

JMJA 6647
TMJA 6647

**DEGREE OF MASTER OF SCIENCE
DEGREE OF MASTER OF PHILOSOPHY**

Modern Japanese Studies

JAPANESE ECONOMY

TRINITY TERM 2008

Friday 6 June, 9.30 a.m. – 12.30 p.m.

Please start the answer to each question on a separate sheet.

Candidates should answer **THREE** questions.

Do **not** turn over until told that you may do so.

1. Was Chalmers Johnson right to suggest that MITI was responsible for the Japanese 'economic miracle'?
2. EITHER
Is Japan's subcontracting system a superior way of organising the production of quality goods?

OR
Do Japanese horizontal industrial groups have a purpose beyond the prevention of hostile takeovers?
3. With the introduction of *seikashugi* (performance-related pay) do Japanese unions still have a useful role to play?
4. Was financial market deregulation in the 1980s the result of foreign pressure?
5. 'Japan's persistent trade surplus is clear evidence that it uses unfair practices to keep out foreign goods.' Discuss.
6. Is there an East Asian economic region?
7. What could the Japanese government have done to end the recession of the 1990s more quickly?
8. 'The "Lost Decade" saw many positive reforms in the Japanese economy, but since the recovery of 2002 significant reform has stalled.' Do you agree?
9. EITHER
Is Japanese capitalism moving towards the Anglo-American model?

OR
Can lifetime employment survive, as firms become more responsive to the interest of stockholders?
10. 'Ageing of the population will create huge generational inequities in Japan'. Do you agree?