



Government of **Western Australia**
School Curriculum and Standards Authority



MODERN HISTORY

GENERAL COURSE

Externally set task Source Booklet

The Meiji Restoration 1853–1911

Sample 2016

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Modern History

Externally set task Source Booklet

The Meiji Restoration 1853–1911

SOURCE 1

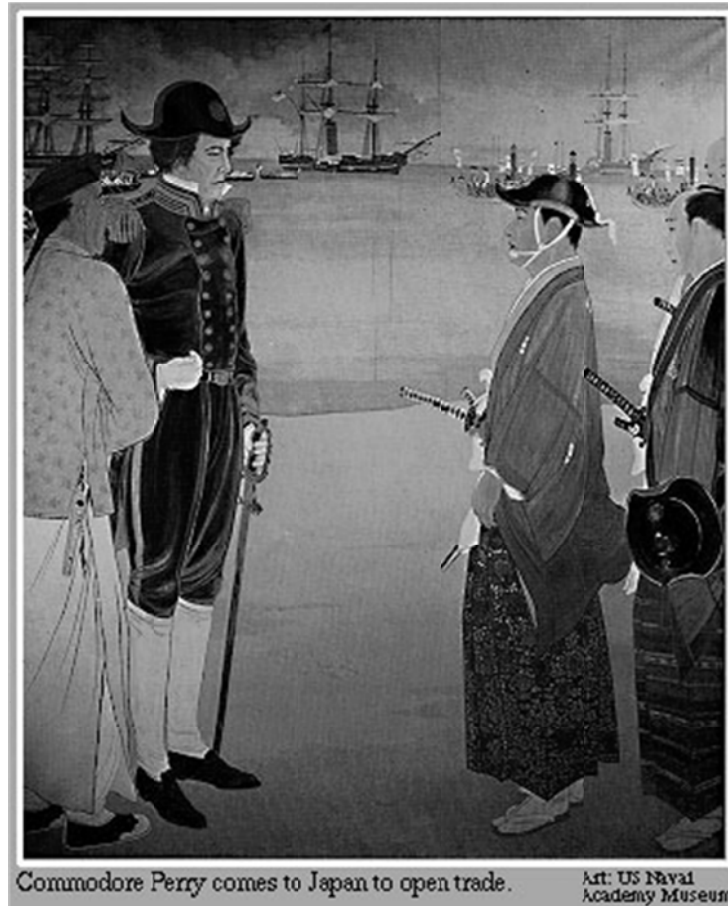
(The recollections of a Japanese historian who worked at the Shogun's castle in Edo in 1853 at the time of Commodore Matthew Perry's arrival.)

Fresh messages arrived one after the other, and the Shogun on receiving them was exceedingly troubled, and summoned all officials to a council ... At first the affair seemed so sudden, so formidable¹, and so important that they were too alarmed to open their mouths, but in the end orders were issued to the great clans to keep a strict watch and ward on the seashore ... as it was possible that these barbarian vessels ... might proceed to acts of violence ... The city of Edo and the surrounding villages were in great tumult;² in anticipation of the war that seemed imminent,³ the people carried their valuables and furniture in all directions to conceal them in the house of some friend living farther off.

1. formidable impressive, powerful or difficult
2. tumult a state of confusion, change or uncertainty
3. imminent coming or likely to happen very soon

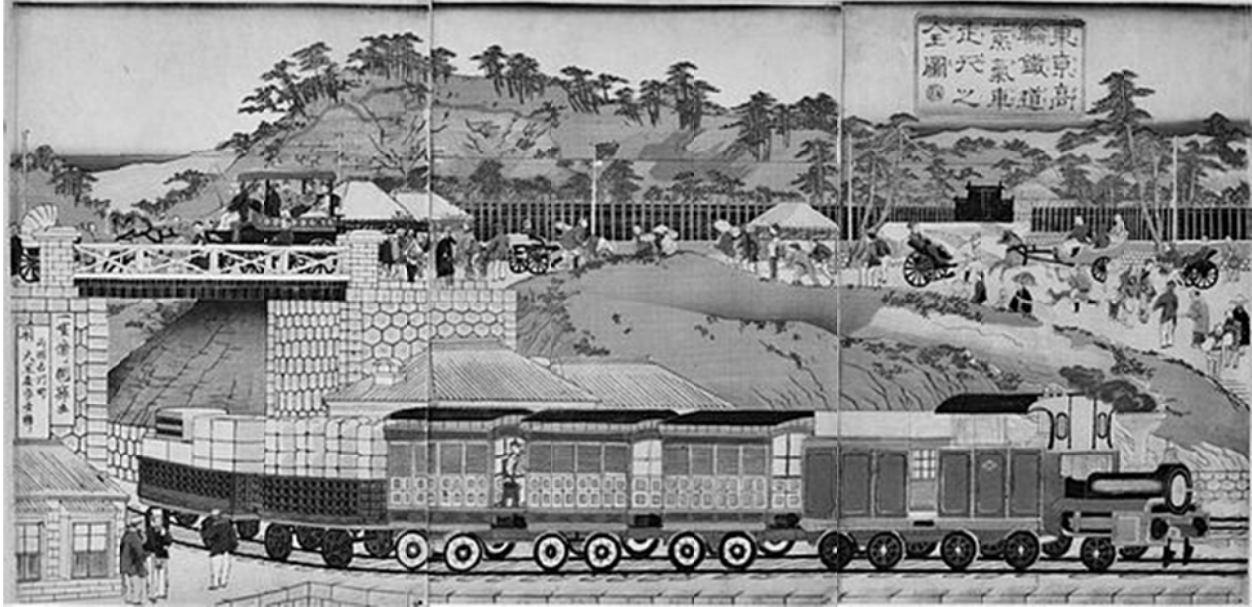
SOURCE 2

(Commodore Perry meets with Japanese officials. This is a woodcut from the time.)



SOURCE 3

(View of the Steam Engine at Tanakawa, Tokyo, Ichiyusei Kuniteru II (ja), 1870.)

**SOURCE 4**

(Basil Hall Chamberlain was a professor of Japanese at Tokyo Imperial University and one of the foremost British, active in Japan during the late 19th century.)

Industrialism has leapt into existence in this land which, only thirty years ago, was divided between an exclusive aristocracy and a humble peasantry, both extremely simple in their tastes. Now almost every town has its sheaf of smoke-stacks, fifteen hundred breaking the skyline in Osaka alone... Already the cotton mills threaten formidable rivalry to Lancashire. Not a month passes without seeing new manufactories of cement, carpets, soap, glass, umbrellas, hats, matches, watches, bicycles, smelting works, electrical works, steel foundries, machine shops of every sort.

Formerly, the Nakasendo was an old-world trail among the mountains, the last time we travelled along the new finely-graded carriage road, we were wakened every morning by the scream of the factory whistle... troops of girls coming in at five every morning and working straight on till eight at night – fifteen hours at a stretch!

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

- Source 1** *Japan 1853–1864, or Genji Yume Monogatari* (Vol. 1; 1853). (E.M. Satow, Trans.). (1905). Tokyo: [s.n.], p. 2. Retrieved December, 2013, from <https://archive.org/stream/japanorgenjiyum00satogoog#page/n0/mode/2up>
- Source 2** [Commodore Perry comes to Japan to open trade] [Image] (n.d.). Retrieved December, 2013, from <http://bookseller-association.blogspot.com.au/2010/04/are-black-ships-entering-japan.html>
From collection of U.S. Naval Academy Museum
- Source 3** Kuniteru, U. (1870). *Tokyo Takanawa totsudo jokisha sagyo no zenzu* [View of the Steam Engine at Tanakawa, Tokyo] [Image]. Retrieved December, 2013, from [http://en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Ichiyusei_Kuniteru_II_\(1870\)_Tokyo_Takanawa_totsudo_jokisha_sagyo_no_zenzu.jpg](http://en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Ichiyusei_Kuniteru_II_(1870)_Tokyo_Takanawa_totsudo_jokisha_sagyo_no_zenzu.jpg)
- Source 4** Chamberlain, B.H. (1995). Things Japanese. In S. Fewster & T. Gorton, *Japan: From shogun to superstate*. South Yarra, Vic.: Taylor & Francis, p. 38. (Original work published 1898)