Response Paper 1 (maximum 3 double-spaced pages)

Read Chapters 1 and 2 of The Formation of Science in Japan: Building a Research Tradition by James. R. Bartholomew. Based on your reading of pp. 1-25 (reading pp. 26-48 is not required, but welcome), answer TWO of the following questions briefly:

Mandatory Question

1) Did you like the reading? Why or why not?

Pick (2) or (3)

2) Japan has often been portrayed as a nation of copycats when it comes to science and technology. According to the author, scientists in Japan and the West have long criticized what they saw as Japan’s lack of originality in scientific research. What are some of the critics’ claims? Does the author agree or disagree with their views? Do you agree or disagree with the critics as they are presented in the book?

OR

3) Many have claimed that Tokugawa Japan (1600-1867) did disservice to the development of modern science in subsequent decades. According to the author, what contributions did Tokugawa Japan (1600-1867) make to the scientific community and research after 1868? What Tokugawa legacy does the author observe in his study? Do you agree or disagree with his argument?