**III. Japan**

1. Population

* **70%** -
* **Scarcity –**
* Japan is about the same size as California
* Has four times the population of California
* Majority of people live in apartment buildings
* Cost of homes is very expensive in Japan due to limited space

B. Physical Geography

* Japan is within the ring of fire
* Makes Japan vulnerable to both volcanoes, earthquakes, and tsunamis
* **Tsunami** –
* 3-11-2011 - Japan is hit with a 9.0 earthquake and tsunami

C. Japan’s Economy

* Japan has one of the largest economies in the world today
* However, its economy has not grown as fast in recent years
* **Recession –**
* Japan’s economy suffered recessions in the 1990s and again in 2008

D. Aging Population

* Japanese people have a higher life expectancy than any other country
* Japanese couples are also have less children than in the past
* Fewer people to support the elderly
* **68%** -
* E. Japanese Population
* **Homogeneous –**
* There are not many immigrants currently living in Japan
* Japan’s culture has borrowed from cultures of many countries and Japanese culture has influenced the culture of many countries