

THE CONSULATE GENERAL OF JAPAN IN DETROIT 2021 MICHIGAN VIRTUAL JAPANESE LANGUAGE SPEECH CONTEST

CONTEST RULES AND GUIDELINES FOR HIGH SCHOOL CONTESTANTS

SPEECH CONTEST SPECIFICS

- ❖ **Format:** The speech contest will be held using Zoom. Applicants must have Zoom, a working microphone, and a working webcam in order to participate.
- ❖ **Topic:** Topics are open to the extent they are not offensive or inappropriate.
- ❖ **Time Limit:** Three minute maximum. Penalty points may be assessed for exceeding time limits.
- ❖ **Presentation:** Performances of any kind (storytelling, musical, recitation, etc.) are not permitted. Limited use of physical note cards for reference only is permitted. If a contestant is reading from a note card, the note card must be visible to the judges. If the judges determine a contestant's eyes are reading from his or her computer or phone, points may be deducted accordingly (see Scoring).
- ❖ **Judging:** Scoring will be based on language (pronunciation, accuracy); presentation (memorization, intonation, clarity); and content. In addition, participants may be asked questions, in Japanese, regarding their speech, as a component of their score.
- ❖ **Award:** All contestants will receive participation certificates. The Consul-General's Award will be given to one participant in each category.
- ❖ **Eligibility:** Applicants must be currently residing in the State of Michigan. If an applicant resides outside of Michigan, they must be enrolled in a Michigan high school.
- ❖ Applicants may not apply to more than one speech contest category.
- ❖ Native Japanese speakers, or those with a native-speaking parent, are ineligible.
- ❖ Candidates having stayed in Japan more than one year total are not eligible.
- ❖ First place winners of a prior speech contest are not eligible to enter in the same category.
- ❖ **Speeches must be original and written by the students.** Any appearing to have had too much input from teachers or native speakers may be excluded. Please keep in mind that this is an opportunity for the students to show what they have learned.
- ❖ Submit one typed copy of the Japanese speech and one typed copy of the English speech in two separate Microsoft Word documents by 5 PM on Wednesday, February 10th. Make sure to include your full name in Japanese (カタカナ) and English.
- ❖ Applications will be screened and the number of participants may be limited.

CHECKLIST (TOTAL SENT FILE SIZE MUST BE UNDER 10 MBS)

- Entry Form in Word document, and typed Japanese and English speeches in Word document have to be submitted to christopher.hauer@dt.mofa.go.jp by **Wednesday, February 10th 5PM**.
- If your application is submitted successfully, you will receive a reply from the Consulate General of Japan in Detroit by the next business day.
- If you are determined to be eligible to participate in the contest, you will hear back from the Consulate General of Japan in Detroit by **Monday, February 15th**.

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ENTRY FORM HIGH SCHOOL CONTESTANTS

Last Name	First Name	Name in Katakana (カタカナ)
	Freshman Sophomore Junior Senior Year (circle one)	
Mailing Address		Contact Email Address
School Attending	Current Course (e.g. Japanese 2, JPN350)	Japanese Instructor
Your Native Language	Parents' Native Languages	Prior Speech Contest Participation
Japanese Courses Completed	Japan Visits, Purpose & Length of Stay	
Name of Speech in English	Name of Speech in Japanese	

Please submit by 5PM on February 10th:

- o Entry Form (Word file)
- o Japanese Speech Text (Word file)
- o English Speech Text (Word file)

Total Submission Must be Under 10 MB

Email Address

Digital transmissions of entry form, texts,
and translations may be sent
to christopher.hauer@dt.mofa.go.jp
*Please limit files to .doc and/or .docx
formats, as stated above*

Scoring

I. Japanese

a. Pronunciation

- 5 点 : The speaker spoke Japanese with native fluency.
- 4 点 : The speaker had near native Japanese.
- 3 点 : The speaker mixed their native language's pronunciation with Japanese several times.
- 2 点 : The influence of the speaker's native language's pronunciation made it difficult to understand.
- 1 点 : The pronunciation of the Japanese made it impossible to understand.

b. Accuracy (Grammar, Vocabulary)

- 5 点 : The vocabulary and grammar used in the speech seemed like native level Japanese.
- 4 点 : There were occasional grammar and vocabulary mistakes.
- 3 点 : The speaker made many grammar and vocabulary mistakes.
- 2 点 : The speaker's grammar and vocabulary were very hard to understand, but intelligible.
- 1 点 : The speaker's grammar and vocabulary were completely incorrect

II. Presentation

a. Engagement with Audience

- 5 点 : The speaker was able to deliver their speech without looking at their note cards at all.
- 4 点 : The speaker was able to deliver their speech while rarely looking at their note cards.
- 3 点 : The speaker engaged the audience, and looked at their note cards equally.
- 2 点 : The speaker engaged the audience occasionally.
- 1 点 : The speaker only read from their note cards or read from their computer/phone.

b. Intonation and Clarity

- 5 点 : The speaker was able to deliver their speech fluidly without breaks.
- 4 点 : The speaker was able to deliver their speech with one or two mistakes or word repetitions.
- 3 点 : The speaker was able to deliver their speech but made several mistakes or word repetitions.
- 2 点 : The speaker made many mistakes that broke up

their speech.

1 点 : The speaker did not complete their speech.

III. Content

a. Content A (Interesting, Original)

5 点 : The content was very original and interesting.

4 点 : The content was interesting and innovative, but not unheard of.

3 点 : The content was somewhat interesting, but not very original.

2 点 : The content had potential, but was not very meaningful.

1 点 : The content was not original or interesting.

b. Content B (Structure)

5 点 : The piece was well structured and had a clear narrative.

4 点 : The piece was structured well, but there were one or two parts that seemed choppy or disconnected.

3 点 : The piece had okay structure, but lacked some major connection from one section to the next.

2 点 : The piece was poorly structured, but was understandable.

1 点 : There was no structure and the piece was not clear.

IF TIME RUNS OVER, UP TO -5 POINTS MAY BE ASSESSED