

第 48 回日本語弁論大会
The 48th Japanese Language
Speech Contest Finals

1. CONTEST BACKGROUND

This year will be the 48th year that the Australian speech contest has been held. The aim of the contest is to encourage learners who are studying Japanese to showcase their language skills in a challenging context.

2. CONTEST FORMAT

Winners from the state/territory contests from the following divisions will progress to the Australian final. Contestants from New Zealand may also be invited to participate at the discretion of the Japan Foundation in consultation with the New Zealand Japanese National Advisor. Individuals are not eligible to apply.

Divisions:

The National Final Contest has four categories. These are:

1. High School Senior Division
2. Open Beginner Division
3. Open Division
4. Background Speaker Division

Subject of Speech:

The subject, content and form of the speeches are left open to each contestant. Entrants who have competed in previous contests may not use the same speech (this includes title and content) presented in previous years.

Length of Speech (Time Limit):

High School Senior Division:	2.5 - 3 minutes
Open Beginner Division:	2.5 - 3 minutes
Open Division:	4.5 - 5 minutes
Background Speaker Division	4.5 - 5 minutes

Q & A

After delivering their speech, contestants will be asked up to two questions by the judges based on the content of their speech.

3. ELIGIBILITY

High School Senior Division

This Division is open to students in Year 11 and 12. Contestants must fulfil all the following conditions to be eligible for the High School Senior Division:

- Contestant's background language is not Japanese
- Contestant may be studying Japanese as a Language other than English (LOTE)
- Contestant has not spent more than 24 months in Japan after reaching the Japanese compulsory education starting age
- Contestant has not completed more than 2 academic years of Japan's compulsory education, either in Japan or at any Japanese school overseas
- Contestant has not been the first prize winner of a previous Australian Japanese Language Speech Contest in this division

Open Beginner Division

This Division has been created especially for beginner students of Japanese, and is open to individuals aged 17 or above, who are no longer high school students. Contestants must fulfil all the following conditions to be eligible for the Open Beginner Division. However, if the contestant believes that their level is above beginner, we encourage them to apply for the Open Division.

- Contestant's background language is not Japanese
- Contestant may be studying Japanese as a Language other than English (LOTE) at a tertiary institution or privately
- Contestant has not completed more than a total of 300 hours of Japanese language study at high school, tertiary institution, or language school
- Contestant has not spent more than 12 months in Japan after reaching the Japanese compulsory education starting age
- Contestant has not completed more than 1 academic year of Japan's compulsory education, either in Japan or at any Japanese school overseas
- Contestant has not been the first prize winner of a previous Australian Japanese Language Speech Contest in this division

Open Division

This Division is open to individuals' aged 17 or above who are no longer high school students. Contestants must fulfill all the following conditions to be eligible for the Open Division:

- Contestant's background language is not Japanese
- Contestant may be studying Japanese as a Language other than English (LOTE) at a tertiary institution or privately
- Contestant has not spent more than 36 months in Japan after reaching the Japanese compulsory education starting age
- Contestant has not completed more than 2 academic years of Japan's compulsory education, either in Japan or at any Japanese school overseas
- Contestant has not been the first prize winner of a previous Australian Japanese Language Speech Contest in this division

Background Speaker Division

This Division is open to individuals in Year 11 or 12 (of any age) at high school, or individuals age 17 and above. Contestants must fulfill all the following conditions to be eligible for the Background Speaker Division:

- Contestant’s mother and/or father’s first language is Japanese
- Contestant may be studying Japanese as a Language other than English (LOTE) at a school, tertiary institution or privately
- Contestant has not spent more than 24 months in Japan after reaching the Japanese compulsory education starting age
- Contestant has not completed more than 2 academic years of Japan’s compulsory education either in Japan or at any Japanese school overseas
- Contestant has not been the first prize winner of a previous Australian Japanese Language Speech Contest in this division

4. JUDGING CRITERIA & JUDGES

The marking system is as follows:

High School Senior, Open Beginner and Open Divisions

Presentation	30% (e.g. delivery, manner, memorisation, attitude, impact, length)
Content	40% (e.g. coherence, cohesion of ideas, originality, intention, message)
Language	25% (e.g. fluency, pronunciation, grammatical complexity/flexibility, range of language, accuracy)
Q & A	5% (e.g. communication competence, appropriateness of response)

Background Speaker Division

Presentation and Language	45%
Content	50%
Q & A	5%

- The speech must be the original work of the contestant. The degree of assistance given by teachers or by Japanese native speakers should be limited to no more than correcting grammatical errors or making minor alterations for the sake of continuity
- Props (e.g. puppets, objects etc.) must not be used. A lectern will be provided for contestants to stand behind and on which to rest their notes. Use of the lectern is optional
- Microphone with a stand will be provided for contestants.
- Contestants should not read their speeches. Contestants may refer to their notes, however excessive consultation will result in marks being deducted
- Uniform is not compulsory, however neat presentation is encouraged
- Please be mindful of the speech time limit

Judges will be from the field of Japanese language education and members of the Japanese community, and will decide the winners. Aggregates of marks from all judges will determine the place allocated to each contestant in the order of 1st, 2nd, and 3rd. In case of a draw, the judges will determine the outcome through discussion. The judges’ decision is final and no correspondence will be entered into. The content of the judges’ discussion is not open to the public at any time.

5. PRIZES

All contestants will receive a participation certificate. Prizes will be awarded in each division.

6. DATE AND VENUE

The contest will be held at the Japan Foundation, Sydney on **Saturday, 7th October 2017**. The Japan Foundation Sydney will provide transport cost (i.e. airfare) and accommodation allowance for successful candidate(s) who are travelling from interstate. Contestants must submit their application form, speech script and speech summary in 100-150 words in English.