

21F.067 Cultural Performances of Asia
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Foreign Languages and Literatures
Fall 2005

Week 4: Anime (discussion of paper topics, reproduced below)

- 1) How does Susan Napier's perspective contrast with the readings about Pokemon?
- 2) Compare the different methods that are used to approach the study of anime in Pikachu and Napier's Anime. Given the contrasts, what is missing from each study?
- 3) In what ways does anime represent "Japanese culture"? In what ways is anime part of a "global culture"?
- 4) Does Japanese anime contest Western cultural hegemony? If so, how? If not, why not?
- 5) Is Pokemon more or less Japanese than other anime? Please choose at least two contrasting examples of anime from Napier's book and discuss.
- 6) Is there something that distinguishes anime as "modern" Japanese culture in comparison with some of the more traditional forms of Asian culture we have considered thus far (cockfight, King of Masks, Beijing Opera, etc.)? Some people argue, for example, that modern Asian culture is more "Westernized"? Do you agree? Please use specific examples to make your case.