

VCE Japanese First Language 2022–2026

Written examination – End of year

Examination specifications

Overall conditions

The examination will be sat at a time and date to be set annually by the Victorian Curriculum and Assessment Authority (VCAA). [VCAA examination rules](#) will apply.

There will be 15 minutes of reading time and 2 hours of writing time.

The examination will be assessed by a panel appointed by the VCAA.

The examination will contribute 40 per cent to the study score.

Content

The *VCE Japanese First Language Study Design 2022–2026* is the document for the development of the examination.

All of the key knowledge and key skills that underpin the relevant outcomes in Units 3 and 4 are examinable. The examination will relate to the themes and topics prescribed on page 7 of the *VCE Japanese First Language Study Design 2022–2026*.

Format

The examination will be in the form of a question and answer book.

The examination will consist of three sections.

Section 1

In Section 1 students will be required to read one text in Japanese (Text 1A) and listen to one text in Japanese (Text 1B). The two texts will be related to a prescribed theme and topic. The two texts will also be related in subject matter and/or context and represent two different text types.

The listening text (Text 1B) will be played twice. There will be a pause between the first and second playings. There will be an announcement at the start of the first playing and a sound to alert students just before the start of the second playing. Students may make notes in the designated space for notes in the question and answer book at any time during the two playings and pauses. Notes in this note-taking space will **not** be assessed. After the second playing, students will be given approximately 20 minutes to complete their responses.

Students will be asked three to four questions, of which one will be an extended-answer question. Questions may relate to either Text 1A or Text 1B, or to both texts. Students may be required to extract, summarise,

interpret, analyse and integrate information and/or compare aspects of both texts. Students may also be required to comment on the target audience, the purpose of the text and/or the way in which language is used in the text to achieve a purpose.

The extended-answer question will relate to both texts and will also be assessed on the quality of the student's integration of information.

Questions will be phrased in Japanese for responses in Japanese.

A related visual text may be included in Section 1 and will be examinable.

Section 1 will be worth a total of 20 marks.

Section 2

In Section 2 students will be required to read one text in Japanese (Text 2A) and listen to one text in Japanese (Text 2B). The two texts will be related to a prescribed theme and topic. The texts will also be related in subject matter and/or context and represent two different text types.

The listening text (Text 2B) will be played twice. There will be a pause between the first and second playings. There will be an announcement at the start of the first playing and a sound to alert students just before the start of the second playing. Students may make notes in the designated space for notes in the question and answer book at any time during the two playings and pauses. Notes in this note-taking space will **not** be assessed.

In Section 2 students will be required to respond to a task based on information and ideas provided in the two texts. Students will produce a text in Japanese in which they develop ideas, arguments and/or opinions based on evidence in the two texts. Students will be expected to identify and synthesise relevant information and ideas from the two texts. The task will specify a context, purpose, style of writing (personal, imaginative, persuasive, informative or evaluative), audience and text type. Examples of the text type that students may be required to produce are given on page 8 of the *VCE Japanese First Language Study Design 2022–2026*. Students will be required to write a response of approximately 800 *ji*. The task will be phrased in Japanese for a response in Japanese.

A related visual text may be included in Section 2 and will be examinable.

Section 2 will be worth a total of 20 marks.

Section 3

In Section 3 students will be required to write a text that presents ideas and/or information and/or opinions and/or arguments. There will be a choice of two tasks. Students must attempt **one** of these tasks. Each task will be related to one of the prescribed themes. Each task will specify a context, purpose, style of writing (personal, imaginative, persuasive, informative or evaluative), audience and text type. Examples of the text type that students may be required to produce are given on page 8 of the *VCE Japanese First Language Study Design 2022–2026*.

The two tasks in Section 3 will differ from the task in Section 2 in both text type and style of writing.

Students will be required to write a response of approximately 1100 *ji*. The tasks will be phrased in Japanese for a response in Japanese.

A visual text may be included in Section 3.

Section 3 will be worth a total of 25 marks.

The total marks for the examination will be 65.

Answers are to be recorded in the spaces provided in the question and answer book.

Additional information on texts

The total length of one playing of the two listening texts in Section 1 and Section 2 will be between 4½ and 5 minutes.

The total length of the two reading texts in Section 1 and Section 2 will be approximately 1600 *ji*.

There will be one or two visual texts in this examination.

Approved materials and equipment

- Normal stationery requirements (pens, pencils, highlighters, erasers, sharpeners and rulers)
- Any printed monolingual and/or bilingual dictionary in one or two separate volumes

Relevant references

The following resources should be referred to in relation to the VCE Japanese First Language written examination:

- *VCE Japanese First Language Study Design 2022–2026*
- [Advice for teachers – Japanese First Language](#)
- *VCAA Bulletin*

Advice

During the 2022–2026 accreditation period for VCE Japanese First Language, examinations will be prepared according to the examination specifications above. Each examination will conform to these specifications and will test a representative sample of the key knowledge and key skills from all relevant outcomes in Units 3 and 4.

Students should use command/task words, other instructional information within questions and corresponding mark allocations to guide their responses.

A separate document containing a sample examination has been published on the VCE Japanese First Language '[Examination specifications, past examinations and examination reports](#)' page on the VCAA website.

The sample examination provides an indication of the format of the examination, and the types of questions teachers and students can expect until the current accreditation period is over.

The VCAA does not provide answers to sample examinations.