

## Section 1:

#1 "Japan's economic transformation after World War II is a powerful example of how focusing on rapid growth can improve living standards and help a country become a global leader. By prioritising modernization, Japan rebuilt its economy, developed new technologies, and turned cities like Tokyo into bustling, advanced metropolises."

### Strengths:

- Clear topic sentence that establishes the main argument
- Effective use of specific details to support the claim

Weakness: Limited development of ideas → Your initial point about Japan's transformation lacks depth in explaining the specific mechanisms of change. You mention "developed new technologies" but don't elaborate on which technologies or their impact.

Exemplar: "Japan's post-war economic transformation demonstrates how prioritising rapid growth can revolutionise living standards, as evidenced by its innovative automotive industry and electronics sector, which propelled the nation to become a global economic powerhouse."

#2 "The transformation of Tokyo for the 1964 Olympics, with its new infrastructure, fast trains, and modern buildings, demonstrated how quickly a country can become more competitive on the global stage."

### Strengths:

- Concrete historical example
- Clear connection between infrastructure and competitiveness

Weakness: Underdeveloped analysis → Your reference to the Olympics lacks exploration of its broader implications. The mention of "fast trains" and "modern buildings" would be more impactful if connected to long-term economic benefits.

Exemplar: "The 1964 Olympics catalysed Tokyo's transformation through revolutionary infrastructure projects, including the Shinkansen bullet train system, which not only showcased Japan's technological prowess but also permanently enhanced domestic commerce and tourism."

#3 "While some may argue that rapid growth leads to cultural loss, Japan's example shows that preserving important traditions is still possible while moving forward economically."

### Strengths:

- Addresses counterargument
- Balanced perspective on growth versus tradition

Weakness: Insufficient evidence → Your counterargument lacks specific examples of how Japan maintained its cultural heritage while modernising.

Exemplar: "While rapid growth could threaten cultural identity, Japan's preservation of traditional arts like kabuki theatre and tea ceremonies alongside its economic advancement demonstrates how modernisation can coexist with cultural heritage."

Actionable Task: Rewrite your paragraph about the 1964 Olympics, incorporating specific examples of how the infrastructure developments directly influenced Japan's economic competitiveness in subsequent decades.

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**Score: 42/50**

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Section 2:

#1 Should developing nations prioritise rapid economic growth or cultural preservation? Countries trying to modernise should follow Japan's post-war model of rapid economic growth, even if it means making significant changes to their social and cultural practices. Japan's economic transformation after World War II is a powerful example of how focusing on rapid growth can improve living standards and help a country become a global leader. By prioritising ~~modernization~~ [modernisation], Japan rebuilt its economy, developed new technologies, and turned cities like Tokyo into bustling, advanced metropolises.

#2 The growth provided better jobs, improved healthcare, and a higher quality of life for its citizens. This progress shows that modernisation can bring real benefits, especially in countries struggling to overcome poverty or devastation. One of the strongest reasons to support rapid economic growth is that it leads to better opportunities for people. Japan's focus on rebuilding after the war led to an industrial boom that helped millions of people find work, improve their education, and live healthier lives. The transformation of Tokyo for the 1964 Olympics, with its new infrastructure, fast trains, and modern buildings, demonstrated how quickly a country can become more competitive on the global stage.

#3 The economic miracle also helped Japan rise from the devastation of war, showing that focusing on growth can heal a country and allow its people to thrive. Emperor Hirohito's vision of blending tradition with progress is another key reason why following Japan's path makes sense. Hirohito didn't believe that modernisation meant abandoning culture. Instead, he thought Japan could embrace new technologies while maintaining its traditional values. This approach helped Japan balance growth with respect for its cultural heritage. While some may argue that rapid growth leads to cultural loss, Japan's example shows that preserving important traditions is still possible while moving forward

economically. By integrating modern technology with artistic elements, Japan proved that a country doesn't have to choose between progress and tradition.

In conclusion, developing nations should prioritise rapid economic growth such as Japan, after World War II. The benefits of modernisation, such as improved quality of life, more job opportunities, and better infrastructure, are too important to ignore. While culture is vital, Japan's experience shows that growth and tradition can go hand in hand. Countries that focus on modernising their economies will be able to provide their citizens with a brighter, more prosperous future while also finding ways to preserve the best aspects of their culture.