



Japanese Language Center
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J L C 通信

Japanese Language Center (つうしん)
Newsletter September 2007

Schedule for JLPT 2007

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 Japanese-Language Proficiency Test was devised to respond to this growing demand in 1984. Here is information for JLPT. The test has four different levels. Each test is comprised of three sections: writing and vocabulary; listening; reading and grammar. The contents and criteria of the test are as follows. Please take Self Level Check Test to find out your level, [JLPT Level 3](#), [JLPT Level 2](#), [JLPT Level 1](#).



JLC provide preparation course for JLPT. Tuition is \$230 / course including all materials. They are 6 sessions of 140-minutes lesson. Courses with less than 4 registrants will be transferred from the regular intensive course to the Special Offered intensive Course automatically. The Special Offered Intensive Course provides 100-minutes sessions. It provides 5 private sessions for a student class or 6 semi-private sessions for 2-3 students class with the same tuition that you paid for group course.

JLPT Intensive Course

| | |
|--------------------|---|
| Application | August 1-October 5, '07 |
| Test date | December 2, 2007 |
| Test result | Mid February, 2008 |
| Register | http://www.jflalc.org/?act=tp&id=23 |
| Test fees | Level 4 & 3: \$40 Level 2 & 1: \$50 |

| JLPT | 6 Lessons | 4 students | | 1-3 students | | Term | |
|---------|-----------|------------|------|--------------|-------|-------|-------|
| | | From | To | From | To | Start | End |
| Level 4 | Sunday | 11:10 | 1:30 | 11:10 | 12:50 | 10/14 | 11/18 |
| Level 3 | Saturday | 1:10 | 3:30 | 1:10 | 2:50 | 10/13 | 11/17 |

| Level | Contents | | | Criteria |
|-------|--------------------|-----|--------|---|
| | Sections | Min | Points | |
| 1 | Writing-Vocabulary | 45 | 100 | 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 | 100 | |
| | Reading-Grammar | 90 | 200 | |
| | Total | 180 | 400 | |
| 2 | Writing-Vocabulary | 35 | 100 | 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 | 100 | |
| | Reading-Grammar | 70 | 200 | |
| | Total | 145 | 400 | |
| 3 | Writing-Vocabulary | 35 | 100 | The examinee has mastered grammar to a limited level, knows around 300 <i>Kanji</i> and 1,500 words, and 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 | 100 | |
| | Reading-Grammar | 70 | 200 | |
| | Total | 140 | 400 | |
| 4 | Writing-Vocabulary | 25 | 100 | The examinee has mastered the basic elements of grammar, knows around 100 <i>Kanji</i> and 800 words, and 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 | 100 | |
| | Reading-Grammar | 50 | 200 | |
| | Total | 100 | 400 | |



📅 コーススケジュール 📅 Course Schedule

Fall course schedules have been announced. All classes listed on the schedule of our website have space available. We will close enrollment and remove the schedule from the list when a course becomes full. Please sign up early. To enroll in the class you have to complete your registration and payment \$230 no later than 72 hours before the first class of each course. We don't accept payment for enrollment on the first day of the course.

Courses with less than 4 registrants will be transferred from the regular group course to the Special Offered Course automatically. The Special Offered Course provides 5 private lessons or 6 semi-private lessons with the same tuition that you paid for group course. Depending upon the skill level and number of students class may be combined.

The schedule may change without notice, so please visit the website for the updated schedule, <http://www.japanese-language.net/schedule.htm>.

| Course | Day | Time | | Term |
|-------------|-----|-------|-------|-------|
| | | Start | End | Start |
| JPN 101 | Thu | 7:10 | 9:00 | 10/18 |
| JPN 102 | Fri | 7:10 | 9:00 | 10/12 |
| JPN 103 | Thu | 7:10 | 9:00 | 10/18 |
| JPN 104 | Thu | 7:10 | 9:00 | 10/18 |
| JPN 201 | Wed | 7:10 | 9:00 | 10/24 |
| JPN 202-203 | Sat | 7:10 | 9:00 | 10/27 |
| JPN 204 | Mon | 7:10 | 9:00 | 11/5 |
| JPN 301-303 | Thu | 7:10 | 9:00 | 10/18 |
| JPN 304 | Sat | 9:10 | 11:00 | 10/21 |
| Teens 101 | Wed | 5:10 | 7:00 | 10/3 |
| Teens 102 | Wed | 5:10 | 7:00 | 10/3 |
| Teens 200 | Mon | 5:10 | 7:00 | 9/24 |
| Teens 300 | Sun | 9:10 | 11:00 | 10/28 |



* 文化 (ぶんか) * Culture 旅館 (りょかん) Ryokan

Ryokan is a type of traditional Japanese inn dating from the Edo period (1603–1868), when they served travelers along Japan's highways.

Ryokan are difficult to find in Tokyo and other large cities because many are expensive compared to hotels, and Japanese people increasingly use hotels for urban tourism. Ryokan are more typically located in scenic areas and can charge up to \$400 per night.

A typical ryokan has a relatively large entrance hall, with couches and chairs where guests can sit and talk. Guest rooms are constructed using traditional Japanese methods: flooring is tatami, and doors are sliding doors. Even if the inn uses hinged doors for security, it usually opens into a small entranceway where guests can take off their shoes before stepping onto the **tatami** floor, which would be separated by a **fusuma** sliding door. Many ryokan rooms also feature a porch or balcony, also set off with a sliding door.



Ryokan usually also feature a common bathing area, often using the water from **onsen** (hot spring) if any are nearby. Recently, high-end ryokan often provide private bathing facilities as well. Typically ryokan provide guests with a **yukata** to wear; and possibly **geta** (a type of thonged wooden sandal) that visitors can borrow for strolls outside. Ryokan's yukata is usually starched and has simple geometrical patterns dyed on its white or indigo blue ground. Many go for walks outside, to the public baths, and even to dinner and breakfast (taken in a communal dining room) in their yukata. The proper way to wear a yukata is not

necessarily obvious. The left side of the yukata is wrapped over the right side, and an obi (belt) is used to keep the yukata from falling open when worn in public. In private, as after a bath, the yukata is usually simply belted.

Bedding is a **futon** spread out on the tatami floor. When guests first enter their room, they usually find a table and some supplies for making tea. The table is also often used for meals when guest take them in their room. While guests are out, **nakai** (staff) will come in, move the table aside, and set out the futon.



Some inexpensive ryokan may have a communal dining area, but most serve meals in the guests' rooms. Although many ryokan offer dinner and breakfast optionally, most Japanese visitors take their meals at the ryokan, which usually promote themselves on the quality of their food. Meals typically consist of traditional Japanese cuisine known as **kaiseki**, which features seasonal and regional specialties. (*Kaiseki* originally referred to light meals served during a tea ceremony, and today refers to a meal consisting of a number of small, varied dishes.) In order to enjoy each dish at the proper temperature, ryokan stress that guests should be punctual for their meals. For this reason, most ryokan ask guests when they want to take their meals.

* 作文 (さくぶん) * Essay of JLC students

ポリス 小さい時から、いつも音楽を聞いていた。実際、MTV が初めて放送した番組も見た。その時は、だいたいビデオはコンサートだけだったから、あんまり面白くなかった。しかも、ビデオはまだ少なかった。だから、いつも同じビデオを見ているような感じだった。

八才の時、後日初めてのアルバムを買うことになったビデオを見た。それはポリスのシンクロニシティ2。ポリスは未来都市の戦場のような場所で歌っていた。ステージは餌食を探している鷹みたいで、彼の声がどこからともなく、聞こえてきたのを思い出す。僕はポリスの虜になってしまった。

今、このビデオを見ると、少しバカみたいだと思うけど、子供の目には、一番カッコイイものに見えた。それを見てから、早速ポリスのシンクロニシティのアルバムを買った。毎日聞いていた。両親が怒った。十才の時、ポリスは解散した。その時とて、僕はすごく悲しかった。先月ポリスは、三十周年記念日に、もう一回演奏するつもりだと発表した。切符はすぐ売り切れになったが、運良く、一枚買うことができた。待ち切れない。(B)

たった5分間で自分を変える うちの会社の図書館には、いろいろな日本語の本と雑誌があります。ずっと前に一度そこに行って、『キパッリ！ たった5分間で自分を変える方法』と言う本を借りました。最初は「私にとって難し過ぎだ」と思いましたから、1ページも読みませんでした。

おととい偶然その本を手にとって、「仕事しなきゃいけない。お茶碗洗わなきゃいけない。おフロにも、入らなくっちゃいけない。そんなときは…」を読んで、「何か今の自分の状態に似ている」と思いました。そしてこの本に興味をわいてきて、読み続けました。

仕事が嫌な時や、自信がない時や、楽しくない時がいつもあります。でも自分で物事の見方を変えたら、嫌なことを忘れられるかもしれません。この本の中に、自分



を変える方法が全部で60あります。(例えば、「一人で、お店でご飯を食べる」「忙しい時は、やらなきゃいけないことをすべて書き出す」「人と比べない」「空を見上げる」)それぞれひとつの方法は、5分くらいで充分です。たった5分間で、きっぱり自分を変えられます。大きい変化は小さい変化からというわけですね。私もやってみようと思います。(J)

ホットヨガ 先週、二ヶ月ぶりに、モッチャンと一緒にホットヨガをしました。

「ホットヨガ」とは、とても暑い部屋でヨガをする事です。部屋の三つの壁に、高さ三メートルの鏡があり、鏡のない壁には、六つの暖房が取り付けられています。

レッスンの始まる前に、生徒は部屋に入り、自分のマットの上で静かによこたわって、先生が来るのを待ちます。先生がドアを閉めて、部屋の中に入ると、まず初心者が一番目の形を説明し、それから生徒が皆、立ち上がりレッスンを始めます。九十分で、二十六の形をしなければなりません。一番目の形が終わっただけで、私はもう顔が赤くなって、汗を掻いてしまいます。時々先生がドアを開けて、新しい空気を入れてくれます。

私は温度と湿度が高い所が苦手です。初めてホットヨガした時、始まってから十分後には、「すぐ死ぬ」と思いました。今は、始まってから十二分後にそう思いますが、レッスンが終わった後、冷たい水をゴクゴク飲むと体が気持ちよくなって、「明日またホットヨガをやりたい」と思います。(D)



*** 諺 (ことわざ) *** Proverb

「好きこそ物の上手なれ」(Suki koso monono jouzu nare)

Who likes not his business, his business likes not him. All things are easy that are done willingly. If you have a big desire to learn Japanese, sure you will improve your skill quickly. JLC provides tutoring services for high school students. When the student doesn't have passion for learning Japanese, it's so difficult for us to help improving his/her grade. So our first work is giving them stimulation to find interest and passion about Japanese culture.



*** おしらせ *** Remarks

- An early registration with payment by check/cash before your present course ends can get \$7 discount.
- Please bring your friends to JLC. Any referrals signing up for a class results in a 10% discount of your next block of lessons (for you and your friend).
- JLC supports a Japanese Language conversation group in the community and JLC's instructor Junko is the organizer of **Bellevue-Factoria Japanese Language Meetup**. The regular monthly meet up session is on the second Tuesday at the Bellevue region Library. Monthly Field Trip is on the forth Tuesday. Please visit the website, <http://japanese.meetup.com/17> for more information.



あいいうえおかきくけこさしすせそたちつととなにぬねのはひふへほまみむめもやゆよりりるれろわんあいいうえおかきくけこさしすせそたちつととなにぬねのはひふへほまみむめもやゆよりりるれろわんあいいうえおかきくけこ



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Japanese Language Instruction

and Translation Services