**Japanese A-Level Content & Assessment**

The Pearson Edexcel Level 3 Advanced GCE in Japanese (listening, reading and writing)

consists of three externally-examined papers that assess listening, reading and writing skills.

* These assessments will be set and marked by Pearson.
* Students must complete all assessments in May/June in any single year.
* Students are not permitted access to a dictionary during the examination or any

other documentation.

**Paper 1: Translation into English, reading comprehension and writing (research question)**

Written examination: 2 hours and 30 minutes - 40% of the qualification - 80 marks

**Section A:** Translation into English (20 marks)

* An unseen passage to be translated from Japanese to English.

**Section B:** Reading (20 marks)

* A reading assessment based on a variety of text types and genres. Students must respond to a series of comprehension questions.

**Section C:** Writing (research question) (40 marks)

* A reading and writing question based on an aspect of the student’s chosen research

subject. Students read a text and then answer a question, incorporating information and ideas from both the text and their research findings.

**Paper 2: Translation into Japanese and written response to works**

Written examination: 2 hours and 40 minutes - 30% of the qualification - 110 marks

**Section A:** Translation into Japanese (20 marks)

* Students translate an unseen passage from English into Japanese.

**Section B:** Written response to works (literary texts) (45 marks)

* Students write an extended response on one or two of the literary texts studied.
* Students select one question from a choice of two for each of their chosen text(s).
* If a student answers questions on two literary texts then they do not complete Section C.

**Section C:** Written response to works (films) (45 marks)

* Students who answer only one question from a literary text in Section B must write an extended response on the film they have studied.
* Students select one question from a choice of two for their chosen film.

**Paper 3: Listening, reading and writing**

Written examination: 2 hours and 15 minutes - 30% of the qualification - 60 marks

**Section A:** Listening comprehension (30 marks)

* A listening assessment based on a recording that features male and female Japanese

speakers. Students will respond to comprehension questions based on a variety of

contexts and sources.

**Section B:** Listening, reading and writing question (30 marks)

* Students summarise a listening source and a text that are based on the same sub-theme. Students then evaluate the points of view in both sources, stating which views they agree with and why.

**Themes, Sub-themes and Research Subjects**

* Papers 1, 2 and 3 will be based on content from the following four themes.
* Each theme is broken into two sub-themes and a research subject (highlighted in bold).
* Students are required to select only one research subject for Paper 1. For their research, students must cover all three aspects of the research subject.
1. **Changing lifestyles of Japanese youth**
	1. Education: education system & reform (*yutori kyoiku*); exams & juku; control of the school curriculum by MEXT
	2. Young people’s health (mental & physical): pressure on young people; its influence on their health and diet; *ijime*
	3. \*Research topic – Family and personal relationships: traditional family structures; the nuclear family; relationships within the family
2. **Changing society**
	1. Changes in popular culture: anime & manga; music; martial arts
	2. The influence of technology: advances in technology; robots; automation
	3. \*Research topic – The changing nature of events in Japan: traditional festivals & modern events; influence of the tourist industry; import of Western events
3. **Changing values**
	1. The changing world of work: the collapse of the lifetime employment system; changes in attitude towards work; relocating for work
	2. The prolonged economic slump: impact on daily life; government response; internationalisation of the economy; reception of foreign immigrant workers
	3. \*Research topic – Ageing society: loneliness & isolation of old people; support from families; support from society
4. **Japan in the wake of the 2011 Tohoku Earthquake and Tsunami**
	1. 11th March and the immediate aftermath: damage caused by the earthquake & tsunami; refugee life; rescue & aid; response from overseas
	2. Reconstruction policy: rebuilding of affected areas; volunteers and citizens working together; power to overcome hardship; mental health
	3. \*Research topic – Saving energy after the Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Disaster: saving energy in daily life; debate over energy supply; old/traditional ideas about saving energy

**Prescribed Literary Texts and Films**

For Paper 2, students are required to study two works from the list below. The texts can be

either two literary texts or one literary text and one film. Teachers should select works that

are appropriate for their students.

**Literary texts**

* どんどん読めるいろいろな話 1991 (short-story collection)
* キッチン、吉本ばなな、1998 (novel)
* 窓際のトットちゃん、黒柳徹子、1991 (autobiography)

**Films**

* 千と千尋の神隠し、宮崎駿監督 (2001)
* ディア・ドクター、 西川美和監督 (2009)
* 誰も知らない、是枝裕和監督 (2004)

**Themes, Sub-themes and Research Subjects (Japanese)**

**テーマ１：わっていくの**

* やその(ゆとり)
* や
* によるカリキュラム

の(と)

* にかかるプレッシャー
* それがやにえる
* いじめ

の ：や

* な家族
* 家族
* の

**テーマ２：わっていく**

わるポピュラー・カルチャー

* アニメや
*

テクノロジーの

* テクノロジーの
* ロボット
* オートメーション

の課題 ：変わっていく

* なりやなイベント
* イベントやりとの
* の

**テーマ３：変わっていく**

する

* の
* にするの
* のための

く への

* の
* の
* のけれ

自由研究の課題 ：

* の
* 家族からのサポート

**テーマ４：**日本の日本

3月11日とその との

* 生活
* と
* の

への

* のてし
* ボランティアやの
* をりる
* の ケア

自由研究の課題 ：のエネ

* ののエネ
* エネルギーをめぐる
* エネにする の

Word List (generated by wwwjdic)

* 変わっていく　【かわっていく】changing
* 若者 【わかもの(P); わかもん】 (n) young person; youngster; young people; (the) youth; (P)
* 生活 【せいかつ】 (n,vs,vi) (1) life; living; (n) (2) livelihood; (one's) living; *[P]*
* 教育 【きょういく】 (n,vs,vt) (1) education; schooling; training; instruction; teaching; upbringing; (n,vs,vt) (2) culture; cultivation; education; (P)
* 教育制度 【きょういくせいど】 (n) educational system; school system; ED
* 改革 【かいかく】 (n,vs,vt) reform; reformation; reorganization; (P); ED
* ゆとり教育 【ゆとりきょういく】 (exp) cram-free education; pressure-free education; KD
* 以降 : 以降(P); 已降 【いこう】 (n,adv) on and after; from ... onward; since; (P); ED
* 試験 【しけん】 (n,vs,vt) (1) examination; exam; test; (n,vs,vt) (2) trial; experiment; test; (P); ED
* 塾 【じゅく】 (n) cram school; private tutoring school; juku; (P); ED; Name(s): 【そうら】 (u) Soura 【むねたか】 (u) Munetaka SrcHNA
* 文部科学省 【もんぶかがくしょう】 (n) Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology; MEXT; (P)
* による (exp,v5r) by means of; due to; because of; according
* カリキュラム (n) curriculum; (P)
* 管理 【かんり】 (n,vs,vt) control; management (e.g. of a business); (P); ED
* 若者 【わかもの(P); わかもん】 (n) young person; youngster; young people; (the) youth; (P); ED
* 健康 【けんこう】 (n) (1) health; (adj-na) (2) healthy; sound; fit; wholesome; (P)
* 身体面　【しんたいめん(P)】 physical aspect
* 心理面 【しんりめん】 (n) psychological aspect
* 若者 【わかもの(P); わかもん】 (n) young person; youngster; young people; (the) youth; (P)
* かかる (v5r,vi) to contract (a disease); to suffer from
* プレッシャー (n) pressure; (P)
* 健康 【けんこう】 (n) (1) health; (adj-na) (2) healthy(P)
* 食生活 【しょくせいかつ】 (n) eating habits; (P)
* 与える 【あたえる】 (v1,vt) (1) to give (esp. to someone of lower status); to bestow; to grant; to confer; to present; to award; (v1,vt) (2) to provide; to afford; to offer; to supply; (v1,vt) (3) to assign; (v1,vt) (4) to cause; (v1,vt) (P)
* 影響 【えいきょう】 (n,vs,vi) influence; effect; impact; (P)
* 自由研究 【じゆうけんきゅう】 (n) research project (e.g. at school); independent research
* 課題 【かだい】 (n) (1) subject; theme; issue; matter; (n) (2) homework; assignment; (n) (3) task; challenge; problem; question; (P)
* 家族関係 【かぞくかんけい】 (n) family relationships; one's relationship with one's family; ED
* 人間関係 【にんげんかんけい】 (n) human relations; personal relationships; (P); ED
* 伝統的な from 伝統的 【でんとうてき】 (adj-na) traditional; customary; conventional; (P)
* 家族構成 【かぞくこうせい】 (n) family structure; family composition; family makeup
* 核家族 【かくかぞく】 (n) nuclear family; (P)
* 家庭内の from 家庭内 【かていない】 (adj-no,n) within the family; in the home; domestic; (P)
* 文化 【ぶんか】 (n) (1) culture; civilization; civilisation;
* ポピュラー (adj-na) (1) popular; well-liked; (adj-na) (2) common; frequent; popular; (n) (3) (abbr) (See ポピュラーミュージック) popular music; pop music; (P)
* カルチャー (n) culture; (P)
* テクノロジー : テクノロジー(P); テクノロジ (n) technology; (P)
* 影響 【えいきょう】 (n,vs,vi) influence; effect; impact; (P)
* アニメ (n) (abbr) (See アニメーション) animation; animated film; animated cartoon; anime; (P)
* 漫画 【まんが(P); マンガ(P)】 (n) cartoon; comic; comic strip; manga; (P)
* 音楽 : 音楽(P); 音樂 【おんがく】 (n) music; (P)
* 武道 【ぶどう】 (n) martial arts; military arts; Bushido;
* 武術 【ぶじゅつ】 (n) (1) martial arts; military arts; (n)
* 進歩 【しんぽ】 (n,vs,vi) (ant: 退歩) progress; advance; improvement; development; (P)
* ロボット (n,adj-no) (1) robot; (n) (2) (mere) puppet; pawn; figurehead; (P)
* オートメーション (n) automation; (P)
* 行事 【ぎょうじ】 (n) event; function; (P)
* 伝統的な from 伝統的 【でんとうてき】 (adj-na) traditional; customary; conventional; (P); ED
* 祭り : 祭り(P); 祭(P) 【まつり】 (n) (1) (See お祭り) festival; feast; (n)
* 現代的な from 現代的 【げんだいてき】 (adj-na) modernistic; (P)
* イベント : イベント(P); エベント (n) event; (P)
* 観光業 【かんこうぎょう】 (n) (See 観光産業) tourist trade; travel industry; tourist business; tourist enterprise
* 西洋 【せいよう】 (n) (See 東洋・1) the West; the Occident; Western countries; (P)
* 流入 【りゅうにゅう】 (n,vs,vi) inflow; influx; (P)
* 人 生観　【じんせいかん】 (n) one's view of life; attitude toward life; outlook; *[P]*
* 労働 : 労働(P); 労動 【ろうどう】 (n,vs,vi,adj-no) (1) manual labor; manual labour; toil; work;
* 終身雇用制度 【しゅうしんこようせいど】 (n) (Japanese) system of lifetime employment
* 崩壊 : 崩壊(P); 崩潰 【ほうかい】 (n,vs,vi) (1) collapse; crumbling; breaking down; caving in; (n,vs,vi)
* 仕事 【しごと】 (n,vs,vi) (1) work; job; labor; labour; business; task; assignment; occupation; employment; (n) (2) {physics} work; (P); ED
* 対する 【たいする】 (vs-s) (1) to face (each other); to be facing; (vs-s) (2) to be directed toward (the future, etc.); to be in response to; to be related to; (vs-s) (3) to receive (a client, etc.); (vs-s) (4) to compare with; to contrast with; to be in opposition with; to be opposed to; (vs-s) (5) to confront; to oppose; to compete with; (P)
* 意識 【いしき】 (n,vs) (1) consciousness; (n,vs) (2) becoming aware (of); awareness; sense; (n,vs) (P)
* 変化 【へんか】 (n,vs,vi) (1) change; variation; alteration; mutation; transition; transformation; transfiguration; metamorphosis;
* 移住 【いじゅう】 (n,vs,vi,adj-no) migration; immigration; (P); ED
* 長引く : 長引く(P); 長びく 【ながびく】 (v5k,vi) to be prolonged; to drag on; to take a long time; to persist; to linger; (P)
* 不景気 【ふけいき】 (n,adj-na) (1) (See 好景気) economic slump; hard times; depression; recession; (adj-na,n) (2) poor (business); dull; slack; inactive; (adj-na,n) (3) gloomy; cheerless; dismal; (P)
* 日常生活 【にちじょうせいかつ】 (n) everyday life; daily life; (P)
* 政府 【せいふ】 (n) government; administration; ministry; (P)
* 対応 【たいおう】 (n,vs,vi) (1) correspondence (to); equivalence; (n,vs,vi) (2) suitability; coordination; matching; being appropriate (for); (n,vs,vi) (3) dealing with; coping with; handling; response; reception; reaction; (n,vs,vi) (4) compatibility (with technology, software, etc.); capability; support (for); (P)
* 経済 【けいざい】 (n) (1) economy; economics; (n) (2) finance; (one's) finances; financial circumstances; (n) (3) being economical; economy; thrift; (P)
* 国際化 【こくさいか】 (n,vs,vt,vi) internationalization; internationalisation; (P)
* 移住 【いじゅう】 (n,vs,vi,adj-no) migration; immigration; (P)
* 外国人労働者 【がいこくじんろうどうしゃ】 (n) foreign worker
* 受け入れ : 受け入れ(P); 受入れ; 受入 【うけいれ】 (n) receiving; acceptance; reception; (P); 《verb stem》 受け入れる : 受け入れる(P); 受入れる; 受け容れる; 受けいれる; 受容れる 【うけいれる】 ; (v1,vt) to accept; to receive; to agree; (P)
* 高齢化社会 【こうれいかしゃかい】 (n) aging society; ageing society;
* 高齢者 【こうれいしゃ】 (n) old person; elderly person; senior citizen; (P)
* 孤立 【こりつ】 (n,vs,vi) isolation; being alone; being friendless; (P)
* サポート (n,vs,vt) support; (P)
* 社会的 【しゃかいてき】 (adj-na) social; societal; societary; (P)
* 支援 【しえん】 (n,vs,vt) support; backing; aid; assistance; (P)
* 東日本大震災 【ひがしにほんだいしんさい】 (n) (abbr) (See 東北地方太平洋沖地震) Great East Japan earthquake (March 11, 2011); Tōhoku earthquake; Tohoku earthquake; Sendai earthquake;
* 直後 【ちょくご】 (n,adv) immediately following; (P)
* 地震 【じしん(P); ない(ok); なえ(ok); じぶるい(ok)】 (n) earthquake; (P); ED
* 津波 : 津波(P); 津浪; 海嘯 【つなみ】 (n) tsunami; tidal wave; (P)
* 被害 【ひがい】 (n) (suffering) damage; injury; harm; (P)
* 避難生活 【ひなんせいかつ】 (n) living in evacuation shelters
* 救出 【きゅうしゅつ】 (n,vs,vt) rescue; extricate; reclaim; deliverance; (P)
* 援助 【えんじょ】 (n,vs,vt) assistance; aid; support; (P)
* 海外の from 海外 【かいがい】 (n,adj-no) foreign; abroad; overseas; (P)
* 反応 【はんのう(P); はんおう】 (n,vs,vi) reaction; response; (P)
* 復興 【ふっこう】 (n,vs,vt,vi) revival; reconstruction; restoration; rebuilding; recovery; renaissance; (P)
* 政策 【せいさく】 (n) political measures; policy; (P)
* 被災地 【ひさいち】 (n) stricken area; disaster-stricken area; affected area; afflicted area;
* 立て直し : 立て直し; 立直し 【たてなおし】 (n) revamping; reshaping; rearranging; reorganizing; 《verb stem》 立て直す : 立て直す(P); 立直す; 立てなおす 【たてなおす】 ; (v5s,vt) (1) to put back up; to stand back up; (v5s,vt) (2) to restore (to former strength); to revive (e.g. the economy); to reorganize; to rearrange; to put right; to recover; to put back on its feet; (v5s,vt) (3) to make again (a plan, policy, etc.); to reformulate; to revise; (P)
* ボランティア : ボランティア(P); ボランテア(sk); ボランテァ(sk) (n) volunteer; (P)
* 国民 【こくみん】 (n) (1) people (of a country); nation; citizen; national;
* 団結 【だんけつ】 (n,vs,vi) unity; union; solidarity; combination; teaming up; (P)
* 困難 【こんなん】 (n,adj-na) (1) difficulty; hardship; trouble; distress; (n,adj-na) (2) (euph) infeasibility; inability (to carry out); (P); ED
* 乗り切る : 乗り切る(P); 乗りきる 【のりきる】 (v5r,vt) (1) to weather (a storm, rough seas); to ride across; to sail across; (v5r,vt) (2) to get through (adversity); to weather; to get over; to tide over; to overcome; to survive; (v5r,vi) (3) to load completely (e.g. books on a shelf, people or luggage in a car); (P)
* 力 【ちから】 (n) (1) force; strength; might; vigour; vigor; energy; (n) (2) capability; ability; proficiency; capacity; faculty; (n) (3) efficacy; effect; (n) (4) effort; endeavours; endeavors; exertions; (n) (5) power; authority; influence; good offices; agency; (n) (6) (See 力になる) support; help; aid; assistance; (n) (7) stress; emphasis; (n) (8) means; resources; (P)
* 心のケア 【こころのケア】 (exp,n) emotional care; emotional support; caring for someone's mental well-being
* 福島【ふくしま】 (p) Fukushima
* 原発 【げんぱつ】 (n) (1) (abbr) (See [原子力発電所](https://www.edrdg.org/cgi-bin/wwwjdic/wwwjdic?1MDJ%B8%B6%BB%D2%CE%CF%C8%AF%C5%C5%BD%EA), [原子力発電](https://www.edrdg.org/cgi-bin/wwwjdic/wwwjdic?1MDJ%B8%B6%BB%D2%CE%CF%C8%AF%C5%C5)) nuclear power plant; nuclear power generation; (adj-no,n,vs) *[P]*
* 事故 【じこ(P); ことゆえ(ok)】 (n) (1) accident; incident; trouble; (n) (2) circumstances; reasons; (P)
* 省エネ 【しょうエネ】 (n) (abbr) (See 省エネルギー) energy conservation; economical use of energy
* 日常生活 【にちじょうせいかつ】 (n) everyday life; daily life; (P)
* エネルギー供給 【エネルギーきょうきゅう】 (n) energy supply
* めぐる (v5r,vi) (1) to go around; to make a circle around; (v5r,vi) (2) to surround; to circle; to enclose; (v5r,vi) (3) to come around (of a season, anniversary, turn, etc.); to return; to repeat; to circulate (of blood, money, etc.); (v5r,vi) (4) to travel around; to make a tour of; (v5r,vi) (5) to concern (a matter); to surround; KD
* 議論 【ぎろん】 (n,vs,vt) argument; discussion; dispute; controversy; (P)
* 関する 【かんする】 (vs-s) to concern; to be related; (P)
* 昔の from 昔 【むかし】 (adj-no,n,adv) olden days; former; (P)
* 知恵 : 知恵(P)【ちえ】 (n) (1) wisdom; wit; sagacity; sense; intelligence; (n)