



# The Japanese samurai

Bushido taught self-discipline. **Samurai** were expected to endure (1) \_\_\_\_\_, pain, and sacrifice. A **sense of pride** was important. Samurai believed they had **to save face**, or (2) \_\_\_\_\_ their honor. **As a result**, they took offense at the smallest **insult**. A samurai who felt greatly shamed **saved face by committing hara kiri**. This was the **ritual act** of taking one's own life.

Samurai were (3) \_\_\_\_\_ in battle. They thought it **was an honor** to die on the battlefield. They *compared* dying in battle **to cherry blossoms falling off a tree**.

A samurai **dressed for battle** was a (4) \_\_\_\_\_ *work of art*. Sword and scabbard, or sword holder, were **finely crafted**. Armor was **light and flexible**, made of hundreds of tiny **leather squares**. The squares were **lacquered** to steel (5) \_\_\_\_\_ and **woven into armor** with silver **thread**.

Samurai were as well (6) \_\_\_\_\_ in the **polite arts** as they were **in battle**. They trained themselves **to perform** the ritual tea ceremony and to write **poetry**. The samurai also (7) \_\_\_\_\_ the delicate **art of calligraphy**.

In Europe **the nobles** and their traditions were pushed aside **to make way for** modern ways. This was not the **case** in Japan. The samurai (8) \_\_\_\_\_ in *clan* and family **loyalty** and in ritual and conduct **remained** and **was carried over to** business (9) \_\_\_\_\_ and **dealings**. Samurai families came **to play** an important **role in** helping Japan become a modern **industrial state**.

