Territorial Disputes

1. Japan is involved in a few territorial disputes .
2. One dispute is about the ownership of some islands south-west of Okinawa .
3. The islands are called the Senkaku Islands in Japan .
4. However , the islands are the called the Diaoyu Islands in China.
5. Both Japan and China claim the islands .
6. The islands are small , there are no communities .
7. Japan has some military personnel there .
8. Japanese ships regularly patrol the sea around the island .
9. Recently , the Japanese government bought the islands .
10. This made the Chinese angry , because they claim the islands .
11. Because of action of the Japanese government , there were many anti-Japanese demonstrations in China .
12. Many Japanese businesses were damaged . Some closed for a while .
13. Chinese boats regularly sail around the islands .
14. Many fishing boats with ‘ R.O.C ’ also sail through ( ‘ Taiwan ’ , in Japanese )
15. Who do you think owns the islands ? .. I think \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ owns them . OR ..

.. I really don’t know . OR .. I think that they should share the islands .

1. Because of the issue , there is much tension between Japan and China .
2. Do you think that the tension may escalate even further ? .. perhaps even into war ?
3. Interestingly , we don’t hear much about anti-American demonstrations in Okinawa nowadays .. I wonder why ?

Takeshima .. or is it ‘ Dokto ’ ?

1. Japan also has a territorial dispute with Korea .
2. It concerns an island about mid-way between the two countries .
3. Japan calls the island ‘ Takeshima ’ . Korea calls it ‘ Dokto ’ .
4. Both countries claim the island .
5. Korea has a few military personnel stationed there .
6. There hasn’t been the same trouble there though .

Other islands in dispute are ..

1. … islands about 20 kms east of Hokkaido .
2. Since the end of World War 2 – 70 years ago , Russia has controlled the island chain .
3. There is a small Russian community on the island chain .
4. Japan would like the islands back .
5. On a clear day you can even see the islands from mainland Japan .
6. What do you think will be the future of these islands ?