**Japanese Society Reading Questions**

Read the web page below and answer the following questions:

[How was feudal Japanese society structured? - History Skills](https://www.historyskills.com/classroom/modern-history/mod-japanese-society-reading/)

1. During which centuries did the feudal Japanese society exist?
2. How many broad classes of people existed in feudal Japanese society?
3. What is the initial association most people have with the word 'samurai'?
4. Could someone choose to become a samurai as a career?
5. Were women and children part of the samurai class?
6. Approximately what percentage of Japanese society were samurai?
7. What was expected of people when they encountered a samurai in the street?
8. Who were the samurai loyal to?
9. Who did the daimyo swear loyalty to?
10. Which class made up most of Japanese society?
11. Why were craftsmen looked down upon in feudal Japanese society?
12. Where did the merchants stand in the social hierarchy?
13. Why were merchants considered no better than 'parasites'?
14. Who had more power, the shogun or the emperor?
15. How were Buddhist and Shinto priests positioned in the social hierarchy?
16. Who were the "burakumin"?
17. Why were certain people considered 'unclean'?
18. List some careers that were considered 'unclean'.

**Paragraph Writing**

Based upon what you learnt in your reading, answer the following question in paragraph format (Topic Sentence, Explanation, Evidence, Concluding Sentence):

*What were the four different classes of Japanese society and who was in each one?*