto Shrine (神社)

During this part,

Make the students compare western-cultures and eastern-cultures.

Make the students aware of how Japanese culture is greatly influenced by Chinese culture.