



Families and Societies	Influence of Language on Culture	Influence of Beauty and Art	Science and Technology	Factors of Quality of Life	Environmental, Political, and Social Challenges
<p>Families are a key component of Japanese society. Multigenerational households are common.</p> <p>Respecting one's elders, especially in a family setting, is very important, and this translates to society in general.</p> <p>Many Japanese people travel back to their hometown during Obon (which is during the New Year's period).</p>	<p>Japanese has three alphabets, 漢字 (かんじ), ひらがな、カタカナ。</p> <p>There are multiple levels of formality, depending on one's relationship with the person you are speaking with.</p> <p>When speaking to bosses, teachers, or superiors, you use 敬語 (けいご) the honorific form.</p> <p>Check out this <a href="#">full Fiveable study guide</a> for a list of formal and informal greetings and phrases.</p>	<p>Traditional Japanese art forms include flower arranging (いけばな), origami (おりがみ), and calligraphy (しゅうじ),</p> <p>In modern times, J-Pop groups like AKB48, 嵐 (あらし) or artists like 宇多田ヒカル are some of the most popular entertainers in Japan and around the globe.</p> <p>Although traditional entertainment like らくご、きよげん、おかぶき are deep-rooted, they are not as popular today as in the past.</p>	<p>Science and Technology play important roles in Japanese society.</p> <p>The Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, and Technology (MEXT) and several other organizations fund researchers.</p> <p>Some Japanese advancements include the 新幹線 (しんかんせん)、car companies like Toyota, and robots (ロボット).</p>	<p>Japanese education is mandatory until year 9 (中学校3年). High school goes from 10th to 12th grade (高校一年生から高校3年生まで).</p> <p>College is a time for job-hunting, and most Japanese students aim to become 正社員 (permanent employees), with company loyalty emphasized.</p> <p>Japan's work culture tends towards overwork, and efforts to prevent this have been to little effect.</p>	<p>The middle class in Japan is very large, but the problem of economic stagnation continues to lower the purchasing power of workers today.</p> <p>Japan's World War II history remains a national issue, with revisionism being a point of controversy.</p> <p>Although the birth rate of Japan is declining and the population is aging, the government is taking measures to increase immigration to yet-unknown affect.</p>

TIPS & TRICKS



EXAM SKILLS ↓

Text Chat	Conversation	Compare-Contrast Essay	Cultural Presentation	MCQ: Reading	MCQ: Listening
<p><b>Use the appropriate formality level for an adult, fellow student, etc.</b></p> <p>Try to use your greetings and goodbyes if you can. Ask your chat "partner" questions!</p> <p>The more you type the better, as the grader will have more material from which to award points.</p>	<p>Begin with an appropriate greeting—you may not always need to do your full self-introduction. <b>Listen to the prompt.</b></p> <p>Have a few potential topics and responses in mind before the test.</p> <p>If you don't know what to say, make stuff up. Try to be as relaxed as possible—treat it like a real</p>	<p><b>Write an outline of what you want to say first.</b> Be mindful of what vocabulary you know and your time.</p> <p>Suggested phrasing: いま、〇と〇とを比べてみます。 私の意見として、Your opinion. 以上です。</p>	<p><b>Even if you don't know a lot, say what you know and be confident.</b> Write an outline beforehand.</p> <p>Be sure to provide clear examples that you can discuss in one or two sentences.</p> <p>Suggested phrasing: これから日本の技術について話します。 以上です。</p>	<p>If you are unfamiliar with the Kanji used, try to <b>determine their meaning based on context.</b></p> <p>Pay attention to the start and end of a passage, they will often contain the main points or key meanings of the passage.</p>	<p><b>Hang on to the key words</b> (marked by particles, etc.) and try to infer meanings based on that.</p> <p>Try to construct as accurate of a summary as you can mentally or on your scratch paper.</p> <p>Use elimination to eliminate clearly unrelated or incorrect options.</p>