

1. Case Study Sources

a) [Map of Japanese-owned facilities in Kentucky – shows the broader regional context of Japanese investment.](#)

b) Company snapshot of Toyota in Georgetown – major investments, job numbers, local impact.

- [\\$922 million advanced paint facility announced in December 2024 at the Georgetown plant.](#)
- [The plant has invested more than \\$11 billion in Kentucky since 1986.](#)

c) Local community impact news – grants, workforce development, education partnerships.

- [Toyota Kentucky awarded \\$1.9 million in grants to nonprofit organisations across Central Kentucky in 2025.](#)

Name: _____ Date: _____

Topic: Japanese Companies in Kentucky

What I Know	What I Want to Know	What I Learned

Company Snapshot Organizer

Field	Student Notes
Company Name	
Product / Service	
Location in Kentucky	
Number of Employees	
Why did this company choose to locate in Kentucky?(Think about geography, workforce, incentives, infrastructure, etc.)	
Economic Impact on the Community(e.g., wages, tax revenue, local supplier contracts)	
Social / Educational Impact(e.g., grants, partnerships with schools or colleges, training programs)	

Environmental Impact (if any) (e.g., sustainability initiatives, facility upgrades)	
Challenges or Risks (e.g., automation, global market shifts, labor issues)	
Global Connection (How does this company connect Kentucky to Japan or the global economy?)	
Interesting Fact or Insight	

Japanese Company in Kentucky – Poster Instructions

Your Task:

You will create a poster that showcases the Japanese company you researched and explains how it connects Japan to Kentucky through trade, investment, and community impact.

Your audience will be your classmates, teachers, and other visitors during a gallery walk, so make your poster clear, visual, and informative.

What to Include on Your Poster:

Section	Description
Company Name + Logo	Big, bold title with a printed or hand-drawn logo if possible
Product / Service	What does the company make or do in Kentucky?
Location	Where in KY is it located? (Add a small map if you want bonus points!)
Why Kentucky?	A short explanation of why the company chose KY (e.g., geography, workforce)
Community & Economic Impact	How has the company affected jobs, education, or the local area? Include any special grants, training programs, or partnerships.
Interesting Fact	Include at least one “wow” fact about the company!

Visuals	Use at least 2 images, charts, or illustrations. These can be printed, hand-drawn, or from your research.
Global Connection	Show how this company connects Kentucky to Japan and the larger global economy.

Rubric Overview (Optional – if you want to score it):

Category	Points
All required information included	20 pts
Visual appeal and creativity	10 pts
Accuracy and clarity	10 pts
Effort and completeness	10 pts
Total	50 pts

Option A – Op-Ed:

“Why Japanese Investment Matters to Kentucky’s Future”

Your Role:

You are a concerned and informed citizen writing an op-ed for a Kentucky news outlet (like the *Lexington Herald-Leader* or *Courier-Journal*).

Goal:

Persuade readers why Japanese companies play a crucial role in Kentucky’s economic and social future.

Your Op-Ed Must Include:

Section	Description
Hook	Start with a compelling fact, quote, or question to draw readers in.
Thesis Statement	Make a clear claim: Why does Japanese investment matter to KY?
Evidence	Use examples from the Toyota case study, your company research, or KY economic data. Be sure to reference real impacts like jobs, education partnerships, infrastructure growth, etc.
Counterargument (Optional for extra challenge)	Address a possible concern (e.g., foreign companies displacing local ones) and refute it.

Call to Action	What should citizens or leaders do to support or expand these global relationships? End strong.
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Sentence Starters:

- “Japanese investment is not just about cars — it’s about Kentucky’s future.”
- “When Toyota came to Georgetown, it changed the landscape of...”
- “If Kentucky wants to thrive in a global economy, we must...”

Option B – Policy Pitch:

“How Should Kentucky Support Global Investment?”

Your Role:

You are delivering a **2-minute pitch** to state or local leaders as part of a youth policy summit.

Goal:

Recommend **1-2 specific actions** Kentucky could take to attract and sustain more international investment—especially from Japan.

Your Pitch Should Include:

Part	Description
Greeting & Purpose	Introduce yourself and your purpose in 1–2 sentences.
Background	Explain the importance of Japanese companies in KY (brief Toyota/company reference).

Your Proposal	What policy or initiative do you recommend? Be clear, specific, and realistic. Examples: More workforce training in schools, Tax incentives for companies that partner with local education, Hosting a Kentucky–Japan Investment Summit
Why It Matters	Explain the benefits for KY’s economy, workers, or students. Connect it to future growth
Closing	End with a strong call to action or thank you.