

The granite lantern was given to the City of Fresno by the Japanese Young Men's Association League in 1939. It was hand-carved, originally 11 feet high and weighed 3 tons. It was delivered by Roy Oto, President of the Association, and presented the gift of the lantern to the City of Fresno. The lantern was gifted as a symbol of goodwill and friendship.

It originally stood on Washington Island in Roeding Park and was the central point of the Japanese garden, which included a 3-story pagoda, 1,000 tropical plants, a tori gate, 2 ponds, 3 fountains and a brass bell. During the presentation of the lantern by Bertrand W. Gearhart, he spoke these words, "This lantern is a perpetual reminder of the cooperation of the Japanese Pilgrims to America who came here to make this country their home, and in return gave of their best in advancing the cause of American idealism."

As things changed during WWII, the Washington Island became known as "Oriental." In January of 1943, the pagoda was destroyed due to decay from rot and the lantern disappeared. Following a search and discovery of the lantern, in August 7, 2001, the restored lantern was placed in Shinzen in 2001. The last modification was made in 2007 by replacing the missing finial of the lantern to restore the original design. It is one of the Garden's main attractions.

Our Garden has 24 other lanterns located throughout, many of them are similar in structure. This style of lantern is called the Kasuga lantern. Kasuga lanterns take their name from the Kasuga Shrine in Nara, Japan whose pathways are lined with over 2,000 lanterns. The Kasuga style-lantern contains a cylindrical column, with an annulet (small ring). Above the column is the lantern box, where the openings on the box would allow the placement of a candle, it is hexagonal and topped by a hexagonal roof with pronounced scrolls at the points. The top is in the shape of a stylized lotus flower. On the non-opened sides of the hexagonal box will have symbolic zoophomorphic depictions. The most common animal shape is a deer since the forest surrounding the Kasuga Shrine is filled with deer. The material of an original Kasuga lantern is stone.

Among the collected histories of the lanterns located inside Sinzen, the 1939 Lantern holds special significance and highlights the reason why Shinzen was built in the first place; Shinzen was built to promote friendship and mutual respect with Japan.

SYMBOLISM

In the garden, you will learn about symbolism where a non-living and living thing represents a different idea. California State Board of Education Standards are used for the following leading questions.

LEADING QUESTIONS

Grades 3rd -5th

FLUENCY

1. Summarize what this text is about in one paragraph.

RESEARCH TO BUILD AND PRESENT KNOWLEDGE

1. Using the text above as research information, present where the Kasuga lantern came from, what is the typical shape, and how this type of lantern is used in other countries besides Japan.

INTEGRATION OF KNOWLEDGE AND IDEAS

1. What is the significance of the 1939 Lantern in the Shinzen Garden?

[Link to video](#)

Grades 6TH - 8TH

CRAFT AND STRUCTURE

1. What do you believe is the author's main purpose in writing this text?

INTEGRATION OF KNOWLEDGE AND IDEAS

1. What is the genre of this piece and what in the text demonstrates its genre?

RESEARCH TO BUILD AND PRESENT KNOWLEDGE

1. Using the text above as research information, present where the Kasuga lantern came from, what is the typical shape, and how this type of lantern is used in other countries besides Japan.

Grades 9TH - 12TH

KEY IDEAS AND DETAILS

1. In detail, give strong examples of what is explicitly stated in this text and what is inferred.

RESEARCH TO BUILD AND PRESENT KNOWLEDGE

1. In a well-defined paper, explain the significance of the 1939 Lantern inside of Shinzen, after WWII. Additionally, find another item in history that represents a similar symbolic meaning in any point in history.

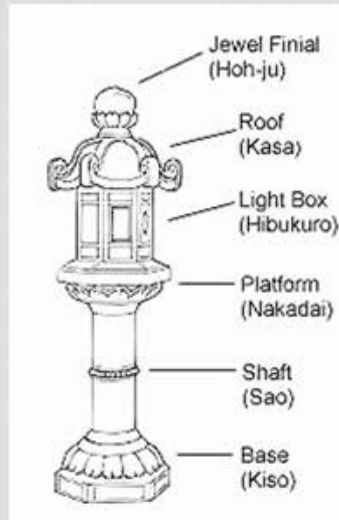
TEXT TYPES AND PURPOSES

1. Interpret the significance of the 1939 Lantern before WWII and then after WWII.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES:

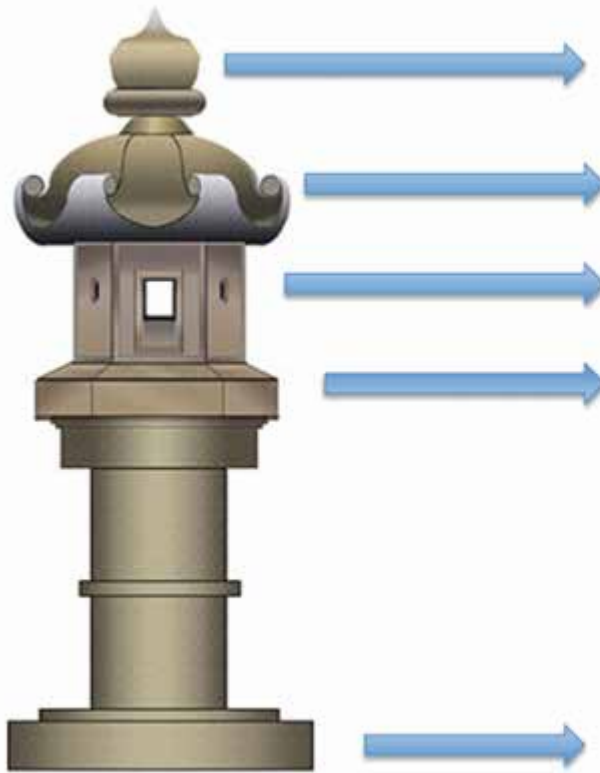
KASUGA LANTERN

- At the top, the **round, oblong, or onion-shaped** represents the element of the **void** sometimes referred to as "**space**".
- The "**hood**" or "**roof**" above the fire box represents **wind**, and is normally either rounded, sloped or half-moon shaped, sometimes with sloping or rising corners.
- The **fire box** represents **fire**.
- The **platform** is customarily square or rectangular represents the **solid earth**.
- **Above the base**, the post that supports the fire box (normally cylindrical, but sometimes carved with legs or in other geometric shapes) represents the **element of water**.
- Lanterns are called Toro, this particular lantern is ishi-doro, which is freestanding and carved out of stone(usually).



Traditional Japanese Lantern

Name each part & what it represents.



ADDITIONAL LESSON PLANS from Shinzen Friendship Garden

From the Welcome to the Shinzen Garden Series

1. Design Concepts (link to video)
 - Design Concepts (link to document)
2. The Koi Pond (link to video)
 - The Koi Pond (link to document)
3. The Toro Nagashi Ceremony (link to video)
 - The Toro Nagashi Ceremony (link to document)

ADDITIONAL LESSON PLANS from GSBF-Clark Bonsai Collection

From the Welcome to the Clark Bonsai Collection Series

1. Yamadori and the Contribution of Japanese Americans to the Art of Bonsai (link to video)
 - Yamadori and the Contribution of Japanese Americans to the Art of Bonsai (link to document)
2. How Old Is It? Age in Bonsai (link to video)
 - How Old Is It? Age in Bonsai (link to document)
3. The Peace Tree Bonsai (link to video)
 - The Peace Tree Bonsai (link to document)
4. An Outdoor Museum (link to video)
 - An Outdoor Museum (link to document)

ADDITIONAL LINKS TO JAPANESE CULTURE & GARDENS

Visit us at: <http://shinzenjapanesegarden.org>

1. Traditional Japanese Tea Ceremony (link to video)
2. Japanese Chado Matcha Green Tea Ceremony (link to video)
3. 45 Japanese Garden Design Ideas (link to video)
4. Portland Japanese Garden (link to website)
5. Oregon Koto-Kai Performances (link to website)
6. Green Legacy Hiroshima (link to website)
7. Hiroshima Peace Tree Planted in Clovis (link to website)

ADDITIONAL LINKS TO GSBF BONSAI COLLECTIONS & BONSAI

Visit us at: <https://gsbfclarkbonsaicollection.org>

1. CBC_Behind the Scene with Bob Hilvers, "John Naka – California Juniper" (link to video)
2. CBC_Behind the Scene with Bob Hilvers, "The Dwarf Oak" (link to video)
3. CBC_Behind the Scene with Bob Hilvers, "Basic Bonsai 01" (link to video)
4. CBC_Behind the Scene with Bob Hilvers, "Basic Bonsai 02" (link to video)
5. CBC_Behind the Scene with Bob Hilvers, "Basic Bonsai 03" (link to video)

