

I The Japanese-Language Proficiency Test

1 Objectives and Administration of the Test

As the number of people studying Japanese is rapidly increasing worldwide, so are the opportunities to put their skills to use in a wide variety of careers. This has led to the demand among the students of Japanese for the establishment of a venue by which their language proficiency can be certified.

The Japan Foundation and Japan Educational Exchanges and Services, in response to this growing demand, have devised the Japanese-Language Proficiency Test and administered it since 1984 both in Japan and abroad. Outside Japan, the Japan Foundation co-sponsors the administration of the test with local cultural exchange and/or educational institutions, or with administrative committees specially established for this purpose.

2 Contents of the Test

The test has four different levels; the examinee can choose the level that best matches his or her ability and training. Each level is made up of three sections: writing-vocabulary; listening; reading-grammar. The contents and criteria of the test are as follows:

Level	Contents			Criteria
	Sections	Hours	Points	
1	Writing-vocabulary	45 minutes	100 points	The examinee has mastered grammar to a high level, knows around 2,000 <i>Kanji</i> and 10,000 words, and has an integrated command of the language sufficient for life in Japanese society. This level is normally reached after studying Japanese for around 900 hours.
	Listening	45 minutes	100 points	
	<u>Reading-grammar</u>	<u>90 minutes</u>	<u>200 points</u>	
	Total	180 minutes	400 points	
2	Writing-vocabulary	35 minutes	100 points	The examinee has mastered grammar to a relatively high level, knows around 1,000 <i>Kanji</i> and 6,000 words, and has the ability to converse, read, and write about matters of a general nature. This level is normally reached after studying Japanese for around 600 hours and after completion of an intermediate course.
	Listening	40 minutes	100 points	
	<u>Reading-grammar</u>	<u>70 minutes</u>	<u>200 points</u>	
	Total	145 minutes	400 points	
3	Writing-vocabulary	35 minutes	100 points	The examinee has mastered grammar to a limited level, knows around 300 <i>Kanji</i> and 1,500 words, has the ability to take part in everyday conversation and to read and write simple sentences. This level is normally reached after studying Japanese for around 300 hours and after completion of an elementary course.
	Listening	35 minutes	100 points	
	<u>Reading-grammar</u>	<u>70 minutes</u>	<u>200 points</u>	
	Total	140 minutes	400 points	
4	Writing-vocabulary	25 minutes	100 points	The examinee has mastered the basic elements of grammar, knows around 100 <i>Kanji</i> and 800 words, has the ability to engage in simple conversation and to read and write short, simple sentences. This level is normally reached after studying Japanese for around 150 hours and after completion of the first half of an elementary course.
	Listening	25 minutes	100 points	
	<u>Reading-grammar</u>	<u>50 minutes</u>	<u>200 points</u>	
	Total	100 minutes	400 points	

II The 2006 Japanese-Language Proficiency Test

1 . Information on Everything from How to Apply to Receiving Your Test Results

1 - (1) Application Procedure

Please contact the local host institution in the area where you wish to take the test for information about the application procedure, test fee and methods of payment. A list of local host institutions is available on the JLPT Communication Square website at <http://momo.jpf.go.jp/jlpt/home.html>. **The test fee is non-refundable.**

[1] Application Period

To be determined by the local host institution.

***You will not be permitted to change your test site or test level after the Application Form has been submitted to the local host institution.**

*In case you are not able to submit your Application Form in person, submission by a representative, such as a family member or friend, is permitted. Please note, however, that any mistakes on the Application Form presented by your representative may not be amended.

[2] Test Voucher

All examinees will receive test vouchers either in person or by mail.

[3] Test Date and Time

December 3, 2006 (Sunday). Examinees will be notified on the Test Voucher regarding the time they must report to the test center.

[4] Test Center

To be announced on the Test Voucher.

1 - (2) Special Arrangements for People with Disabilities

Special arrangements and test materials are available for anyone with disabilities. If you require such an accommodation, please ask the local host institution for more details and a request form as soon as possible. The special arrangement request form should be submitted together with your Application Form.

1 - (3) Decision of Pass or Fail

A decision of pass or fail will be given only to those **examinees who take all three sections of the test**. The passing score is determined by The Japanese-Language Proficiency Test Administrative Committee every year, and is usually set at 70% or higher for Level 1, and 60% or higher for Level 2, 3, and 4. In some instances, it may be adjusted downward.

1 - (4) Test Day

You are requested to bring only the **Test Voucher, writing utensils (medium-soft <No.2 or HB> black-lead pencils, plastic eraser) and photo identification such as a passport or driver's license.** Your test score will be invalidated if:

- (1) you are found to have taken the test in someone else's place, or to have engaged someone to take the test on your behalf;
- (2) you have provided others with your answers, or have obtained answers from other examinees;
- (3) you refuse to follow the proctor's instructions;
- (4) you remove the test paper and/or answer sheets from the test center;
- (5) you have disturbed other examinees in any way;
- (6) your mobile phone or watch alarm sounds or vibrates during the test.

1 - (5) Notification of Test Results

All examinees will be notified of their scores, through their local host institution around March 2007. Those examinees who successfully pass each level will also receive a proficiency certificate.

If you should fail to receive your results by end of March, or should your name or date of birth be misprinted on the certificate or score report, please contact your local host institution as soon as possible.

For further details about notification of test results, please contact the local host institution where you took the test, not the Japan Foundation. **Neither the Japan Foundation, nor the local host institutions, will respond to inquiries regarding test scores.**

Certificates and score reports with typographical errors (ex. name or date of birth) will be corrected and reissued by the Japan Foundation if they are reported within a year after the date of issue. The examinee should contact the local host institution or the Test Division of the Japan Foundation and present proof of identity, such as a passport or driver's license (The Japan Foundation will not reissue certificates or score reports for reasons other than those stated above).

*Please note that names can only be indicated in Roman letters owing to technical limitations.

1 - (6) Issuance of "Certificate of Result and Scores"

The Japan Foundation issues a "Japanese-Language Proficiency Test Certificate of Result and Scores," which is an official certificate for submission to schools or companies. If you wish to receive this certificate, please contact your local host institution or the Test Division of the Japan Foundation. You will need to show some proof of identity, along with proof that you have taken the test, such as a Test Voucher (Some fee may be required).

1 - (7) Confidentiality of JLPT Scores

JLPT test score data may be used by the Japan Foundation and Japan Educational Exchanges and Services for statistical and analytical purposes. No examinees are able to be identified individually from such data or analyses.

NOTICE

Re: Notification of the test scores to universities and other institutions in Japan

From the year 2002, the “Examination for Japanese University Admission for International Students” (hereafter, the “Examination”) has been administered by Japan Student Services Organization, which aims at evaluating the Japanese-language proficiency and the basic academic abilities of international students who intend to study at Japanese universities, mainly at the undergraduate level, at their own expense.

Accordingly, **the Japan Foundation will not send the test results of the Japanese-Language Proficiency Test to the universities or other institutions such as professional schools**, which it had previously done at the beginning of January each year until the year 2001 for those examinees who are required to show their test results as the evidence of their proficiency in Japanese.

The certificates and the score reports will be mailed to each examinee through the host institution around March.

For further details about the “Examination”, please contact at the following:

Japan Student Services Organization
Student Exchange Department, Testing Division
4-5-29 Komaba, Meguro-ku, Tokyo 153-8503, Japan
Tel: +81-3-6407-7457
E-mail: aju@jasso.go.jp
URL: http://www.jasso.go.jp/aju/index_e.html

Japan Educational Exchanges and Services (+81-3-5454-5577), however, will send the test results of the JLPT directly to the universities or other schools at their request, in the case of those examinees who sit for the JLPT in cities outside of Japan where the “Examination” is not yet introduced. Please note that those examinees will not receive the test results until the Japan Foundation sends the certificates and score reports to each examinee in around March.

For details about admission procedures or required materials for institutions such as universities or professional schools, please contact each institution directly.

Thank you in advance for your understanding.

4. 試験問題の内容 Contents of Test Questions

2005年日本語能力試験の問題の一部を、日本語能力試験のホームページ『日本語能力試験のひろば』
(<http://momo.jpf.go.jp/jlpt/home.html>) で公開しています。

Some questions from the 2005 Japanese-Language Proficiency Test are available on the JLPT Communication Square website at <http://momo.jpf.go.jp/jlpt/home.html>