

Section 1:

#1 (First paragraph): Strengths:

- Effective introduction using Japan as a case study
- Strong imagery contrasting old and new elements

Weaknesses: Lack of Clear Position → While you present interesting observations about Japan's modernisation, you don't establish your stance on whether countries should follow this model. Include a clear thesis statement.

Exemplar: "Japan's remarkable economic transformation in the 1960s demonstrates that countries can successfully modernise while preserving their cultural heritage, making it an ideal model for developing nations to follow."

#2 (Fourth paragraph): Strengths:

- Acknowledges economic growth statistics
- Presents counterargument with karoshi

Weaknesses: Underdeveloped Analysis → You mention the "dark side" of rapid growth but don't fully explore its implications for other countries considering this model. The karoshi reference needs deeper analysis.

Exemplar: "While Japan achieved unprecedented growth rates exceeding 10% annually, the human cost manifested in karoshi - death from overwork - serves as a crucial warning for nations considering this development path."

#3 (Final paragraph): Strengths:

- Strong conclusion linking to broader implications
- Effective use of Hirohito's perspective

Weaknesses: Limited Evidence Integration → Your conclusion makes claims about Japan's success without fully incorporating Rick's observations or local community perspectives mentioned earlier.

Exemplar: "Japan's post-war growth under Hirohito's leadership, as witnessed through Rick's observations of both thriving industries and preserved traditions, demonstrates that rapid modernisation need not compromise cultural identity."

Actionable Task: Revise your fourth paragraph to include specific examples of how other countries could implement Japan's positive economic policies while avoiding the negative social impacts like karoshi.

Score: 42/50

Section 2:

#1 Japan's change into a powerful economy in the 1960s is a great example of how a country can grow quickly while keeping its culture. Rick saw Tokyo in 1964, just before the Olympics, and noticed how the city was changing a lot but still holding on to its traditions. While huge Toyota factories were releasing steam, rickshaws, or old-fashioned carts, still travelled through small alleys. This showed how the old and new parts of Japan were mixed. Emperor Hirohito during this time was a symbol of this balance. ~~He stood on a platform, showing how Japan could be strong with new technology while remembering its past.~~ [Standing on a platform, he demonstrated how Japan could embrace new technology whilst honouring its past.] He said, "Japan rises not by forgetting its past, but by carrying it forward." This means that a country can grow without losing its culture.

Hirohito led a traditional ceremony at the Tokyo Olympics, blessing the land where new buildings were being built. "We build tomorrow without forgetting yesterday" meant progress and traditions could go together, he said. This wasn't just a saying; it was seen in everyday life. In the new worker housing project, they constructed a bathhouse with traditional designs mixed with modern ideas to show that culture could still be part of the new world. Hirohito said, "Our essence remains unchanged, as our form evolves," showing that growing doesn't mean forgetting where you came from.

Inside the Toyota factory, Rick saw how the workers were very precise, almost as if performing a ritual. Hirohito said, "The spirit of bushido lives in our quality control." Outside the factory, though, older workers struggled to adapt to new ways. For Japan, the question loomed: How would it hang onto its soul as it became so modern?

#2 Under his rule, Japan's economy grew faster than any other country in history, often recording growth rates exceeding 10% per year. There was, however, a dark side: many workers became so overworked that some literally died from it, what is known as "karoshi." In Tokyo's temples, priests pray for the souls of those who have died from overwork. ~~This goes to show that fast growth came with personal costs, which needed to be thought about carefully.~~ [This stark reality exemplifies how rapid economic growth exacted severe personal costs that demanded careful consideration.]

Hirohito's message remained the same: "We must honour both the old and the new." He said this when Tokyo's stock market changed, and old shops in Asakusa had to close down. But even though things were changing, his words made sense in this new world. In Tokyo, tall, modern buildings stood next to old temples-proving that new ideas can come from old traditions. Even in Shitamachi, where houses became apartment buildings, Hirohito said to the older people, "Our families find new ways to stay together," meaning even though the city changed, families could still stick together.

Hirohito did not only have ambitions for building new cities but wanted those places to connect with the past of Japan. In his housing projects, there were shared baths, places to meet, and even little

shrines showing that cities should care for people's bodies and spirits. He told architects, "Tomorrow's communities need yesterday's wisdom." This way, cities didn't have to give up their culture to grow.

When the Tokyo Olympics were at the door, Hirohito said, "This moment proves that a nation can leap forward without losing its soul." The opening ceremony was a mix of new technology and old traditions, with robots performing alongside traditional dancers. Even foreign journalists who were amazed by Japan's technology saw how much care was taken to keep traditions alive.

A few days before the Olympics, standing beside the amazing new buildings from the ruins of war, Hirohito said, "Economic revolution succeeds not by discarding tradition but by forging it into strength." This was showing that Japan was teaching the world you could move forward while still respecting your history.

~~#3 The way Japan, under Hirohito's leadership, grew after World War II shows other countries the way that they can grow rapidly and still retain their cultures.~~ [Japan's post-war development under Hirohito's leadership offers a compelling model for nations seeking to achieve rapid growth whilst preserving their cultural heritage.] If you carefully merge old traditions with new ideas, you grow without losing who you are. Hirohito's vision has shown that culture is a country's strong point and not its crippling weakness.