

<http://visualizingcultures.mit.edu>: *Yokohama Boomtown*, Lesson 03

Yokohama, Crossroads of Culture: A Look at Cultural Transmission

Teacher Background Notes, page one of two

Focus Question:

Yokohama provided a geographic crossroads of culture. Within this treaty-port city, Japanese, Americans, British, French, Dutch, Russians, and Prussians (Germans) learned about each other by working together, buying and selling goods, and just observing. What aspects of cultural transmission were captured and conveyed by the Japanese woodblock prints of the time and how was cultural transmission important in the developing relationship between Japan and Western nations?

Woodblocks that may be assigned to groups:

The following woodblock prints from the Image Gallery may be provided to student groups to facilitate their analysis of cultural transmission for Handout 03-A. Images may be accessed by searching for image numbers.

Technology and transportation

- Y0064 Picture of Western Traders at Yokohama Transporting Merchandise
- Y0072 New Invention: Picture of the Interior of a German Battleship
- Y0156 Picture of Great Military Exercises
- Y0181 Picture of the Steam Train
- Y0182 Picture of a Steam Locomotive

Industry and commerce

- Y0064 Picture of Western Traders at Yokohama Transporting Merchandise
- Y0086 Picture of a Salesroom in a Foreign Mercantile Firm
- Y0090 Picture of the Prosperity of Mercantile Establishments
- Y0141 Picture of a Mercantile Establishment in Yokohama
- Y0181 Picture of the Steam Train
- Y0182 Picture of a Steam Locomotive

Dress

- Y0094 Picture of a Parade of Foreigners
- Y0112 An Illustrated English Vocabulary for Children
- Y0132 Picture of a Sunday in Yokohama
- Y0136 Foreigners Sightseeing at the Famous Sites of Edo
- Y0141 Picture of a Mercantile Establishment in Yokohama

Manners and customs

- Y0094 Picture of a Parade of Foreigners
- Y0099 Picture of a Foreign Residence in Yokohama
- Y0132 Picture of a Sunday in Yokohama
- Y0135 Foreigners Visiting the Famous Sites of Mount Gongen in Kanagawa
- Y0139 Picture of People of the Five Nations: A Sunday
- Y0141 Picture of a Mercantile Establishment in Yokohama
- Y0145 American Drinking and Carousing

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Everyday goods, materials, and food

- Y0099 Picture of a Foreign Residence in Yokohama
- Y0112 An Illustrated English Vocabulary for Children
- Y0135 Foreigners Visiting the Famous Sites of Mount Gongen in Kanagawa
- Y0139 Picture of People of the Five Nations: A Sunday
- Y0141 Picture of a mercantile establishment in Yokohama

Entertainment, arts, and leisure activity

- Y0132 Picture of a Sunday in Yokohama
- Y0135 Foreigners Visiting the Famous Sites of Mount Gongen in Kanagawa
- Y0136 Foreigners Sightseeing at the Famous Sites of Edo
- Y0139 Picture of People of the Five Nations: A Sunday
- Y0145 American Drinking and Carousing
- Y0149 Picture of Foreigners of the Five Nations Carousing