

Handout T1: Answer Key

Image Title	What Do I Observe in This Image?	How Do These Observations Help Me Understand the Tokugawa Period?
<i>Nihonbashi</i>	<i>rooftops, bridge, various carrying baskets, procession moving over bridge; fish vendors walking in foreground</i>	<i>Students may report that Hiroshige’s prints reveal a period during which travel—by boat and foot—was happening with regularity; the prints reveal city dwellers engaged in peaceful and pleasurable pursuits: watching fireworks, shopping, having conversation in wide boulevards; commercial activity (buying and selling of goods) seems to be widespread in city and country. Students may report that the Tokugawa period revealed in these prints was a peaceful and prosperous time.</i>
<i>Shinagawa</i>	<i>ships in bay; buildings; boxes strapped to backs of people; procession walking through village; women in tea stalls watching procession</i>	
<i>Goyu</i>	<i>inns; restaurants; comic scene: women struggling to pull customer into teahouse</i>	
<i>Okazaki</i>	<i>wooden bridge spanning river; castle in distance; baskets and bundles for carrying items; walking in formation across bridge</i>	
<i>Seki</i>	<i>low building with fabric covering; poles; lanterns; saw horses; saying goodbye; preparing for the journey ahead</i>	
<i>Clearing Weather after Snow at Nihon Bridge</i>	<i>bridges, warehouses, castle, fish market buildings, boats; fishing; rowing boats; crossing bridge; carrying items to market</i>	
<i>Surugachō</i>	<i>large structures: department store buildings; wide street; walking in street; shopping; carrying goods</i>	

<i>The River Bank by Ryōgoku Bridge</i>	<i>bridge; market stalls; sail boats; fishing boats; crossing bridge; rowing boats; shopping in market stalls</i>
<i>Fireworks at Ryōgoku</i>	<i>row boats and pleasure boats; bridge; fireworks; watching fireworks from boats and bridge</i>

Handouts T2 through T4: Answer Key to Questions for Discussion

Handout T2:

1. How did the demands of travel impoverish the *daimyō*?
The Tokugawa government required that daimyō travel to and from Edo every other year to pay tribute to the shogun. Daimyō traveled with large groups of attendants, staying in inns along the way. This lavish travel was expensive. In addition, daimyō maintained homes in the capital and in their domains.
2. Why were common people also traveling more during this period?
Workers were needed in Edo to provide services to the daimyō and their attendants, so builders, craftspeople, and others traveled to the capital from the countryside to provide labor. Also, the development of a system of roads allowed common people to visit shrines and other religious sites in other parts of Japan.
3. How did travel during the Tokugawa period contribute to economic and social change in Japan? Think about the development of a sense of shared culture as you answer the question.
Travel, by commoners and elites alike, helped link Japan in ways that had not previously existed there. Travelers brought news, art, information, and souvenirs from the capital city to the countryside, spreading a sense of common culture throughout Japan. In addition, travel helped commerce develop in villages along the main highways, linking towns with cities through market activity.

Handout T3:

1. Who might have purchased woodblock prints during this period? For what purpose?
Members of all social classes purchased these inexpensive artworks. Woodblock prints served as advertisements as well as souvenirs of Japanese urban life.
2. How did woodblock prints help link the city and countryside during the Tokugawa period?
Purchased by visitors to Edo and other cities, woodblock prints traveled home with travelers as souvenirs of city life. Woodblock prints conveyed to a rural as well as an urban audience the vibrant social scene of the big cities. In addition, they built markets for goods and services available in the city and vice versa.

Handout T4:

1. How did life change for samurai during the Tokugawa period?
While officially of high status, samurai became increasingly poor during the Tokugawa period. Rather than serving their lords as warriors, samurai shifted to bureaucratic positions in Japan's urban centers. Because they were paid in fixed amounts of rice, samurai had to exchange their rice for money with the merchant class. They eventually became indebted to the merchants.
2. To which social class in Tokugawa society would you prefer to belong? Why?

Student answers may vary, but many will report preferring to be members of the increasingly powerful and wealthy merchant class, because they seem to be having the most fun during this period, with the most money to enjoy life and the pleasures of urban society.