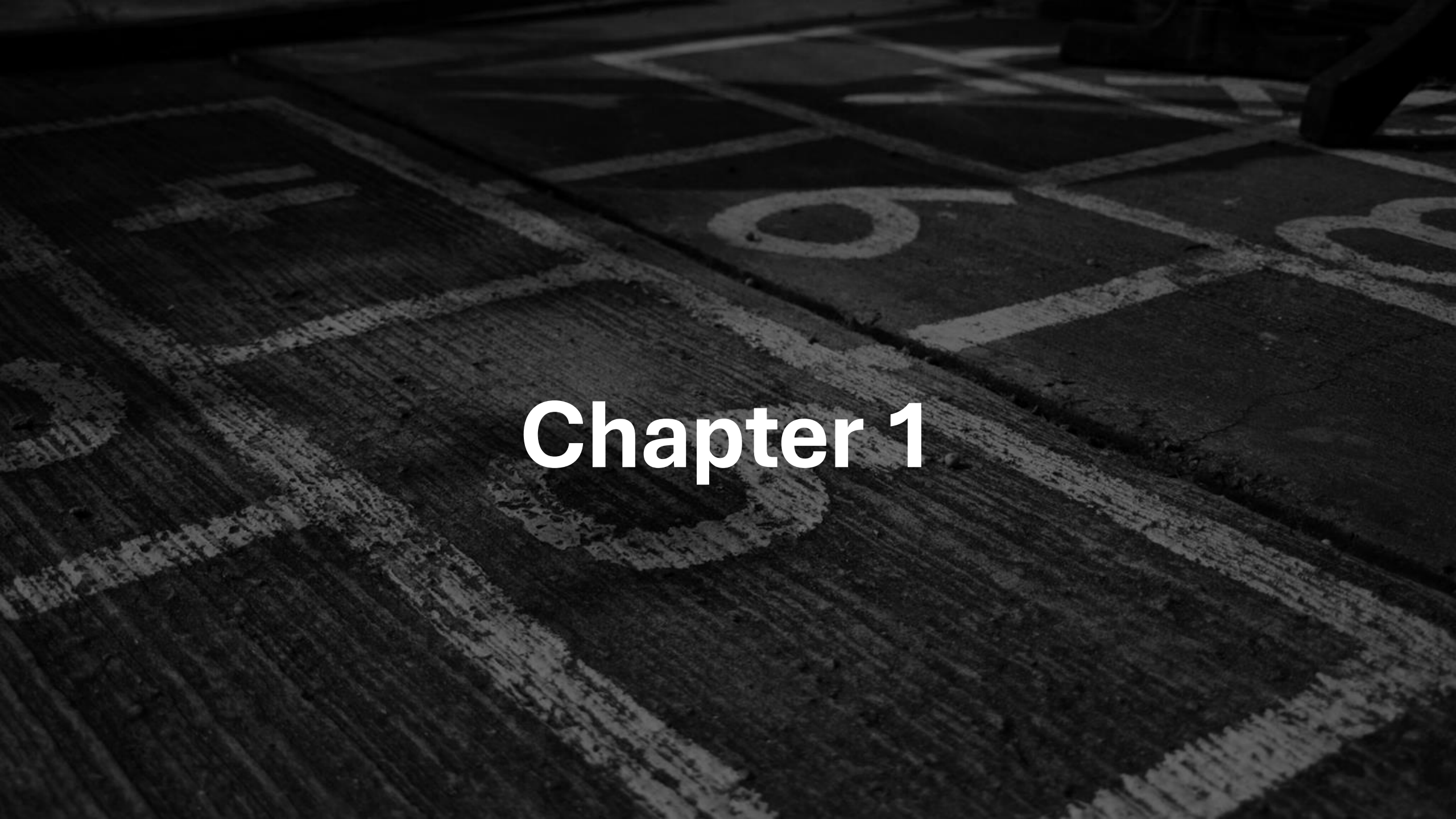


Japan

By: Samiksha Dhamani





Chapter 1

Where is Japan located?

- Japan is located on the east side of Asia as an island in the Pacific Ocean. It is on the east of Korea and China. Japan doesn't share any borders but it's close to South Korea, China, and Russia. The largest city in Japan is Tokyo and is Japan's capital.

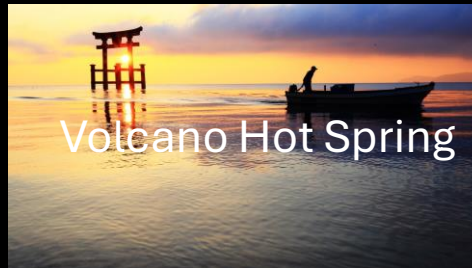




Mount Fuji



Lake Biwa



Volcano Hot Spring



Mountains

What are the physical features of Japan?

- Japan has plenty of physical features, including mountains, rivers and coastlines. Mount Fuji is a mountain which is 3776 meters tall and is one of Japan's most prominent features. The country also has numerous rivers and lakes like Lake Biwa which is the largest freshwater lake Japan. Japan's landscape is beautiful, made by its volcanoes which has created many hot springs and volcanic mountains. Japan's coastline is over 29751 kilometers and many gorgeous scenery spots and inlets. Furthermore, Japan's climate ranges from snowy winters in places like Hokkaido to the tropical climate of Okinawa. Japan's physical features, with its mountains, rivers and varied climates creates a unique and extraordinary landscape.



Japan's evolution

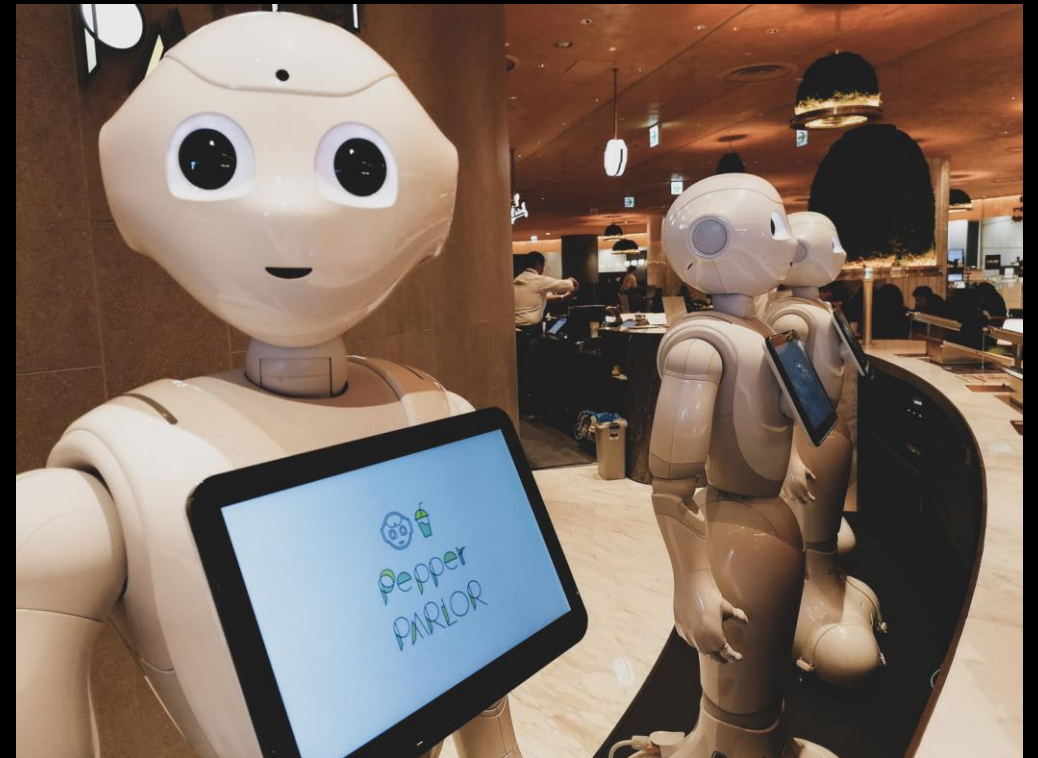
Japan's evolution

- Japan has had a great transformation over the years, they have evolved from an old-fashioned society to a modern and industrialized country. During a period called the Edo period which was around 1603-1868, Japan was at peace, economically growing and was isolated from the rest of the world. The Meiji Restoration in 1868 was significant as Japan exponentially grew and modernized, learning Western technology and slowly industrialize itself. This period where they modernized and expanded themselves continued to the early 20th century, which lead to Japan becoming a major country and having a significant influence on the world. Japan rebuilt its economy and became a prominent country in technology, manufacturing and innovating many things, after World War II. Now, Japan is known for its tradition, culture and innovation. It also plays a major part in the global economy and international affairs.



Japan's Impact in the world

- Japan is recognized for its significant contribution to robotics, electronics and transportation technology. The country invests in research and technological development, which leads to many scientific breakthroughs and technological success. Japan's innovation sets global standards and has a clear impact on the world. The country's universities and research facilities are highly esteemed, and students and scholars worldwide want to visit. Also, Japan is known for promoting sustainability and its commitment to technology, mainly in recycling and energy efficiency. They have further prioritised working on reducing carbon emissions and climate change. Japan has a significant influence on different cultures. Its pop culture such as anime, manga and video games, captivates millions worldwide. Icons like Pokémon, Studio Ghibli movies and games like Super Mario and The Legend of Zelda have gained huge amounts of popularity. Moreover, traditional Japanese arts, like tea ceremonies, flower arranging, and martial arts have attracted a lot of international interest.





Mount Fuji

Plants adapted to Mount Fuji

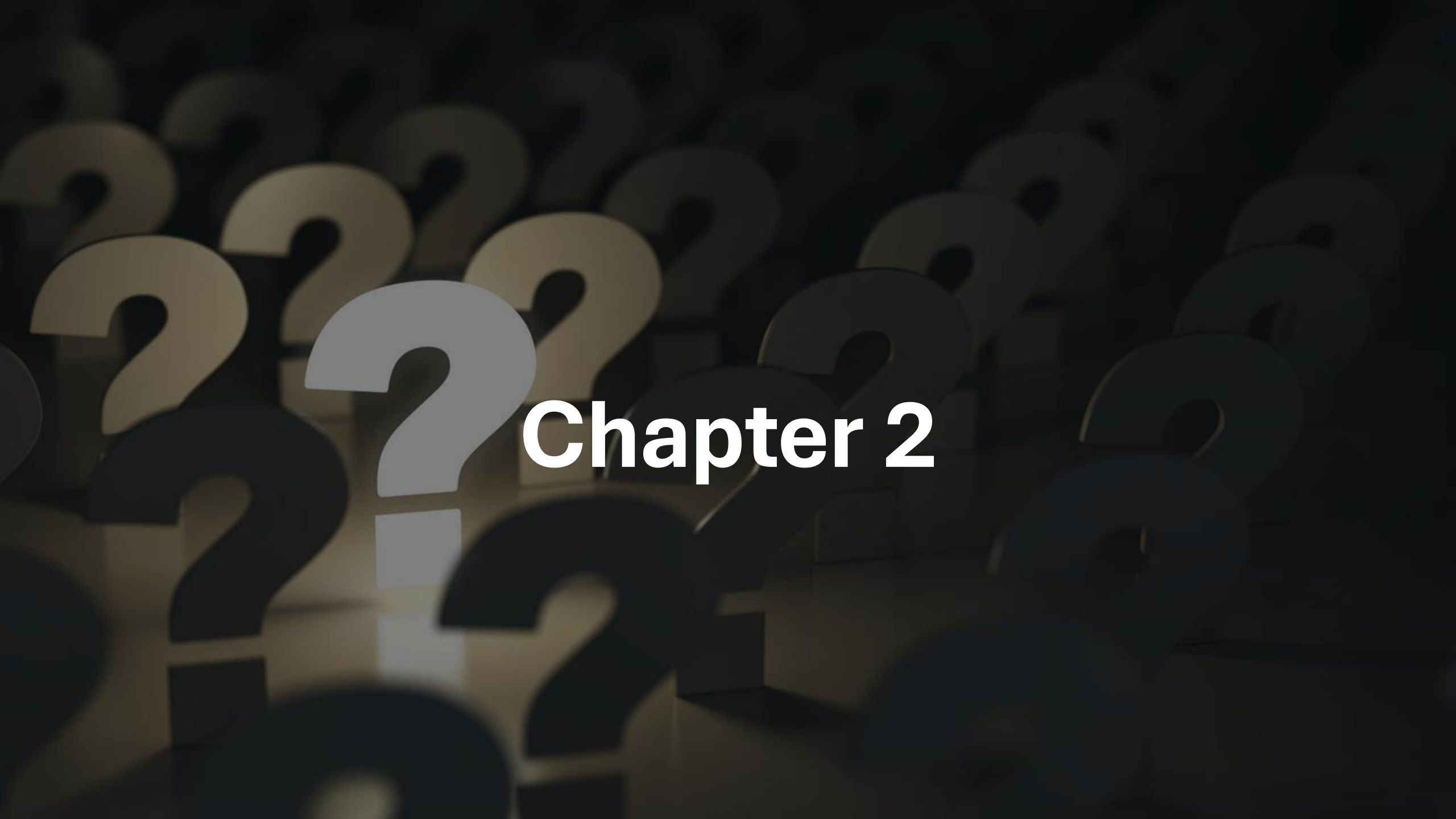
One of the plants which has adapted to Mount Fuji is the Komakusa (*Dicentra peregrina*). It is a flowering and alpine plant and is a native plant to the high-altitude areas in Japan. It grows in well-drained soil and rocky terrains. It has deep roots which helps as an anchor in the loose volcanic base. It also doesn't grow much which reduces the exposure it has to harsh winds.



Animals adapted to Mount Fuji

One of the animals which has adapted to Mount Fuji is the Japanese Macaque (*Macaca fuscata*). They are known as snow monkeys which have adapted to a large range of climates. On Mount Fuji, they are usually found in lower area which is more forested where they can get a lot of food. They have thick fur to protect themselves from cold winters and use hot springs to stay warm as week.

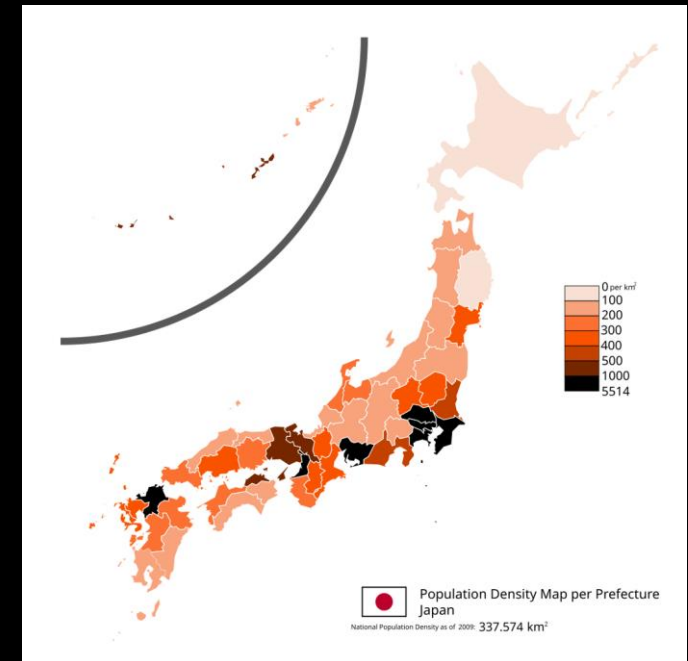
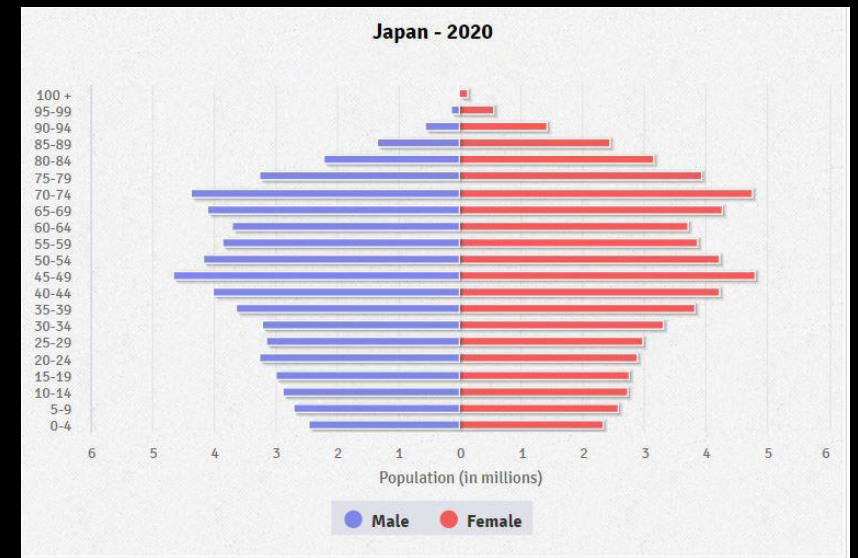


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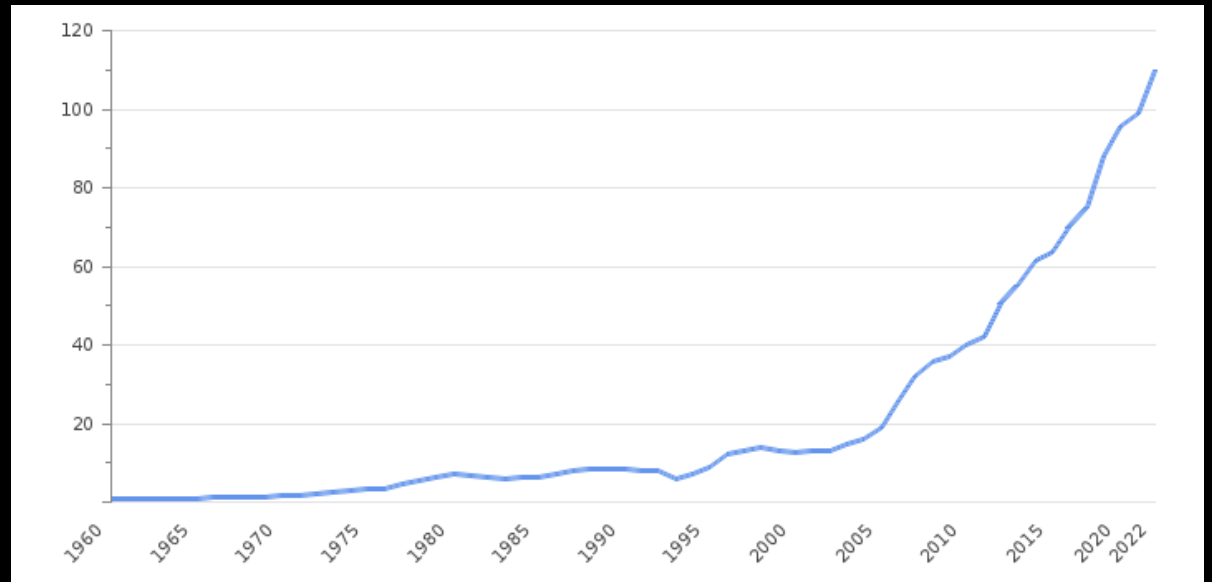
Chapter 2

Population

- This graph is from 2020, showing an aging population with a lot of the population being older than 50. This shows a low birthrate which can have some issues within the economy. Due to the large amount of elderly people, there will be a lot of pressure on the government of pensions and the amount of people working will decrease. This leads to a slower economic growth.
- The population on the density map shows that there are more people working in an urban area. Around Tokyo, Osaka and Nagoya, with the density being over 1000 people per square kilometer. While in Rural areas, they have much lower population density, showing the country's urbanization trend.



The economy of Japan



- The graph shows the economy of Japan from 1960-2022. From the 1960s-1990s Japan's economy had a small growth with some stability. However, in the early 2000s the graph shows a continues and steep rise, displaying its exponential economic growth. This most likely links to factors like more technology being invented, globalization, and policy changes. By 2022, Japan's economy seems to have reached its highest point in the graph. This shows a strong growth of the country within 2 decades.

Main human features of Japan

- Japan is a country with rich heritage and strong traditions. The population is mainly Japanese with small groups like the Ainu and Ryukyuan. Japanese is the main language and has 3 writing systems. Kanji, Hiragana and Katakana. Traditional clothing, such as kimono is worn during festivals. Japanese cuisine is well known with things like sushi, ramen and rice. Their culture is big on arts like calligraphy, tea ceremonies and flower arranging. Japan is very well known for their innovations and their technology, they blend their ancient traditions with modern society, keeping their values the same, while increasing their income. These features make Japan really unique and fascinating.



Tourist attraction

- Tokyo: Tokyo is Japan's capital with modern skyscrapers, shopping areas and temples.
- Kyoto: very well known for its traditional temples, shrines and gorgeous gardens
- Mount Fuji: Japan's very well-known mountain, which is popular for hiking and photos
- Osaka: Known for its fun nightlife, street food and ancient Osaka Castle.
- Hiroshima: Known for its memorial sites like the Peace Memorial Park and Museum.
- Nara: Very famous for Todai-ji Temple and the deers roaming
- Hokkaido: They have gorgeous landscapes, hot spring and winter sports.

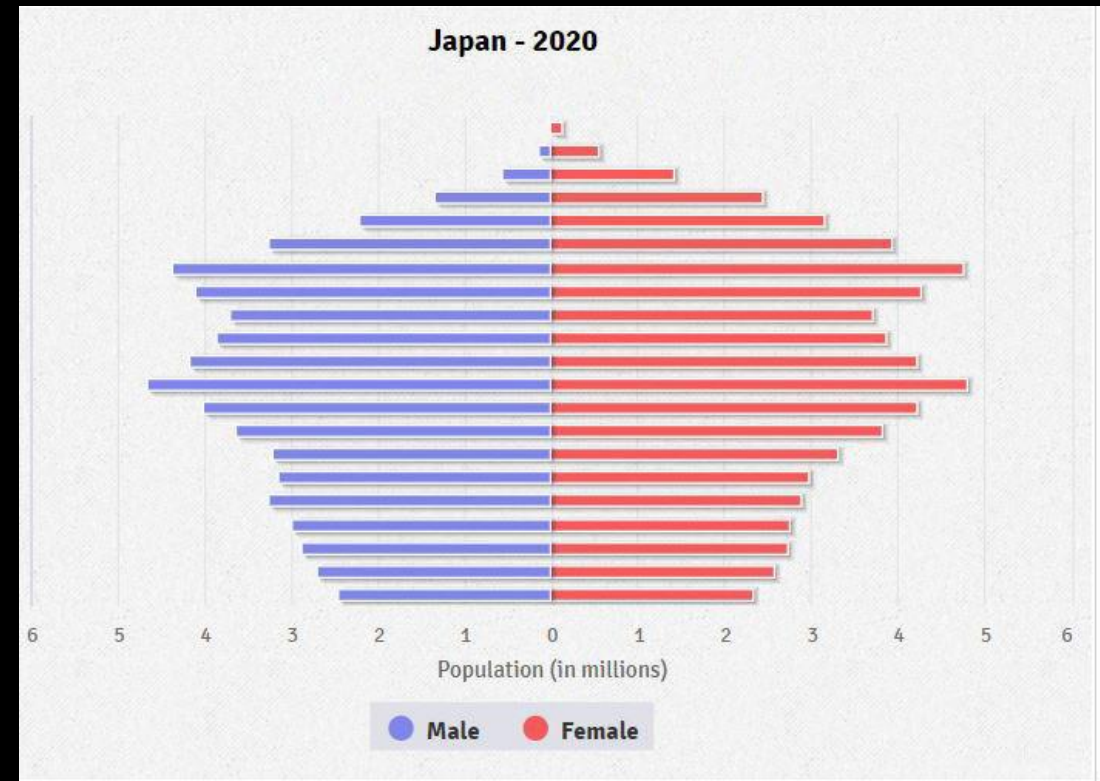


Chapter 3

A wide-angle photograph of a coastal dune landscape. A light-colored wooden boardwalk, constructed from horizontal planks, winds from the bottom center towards the middle ground, curving to the left. The boardwalk is flanked by dense, tall grasses in shades of green and yellow. In the background, rolling sand dunes are visible, some with exposed sandy tops and others covered in low-lying vegetation. A dark line of trees marks the horizon under a heavy, overcast sky with soft, diffused light. The overall mood is serene and natural.

Aging Population and Declining Birth Rate

- Japan is facing a serious issue with its aging population and low birth rate. More than a quarter of its citizens are over 65 years old, while fewer young people are having children. This creates problems like a shrinking workforce, increased healthcare costs, and fewer people to support the elderly. As the population gets older and smaller, Japan's economy and society are under pressure to adapt to these changes.



Slow economy and debt

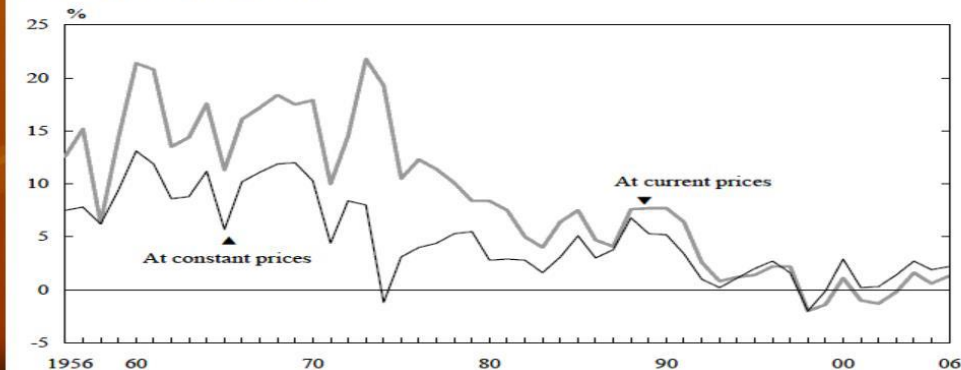
- For years, Japan has struggled with slow economic growth and high national debt. This problem began in the 1990s, often called the "Lost Decades," when the economy stopped growing as quickly as before. Issues like deflation, where prices drop instead of rising, and a lack of innovation in some industries have made recovery difficult. While Japan remains wealthy, it must find ways to boost growth and reduce its massive debt.

SLOWDOWN

- JAPAN'S ECONOMY SLOWS IN THE 1990s
- PROBLEMS OF INFLATION, HIGH OIL PRICES, "CRONY CAPITALISM."

Figure 3.1

Economic Growth Rates ¹⁾



Natural Disasters and Environmental Issues

- Japan is located in a region that experiences many natural disasters, such as earthquakes, tsunamis, and typhoons. These disasters can cause massive destruction, loss of life, and economic damage. On top of that, Japan faces environmental challenges like pollution, managing waste, and dealing with climate change. The country is working to prepare for future disasters and adopt sustainable solutions to protect its environment.



Thank You!