

- 11 Assess the impact that ONE change has had on ONE tradition in a country you have studied.

6

The traditional Japanese family structure 'ie' began a ~~rapid~~<sup>rapid</sup> transformation after WWII, when Japan has significant contact with the western American world. The traditional ie revolved around respect of the families name. The ie worked together to support each family member. Men were the head of the house, & each female figure was subjugated to each male, in order of birth rank. For example, the father was the highest of the household, followed by the eldest son & so on. Even the mother of the ie had to treat her sons with a great deal of respect, as it was them who were to carry on the family name. The ie very much revolved around extended family, with grandparents of the father often living with the ie. Each ie had to pay all respect to <sup>past</sup> ancestors.

However, due to westernisation, the ie as a traditional aspect of Japanese society has transformed into the western 'nuclear family'. Although some aspects of the ie still exist, such as grandparents living with the family, the nuclear family is now more common.