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JF

Japanese Language Resource

JF Japanese Language Resource Overview

For Students in Secondary Education

pp.4-5

For General Learners

pp.6-13

Living/Working in Japan

pp.14-17

For Teachers

pp.18-21

Textbooks



"Let's Learn Japanese with DVDs. Erin's Challenge! I Can Speak Japanese."



"Marugoto: Japanese Language and Culture"



"Irodori: Japanese for Life in Japan"



JF Standard for Japanese-Language Education (JFS)



"JFS Guidebook"



"Role-play test based on the JF Standard"



"JF Teaching Japanese Series"

Online Courses



JF Japanese e-Learning *Minato*



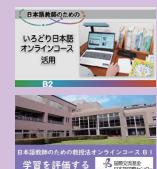
Marugoto Japanese Online Course



IRODORI Japanese Online Course



JF Japanese e-Learning *Minato*



E-Learning

Websites



"Erin's Challenge! I Can Speak Japanese." Contents Library



MARUGOTO Plus



Japanese in Anime & Manga



Hirogaru, get more of Japan and Japanese



NIHONGO e-na



Hikidasu Nihongo: Activate Your Japanese! Content Library



Nihongo de Care-navi



'Minna no Can-do' website



'Minna no Kyozaï' website



On-Demand Resource for Japanese Language Teaching Methods

Apps



Challenge with Erin! -Japanese Language Test-



HIRAGANA/KATAKANA/KANJI Memory

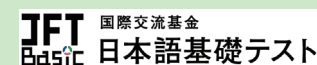


Hint

Tests



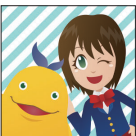
Japanese-Language Proficiency Test (JLPT)



The Japan Foundation Test for Basic Japanese (JFT-Basic)

Detailed information about each resource is available here. Please check the website of each resource for the latest information.

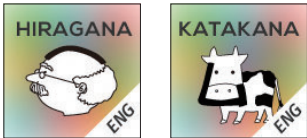


Resource Name	Price	Level	URL	Overview	Supported Languages
 “Let’s Learn Japanese with DVDs. Erin’s Challenge! I Can Speak Japanese.” (Book 1-3)	Paid	A1 A2		This is a DVD learning material which was created based on a Japanese language learning program . It is intended for Japanese language learners in elementary and secondary education. It provides opportunities to learn about Japanese language, Japanese school life, and youth culture through drama skits.	【Subtitles】 English•Japanese•Chinese (Simplified)•Korean•Portuguese
 “Erin’s Challenge! I Can Speak Japanese.” Contents Library	Free	A1 A2		This is a website for the “Erin’s Challenge! I Can Speak Japanese.” It provides videos and useful content for learning Japanese, as well as providing learning materials such as skits for each section.	English•Japanese 【Subtitles•Materials】 English•Japanese• Chinese (Simplified&Traditional)• French•Indonesian•Korean• Portuguese•Spanish•Thai•Vietnamese
 Challenge with Erin! -Japanese Language Test-	Free	A1		This is a Japanese language learning app for beginners, mainly aimed at learners in secondary education . It has a ‘ Study section ’ where you can enjoy learning vocabularies and phrases through card games, manga, and quizzes, and a ‘ Test section ’ to check how much you have learned.	English•Indonesian

Resource Name			
	“Marugoto: Japanese Language and Culture”		Marugoto Japanese Online Course
Price	Paid		Free
Level	A1 A2 A2/B1 B1		A1 A2 A2/B1
URL			
Overview	This is a Japanese coursebook for adult Japanese learners based on the JF Standard for Japanese Language Education. This series covers levels from Starter (A1), Elementary 1 & 2 (A2), Pre-intermediate (A2/B1), to Intermediate 1 & 2 (B1). The levels from Starter to Elementary 2 are structured into two parts: “<i>Katsudoo</i>,” which is focused on developing practical communication skills, and “<i>Rikai</i>,” which focuses on learning language knowledge. The “<i>Marugoto</i>” website is a website where you can download online supplementary materials to use with the coursebook, such as audio files and vocabulary lists. It also provides teaching tips, class introduction videos, and other useful resources.		This is the online course version of “Marugoto: Japanese Language and Culture.” It is offered through the Japanese language learning platform “JF Japanese e-Learning <i>Minato</i>.” Using interactive materials, you can learn Japanese by yourself.
Supported Languages	【Coursebook】 English・Japanese Overseas Edition E-books Digital Library China・Egypt・India・Indonesia・Malaysia・Peru・Philippines・South Korea・Thailand・Vietnam English・Brazilian Portuguese・Chinese (Traditional)・French・German・Nepali English	【Website】 English・Japanese Supplementary Materials English・Arabic・Chinese (Simplified)・French・German・Hungarian・Indonesian・Italian・Khmer・Korean・Portuguese・Russian・Spanish・Thai・Vietnamese	English・Japanese・Chinese (Simplified)・French・Indonesian・Portuguese・Spanish・Thai・Vietnamese

Resource Name	  MARUGOTO Plus	 KANJI Memory Hint1・2・3
Price	Free	Free
Level	A1 A2	A1 A2
URL		
Overview	This is a website designed to enhance learning with the Japanese coursebook “Marugoto: Japanese Language and Culture.” It allows you to learn kanji and grammar, practice conversation with video clips, and study Japanese life and culture. The “MARUGOTO-NO-KOTOBA” section of the website can be used as an online dictionary.	This is an app that allows you to learn kanji in a fun way through mnemonic pictures. You can check how well you have learned kanji through games. It covers the kanji from the “Marugoto” coursebooks.
Supported Languages	English・Japanese・Spanish 【MARUGOTO-NO-KOTOBA】 English・Chinese (Simplified)・French・Indonesian・Portuguese・Spanish・Thai・Vietnamese	English・Thai

Resource Name	Price	Level	URL	Overview	Supported Languages
 JF Japanese e-Learning <i>Minato</i>	Free (Partly Paid)	A1 A2 B1 B2		This is a platform for learning Japanese. You can study Japanese and Japanese culture through online courses anywhere in the world. A variety of courses are available, including “Hiragana & Katakana,” “Kanji,” “Ikebana, Tea Ceremony, & Calligraphy,” and “Japanese for Anime & Manga.” You can select the courses that interest you and start learning.	English • Japanese • Chinese (Simplified) • Indonesian • Spanish • Thai • Vietnamese
 Japanese in Anime & Manga	Free	A1 A2 B1 B2		This is a website where you can learn Japanese commonly used in anime and manga. Through quizzes and games, you can explore and learn unique Japanese expressions that are often not found in textbooks.	English • Japanese • Chinese (Simplified) • French • Korean • Spanish
 Hirogaru, get more of Japan and Japanese	Free	A1 A2		This is a website where you can learn Japanese and Japanese culture by topic. You can explore 12 different topics by watching videos and reading articles, allowing you to engage with Japan and the Japanese language.	English • Japanese

Resource Name	Price	Level	URL	Overview	Supported Languages
 NIHONGO えな	Free	A1 A2 B1 B2		This is a portal site that provides easy-to-understand introductions to websites and apps that are useful when learning Japanese. In addition to website and app searches, it also offers some ideas that can help with your Japanese learning goals.	English•Japanese
 HIRAGANA Memory Hint KATAKANA Memory Hint	Free	A1		This is an app that helps you learn hiragana and katakana in a fun way using mnemonic pictures. You can check how well you have learned by taking quizzes.	English•Indonesian•Thai
 Japanese-Language Proficiency Test (JLPT)	Paid	N5 N4 N3 N2 N1		This is a test that measures and certifies the Japanese language proficiency for non-native speakers. There are five levels, from N5 to N1, and it measures comprehensive Japanese communicative competence through three elements: “language knowledge,” “reading,” and “listening.” The CEFR level corresponding to the total score of each JLPT level is available here: https://www.jlpt.jp/e/about/cefr_reference.html The JLPT is the largest Japanese language proficiency test in the world, and it is administered twice a year in more than 80 countries and regions, including Japan (with Japan Educational Exchanges and Services, a co-organizer, handling the domestic administration). The certification from the JLPT is used in various ways, including as reference material for immigration procedures to Japan, for credit or graduation qualifications in schools, for benefits in companies, and for social qualifications.	NA



Irodori: Japanese for Life in Japan

Free

A1 A2 A2/B1



This is a **Japanese coursebook** based on the JF Standard for Japanese-Language Education, which is designed for people living and working in Japan. It aims to help overseas learners acquire the Japanese language skills needed for everyday life and work in Japan. To learn practical Japanese, the textbook includes audio materials and real-life examples that are actually seen and used in daily life in Japan. Irodori is made up of four parts: Starter (A1), Elementary 1 & 2 (A2), and Pre-Intermediate (A2/B1). PDF versions of all lessons and audio files are available for free download from the “Irodori” website.

English • Japanese • Bengali • Chinese (Simplified & Traditional) • Filipino • French • Hindi • Indonesian • Khmer • Korean • Lao • Mongolian • Myanmar • Nepali • Portuguese • Russian • Spanish • Thai • Ukrainian • Uzbek • Vietnamese



IRODORI Japanese Online Course

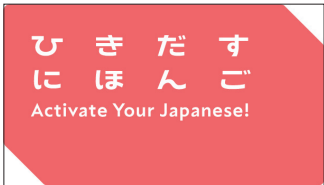
Free

A1 A2

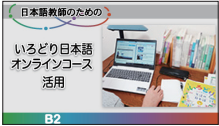


This is an **online course** designed to help you acquire the Japanese language skills you need for everyday life in Japan. In the ‘**Study Content**’ section, you can study according to the Can-do goals in the “Irodori” series. You can practice speaking with conversation videos in real-life situations, engage in interactive listening and reading exercises, and check your progress through review quizzes and tests. The ‘**Practice Content**’ section allows you to focus and practice on areas from four categories (vocabulary, kanji, grammar, and expressions) where you may be struggling or lacking confidence (can also practice on the “**IRODORI Practice**” app). The ‘**Support Content**’ section provides explanations for words and grammar during your studies, while the ‘**My Page**’ feature helps you track your learning progress and achievements to support your independent learning.

English • Japanese • Bengali • Chinese (Simplified) • Indonesian • Khmer • Lao • Mongolian • Myanmar • Nepali • Thai • Vietnamese

Resource Name	Price	Level	URL	Overview	Supported Languages
 Hikidasu Nihongo: Activate Your Japanese! Content Library	Free	A2 B1		This is a website for the Japanese language learning program “Hikidasu Nihongo: Activate Your Japanese!” , which is aimed primarily at overseas learners who want to live and work in Japan, and those who want to learn about Japanese social life. The website offers videos from different sections of the program, as well as related content that is useful for teaching and learning Japanese.	English・Japanese 【Subtitles】 English・Japanese・Chinese (Simplified)・Hindi・Indonesian・Myanmar・Spanish・Thai・Vietnamese
 Nihongo de Care-navi	Free	A1 A2 B1 B2		This is a website designed to support Japanese language learning in the fields of caregiving and nursing . It allows you to search for essential vocabularies and phrases used in the fields of nursing and caregiving, such as basic words used when working in hospitals and care facilities, common phrases for communicating with coworkers, and useful words for everyday life in Japan.	English・Japanese・Indonesian
 The Japan Foundation Test for Basic Japanese (JFT-Basic)	Paid	A1 A2		This is a test designed to assess the Japanese language skills needed to communicate in everyday life situations encountered by foreigners coming to Japan primarily for work. It assesses whether a person has reached A1, A2.1, or A2.2 (A2) under the CEFR, the JF Standard for Japanese-Language Education, and the Reference Framework for Japanese Language Education. The test can be used as proof of Japanese language proficiency when applying for the status of residence of “Specified Skilled Worker (i),” “Employment for Skill Development” and “Student*.” The test is conducted both overseas (mainly in Asia) and in Japan, generally every month. Questions are delivered and answered on computers at test centers, and results are available immediately after the test is taken. The test is composed of four sections: “Script and Vocabulary,” “Conversation and Expression,” “Listening Comprehension,” and “Reading Comprehension,” and the questions are based on the Can-do statements of the CEFR and the JF Standard for Japanese-Language Education. *Enrollment in a Japanese language education institution	【Problems, control buttons, warnings, etc. displayed on the test screen】 English 【Problems that appear when you click on the “Your Language” button】 English・Bengali・Chinese (Simplified)・Indonesian・Khmer・Lao・Malay・Mongolian・Myanmar・Nepali・Thai・Uzbek・Vietnamese

Resource Name	  JF Standard for Japanese-Language Education	 ‘Minna no Can-do’ website	 ‘Minna no Kyozaï’ website	  “Role-play test based on the JF Standard”
Price	Free	Free	Free	Free
URL				
Overview	The JF Standard for Japanese-Language Education (JFS) is a tool for considering how to teach, learn, and assess Japanese language proficiency. It was developed with reference to the CEFR. The core principle of the JFS is “Japanese for mutual understanding,” with a focus on developing both competence in accomplishing tasks and competence in intercultural understanding.	This is a database of Can-do statements. With Can-do statements, it can help you to define the learning objectives clearly and your Japanese language proficiency objectively. You can search for the Can-do statements that match your goals and use them in course design, lesson planning, and assessment.	This is a website that provides materials and ideas that can be used for teaching classes and creating teaching materials. You can freely download and use resources for classroom activities, reading comprehension, illustrations, photos, realia, and grammar explanations. It also offers lesson plans and teaching materials aligned with the JFS framework which are aimed at achieving Can-do statements. The website allows users to upload teaching materials and comment on materials created by other users.	This is a test designed to measure learners’ competence in spoken interaction. It can be easily conducted in about 15 minutes and can be tailored to the needs of learners and educational settings. It can also be used for purposes such as placement tests. You can view and download videos, necessary manuals and materials needed to conduct the test from the website.

Resource Name	 “The Japan Foundation Teaching Japanese Series” (Book 1-14)	 On-Demand Resource for Japanese Language Teaching Methods	   “JF Japanese e-Learning <i>Minato</i>” Courses for Teachers
Price	Paid	Free	Free
URL			
Overview	These are books for learning Japanese language teaching methods. The series covers 14 topics such as specific teaching methods for pronunciation, characters and vocabularies, grammar, the four language skills (listening, speaking, reading, writing), teaching methods by level, Japanese culture, learning assessment, and teaching materials development.	This is an on-demand learning resource for studying the basic knowledge of teaching methods by theme which can be used by teachers for self-study. There are eight courses available: JFS, Characters, Grammar, Conversation, Reading Comprehension, Composition, Culture, and Learning Assessment.	These are online courses for Japanese language teachers offered on “JF Japanese e-Learning <i>Minato</i>.” All courses are designed to support the teaching and learning of Japanese using online resources. Available courses include “Teaching Methods Online Course,” “Guide to Applying e-Learning,” “Utilizing Irodori Japanese Online Courses,” and “Introduction to Video Teaching Materials Creation.”

Cultivating **friendship** and **ties** between Japan and the world

Through culture, language, and dialogue, the Japan Foundation creates opportunities to foster friendship, trust, and mutual understanding between Japan and other countries/regions.

FIELDS

The Japan Foundation develops programs in three different fields
—Arts and Cultural Exchange,
Japanese-Language Education Overseas,
and Japanese Studies and Global Partnerships Programs.

The Japan Foundation is Japan's only institution dedicated to carrying out comprehensive international cultural exchange programs throughout the world. The three major focuses of our activities are Arts and Cultural Exchange, Japanese-Language Education Overseas, and Japanese Studies and Global Partnerships Programs. The Japan Foundation has a global network consisting of the Tokyo Headquarters, the Kyoto Office, two affiliated organizations (the Japan Foundation Japanese-Language Institute, Urawa; and the Japan Foundation Japanese-Language Institute, Kansai), and 26 overseas offices (As of March 31, 2026). We are working to facilitate exchange in a variety of fields with the aim of further deepening mutual understanding and ties between Japanese people and the world.

文化

Culture

Arts and Cultural Exchange

Coming into contact with arts and cultures from other countries generates and stimulates people's interest and empathy beyond language barriers. By introducing diverse aspects of Japanese arts and culture to people around the world, we bring people closer together.

言語

Language

Japanese-Language Education Overseas

The Japan Foundation provides opportunities for more people worldwide to learn Japanese and works to help Japanese-language education develop autonomously and sustainably in each country. We also strive to enhance initiatives that respond to contemporary needs, such as achieving a multicultural society.

対話

Dialogue

Japanese Studies and Global Partnerships Programs

The Japan Foundation promotes Japanese studies overseas and seeks to sustain dialogue with the rest of the world, thereby increasing mutual understanding and trust, and enhance global collaboration and human networks that can solve common issues.