

# KAWARABAN

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## Japanese Language Certification Tests

In this issue of Kawaraban, we will introduce some Japanese language certification tests. These tests are useful as proof of Japanese language proficiency for university and vocational school applications, job searching, and more.

Test Name	にほんごのうりよくしけん 日本語能力試験 (JLPT) Japanese-Language Proficiency Test	じつようにほんごけんてい 実用日本語検定 (J.TEST) Test of Practical Japanese	にほんご BJT ビジネス日本語 のうりよく 能力テスト Business Japanese Proficiency Test
Details and Features	Most popular Japanese language test for non-native speakers 650,000 examinees as of 2015	Popular for group testing with schools and businesses 50,000 examinees per year	Measures proficiency in business communication in Japanese
Format	Language knowledge (vocabulary, grammar), reading comprehension, listening comprehension	Reading (grammatical vocabulary, reading comprehension, Kanji, writing) and listening (pictures, listening and reading, response, conversation description)	Listening comprehension, reading comprehension, combination (listening and reading)
Test Type	Computer-scored answer sheet	Computer-scored answer sheet, written response	Computer-scored answer sheet
Certification Levels	N1 to N5	Special A - D (advanced and intermediate), E - F (elementary), business, etc.	J1+ to J5
Test Dates	2 times annually (July, December) *Some overseas sites test 1 time annually	6 times annually (odd-numbered months) *2 times in Sendai	2 times annually
Test Sites	All 47 prefectures 69 countries overseas (per 2016)	14 locations in Japan 6 countries overseas (per 2016)	8 locations in Japan 8 countries overseas (per 2016)
Application Method	Online or through post (applications sold at bookstores)	Online or through post	Online or at convenience store terminals
Fee	5,500 yen	4,300 yen	7,000 yen
Administrator Contact Information	JLPT Application Center Tel.: 03-6686-2974 <a href="https://www.jlpt.jp/index.html">https://www.jlpt.jp/index.html</a>	J.TEST Office Tel.: 03-6273-1814 <a href="mailto:info@j-test.jp">info@j-test.jp</a> <a href="http://j-test.jp/">http://j-test.jp/</a>	The Japan Kanji Aptitude Testing Foundation Tel.: 0120-509-315 <a href="mailto:bjt@kanken.or.jp">bjt@kanken.or.jp</a> <a href="http://www.kanken.or.jp/bjt/">http://www.kanken.or.jp/bjt/</a>

Test Name	J-CAT <small>にほんご</small> 日本語 テスト Japanese Computerized Adaptive Test	<small>にほんご</small> 日本語 NAT-TEST the Japanese Language NAT-TEST	<small>にほん かん じのうりよくけんてい</small> 日本 漢字 能力 検定 <small>かんけん</small> (漢検) Japan Kanji Aptitude Test
Details and Features	Online Japanese test available for home and school computers	Similar format and question standards to JLPT	Measures Kanji aptitude, foreigner nationals welcome
Format	Listening comprehension, vocabulary, grammar, reading comprehension	Language knowledge (vocabulary, grammar), reading comprehension, listening comprehension	Reading and writing, four-character idioms, classical idioms, proverbs, Kanji radicals and stroke order, etc.
Test Type	Online test	Computer-scored answer sheet	Multiple choice and written answers
Certification Levels	Native-Level to Elementary	1 to 5 (comparable to JLPT N1 to N5)	1 to 10
Test Dates	Any time	Six times annually (even-numbered months)	Three times annually
Test Sites	Home, school, etc.	Tokyo and 10 countries overseas (per 2016)	All 47 prefectures 7 countries overseas (per 2016)
Application Method	Online	E-mail: natatest@senmonkyouiku.co.jp	Online, convenience store terminal, participating bookstores
Fee	Free	4,500 yen	1,500 to 5,000 yen
Test Organizers Contact Information	University of Tsukuba International Student Center Tel.: 029-853-5895 mail@j-cat.org http://www.j-cat.org/	NAT-TEST administration committee Tel.: 03-3565-3071 senmon@aikgroup.co.jp http://www.nat-test.com/	The Japan Kanji Aptitude Testing Foundation Tel.: 0120-509-315 http://www.kanken.or.jp/kanken/

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● 〒981-0914 仙台市青葉区堤通雨宮町 4-17 宮城県仙台合同庁舎 7 階

● TEL : 022(275)3796 FAX : 022(272)5063 E-mail : mail@mia-miyagi.jp

● ※“Kawaraban” was created during Japan’s Edo Period as a one sheet, printed material featuring different news.