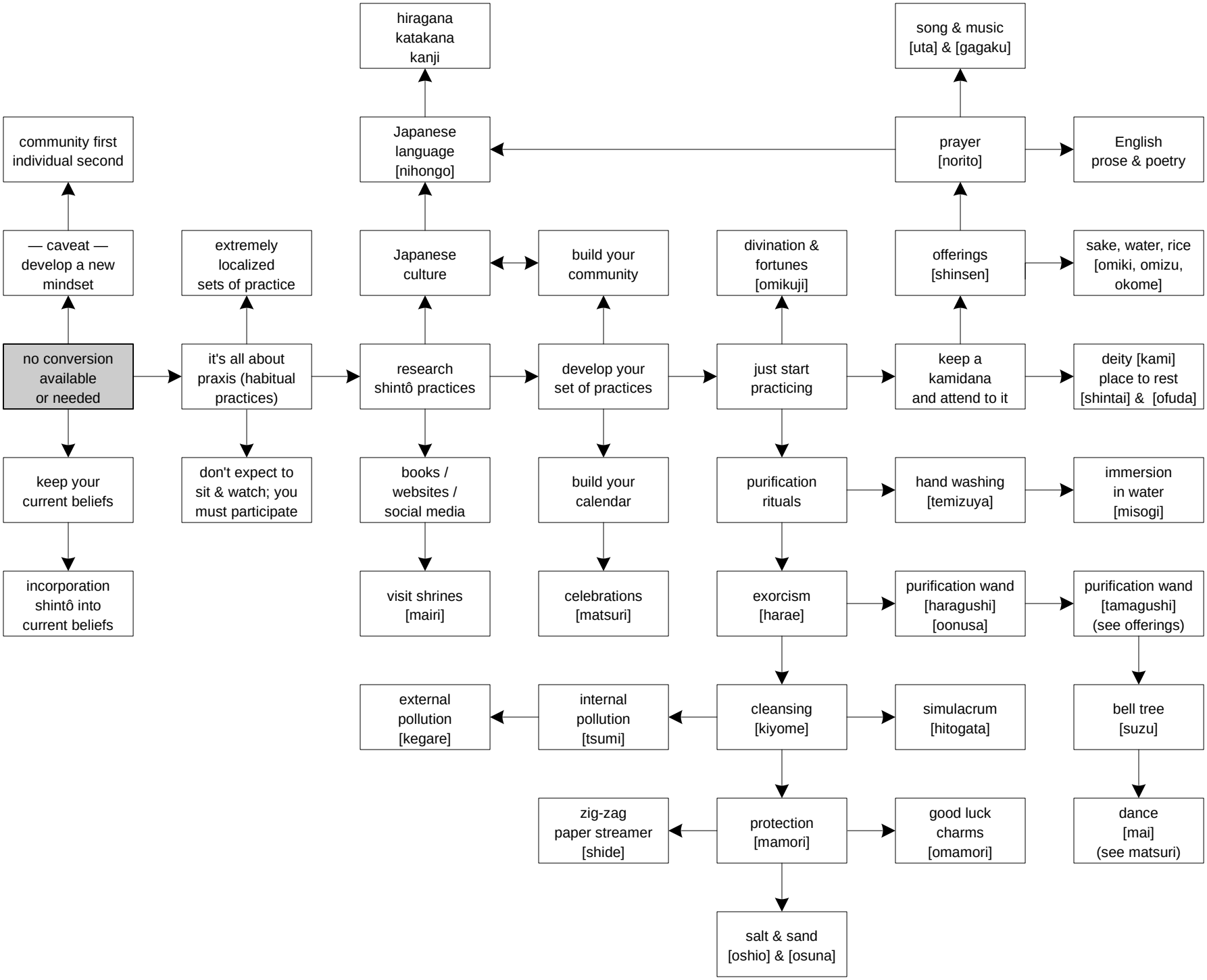
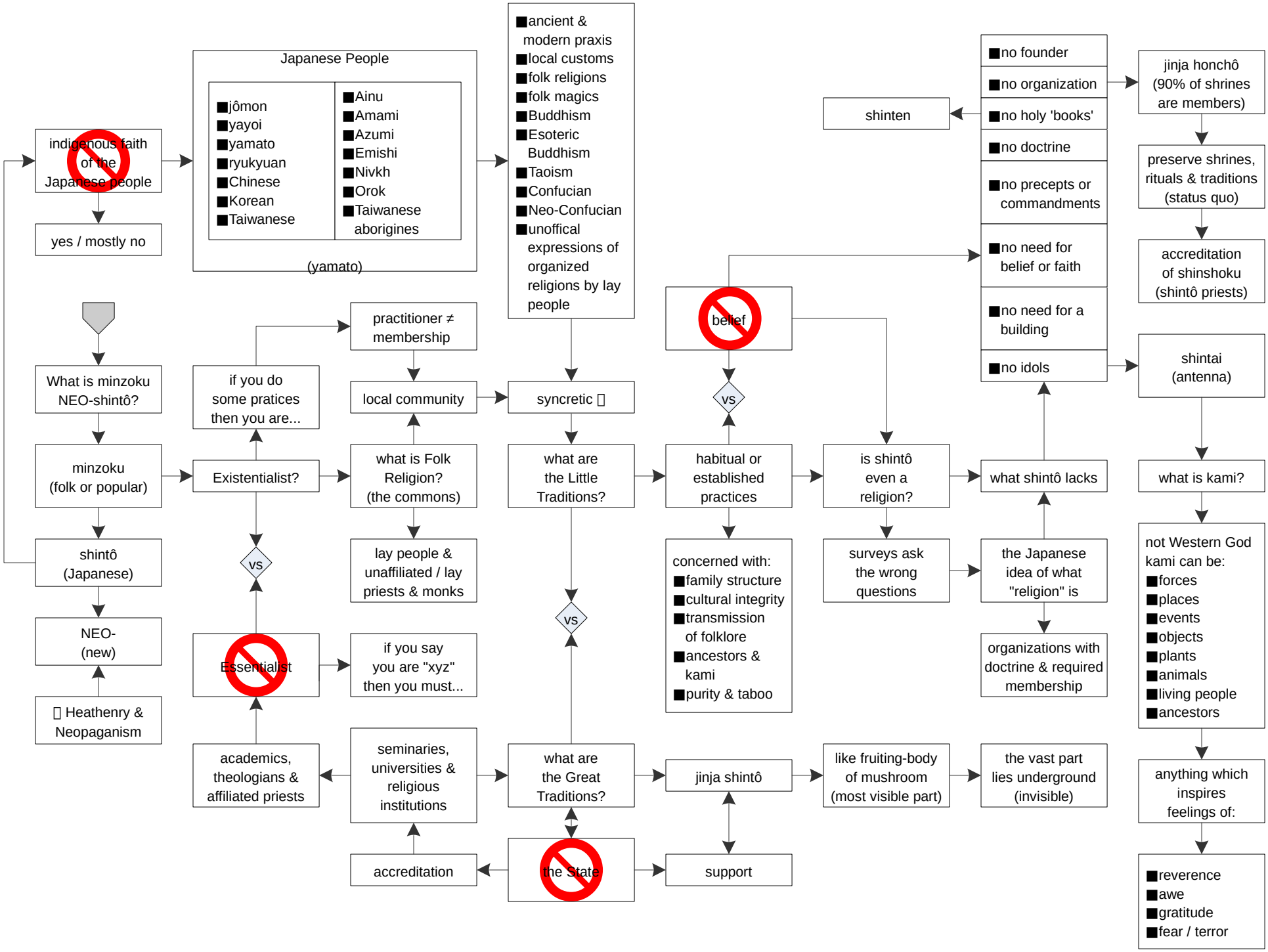

hiragana
katakana
kanji
song & music
[uta] & [gagaku]
community first
individual second
Japanese
language
[nihongo]
prayer
[norito]
English
prose & poetry
— caveat —
develop a new
mindset
extremely
localized
sets of practice
Japanese
culture
build your
community
divination &
fortunes
[omikuji]
offerings
[shinsen]
sake, water, rice
[omiki, omizu,
okome]
no conversion
available
or needed
it's all about
praxis (habitual
practices)
research
shintô practices
develop your
set of practices
just start
practicing
keep a
kamidana
and attend to it
deity [kami]
place to rest
[shintai] & [ofuda]
keep your
current beliefs
don't expect to
sit & watch; you
must participate
books /
websites /
social media
build your
calendar
purification
rituals
hand washing
[temizuya]
immersion
in water
[misogi]
incorporation
shintô into
current beliefs
visit shrines
[mairi]
celebrations
[matsuri]
exorcism
[harae]
purification wand
[haragushi]
[oonusa]
purification wand
[tamagushi]
(see offerings)
external
pollution
[kegare]
internal
pollution
[tsumi]
cleansing
[kiyome]
simulacrum
[hitogata]
bell tree
[suzu]
zig-zag
paper streamer
[shide]
protection
[mamori]
good luck
charms
[omamori]
dance
[mai]
(see matsuri)
salt & sand
[oshio] & [osuna]


indigenous faith of the Japanese people
yes / mostly no
Japanese People
■jômon
■yayoi
■yamato
■ryukyuan
■Chinese
■Korean
■Taiwanese
■Ainu
■Amami
■Azumi
■Emishi
■Nivkh
■Orok
■Taiwanese aborigines
(yamato)
■ancient & modern praxis
■local customs
■folk religions
■folk magics
■Buddhism
■Esoteric Buddhism
■Taoism
■Confucian
■Neo-Confucian
■unoffical expressions of organized religions by lay people
shinten
■no founder
■no organization
■no holy 'books'
■no doctrine
■no precepts or commandments
■no need for belief or faith
■no need for a building
■no idols
jinja honchô (90% of shrines are members)
preserve shrines, rituals & traditions (status quo)
accreditation of shinshoku (shintô priests)
shintai (antenna)
what is kami?
not Western God kami can be:
■forces
■places
■events
■objects
■plants
■animals
■living people
■ancestors
anything which inspires feelings of:
■reverence
■awe
■gratitude
■fear / terror
What is minzoku NEO-shintô?
minzoku (folk or popular)
shintô (Japanese)
NEO- (new)
Heathenry & Neopaganism
practitioner ≠ membership
if you do some pratices then you are...
local community
syncretic
Existentialist?
what is Folk Religion? (the commons)
lay people & unaffiliated / lay priests & monks
vs
Essentialist
if you say you are "xyz" then you must...
academics, theologians & affiliated priests
seminaries, universities & religious institutions
accreditation
what are the Little Traditions?
vs
what are the Great Traditions?
the State
belief
vs
habitual or established practices
concerned with:
■family structure
■cultural integrity
■transmission of folklore
■ancestors & kami
■purity & taboo
jinja shintô
support
is shintô even a religion?
surveys ask the wrong questions
like fruiting-body of mushroom (most visible part)
what shintô lacks
the Japanese idea of what "religion" is
organizations with doctrine & required membership
the vast part lies underground (invisible)