

NORTH STAR 3e Level 5

Name _____

Video Activity Worksheet Unit 5: Cross-Cultural Insights *Japanese Gardens*

Comprehension

Predict

This video is about the key elements of Japanese garden design. Before you watch the video, answer the following question.

What is one of the differences between a Japanese garden and a Western garden?

Focus

Watch the video. Find the answer to the following question.

Why are there lanterns in Japanese gardens?

Comprehension A

Check (✓) the ideas can you infer from the video.

- Asymmetry is more natural than symmetry.
- Western garden design favors austerity.
- Japanese gardens must have a pond.
- The elements of Japanese gardens are consciously positioned.
- A spectator should know the symbolism of elements in order to appreciate the garden.

Comprehension B

Match the garden element with what it symbolizes.

- | | |
|----------------|----------------------------|
| evergreen tree | mountains or islands |
| pond | the life cycle |
| carp | eternity |
| waterfall | longevity and good fortune |
| rocks | the sea, lake, or river |
| raked sand | the movement of water |



Speaking

Choose one of the topics. Record and submit a one-to-two-minute response.

- What is the most interesting thing you learned about Japanese garden design?
- Do you find Japanese garden design appealing? Why or why not?
- Does understanding symbolism in the garden affect the way you feel about it? What about with painting? A story?

Writing

A place has special meaning when its elements or objects represent something important to us. For example, most people have objects in their home that remind them of a time, a person, or a place as well as things that help them to feel a certain way: cheerful, relaxed, spiritual, etc. Write about a place inside or outside that has meaning for you. How do you feel when you are there? Describe the elements or objects in the place and what they represent for you.

