

Read the assigned sections of the book and answer the questions when you are done. Turn in each section as you finish. You must complete all this work by Monday March 11th.

Fukuzawa Chapters 1, Ch. 2 pages 34-38, and Ch.4:

1. What kind of person is Fukuzawa; what does he seem to value; or care about? Find places in the text that inform your opinion.
2. Find places in the text that support what you already know about the Edo era in Japan.
3. Find places in the text that surprised you, or showed you something new about the Edo era of Japan.
4. Explain Fukuzawa's status in the Tokugawa social order?
5. Describe the influence his father had on his life and his ideas?
6. Describe the influence his mother had on his life and his ideas?
7. Show how his life exemplifies the economic and social tension going on in Tokugawa Japan in the early 1800s.
8. How did his early life develop his adult character (attitudes about work and knowledge)?
9. What are some questions you have after completing this portion of the reading?

Chapters 6, 7, 8:

1. In what ways has your view of Fukuzawa changed?
2. What were his views on religion and how do those explain his choices later in life?
3. What seems to be his place in the historical events of mid 19th century Japan?
4. What can be learned about interaction between the West and Japan? What cross-cultural interactions stood out the most?
5. What were his views on western notion of "individual freedom"?
6. What do his experiences with "Dutch Learning" illustrate about Tokugawa Japan?

7. While traveling abroad he says they were “under the seclusion theory”, What does he mean by this?
8. Find places in the text that illuminate the events leading up to the fall of the Tokugawa.
9. What interesting relevant information can be found in the foot notes?
10. What surprised you in this section of the book?
11. What are some questions you have after completing this portion of the reading?

Chapters 10,11,12:

1. What do Fukuzawa’s words on page 171 indicate he believes to be true about Japan?
2. What is your overall response to this section of the book, and the book overall?
3. What experiences does Fukuzawa have that help us understand the end of the Tokugawa, and beginning of the Meiji?
4. What interesting relevant information can be found in the foot notes?
5. What are some questions you have after completing this portion of the reading?