

## Japanese Course Level Guide

**(Note: Conversational Japanese levels ARE DIFFERENT! To see how levels correspond to the Conversational Japanese courses, please go to the end of this document.)**

Questions? Contact the Language Center at [language@japansociety.org](mailto:language@japansociety.org) or 212-715-1293.

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## Level 1

(covers textbook *GENKI 1* Lesson 1-3 & *Hiragana*)

For complete beginners of the Japanese language. Basic vocabulary, elementary conversation and simple sentence structure will be taught in *Romaji* (Japanese written phonetically in the English alphabet). *Hiragana* (a Japanese syllabary) will be introduced. The required textbook is **GENKI Vol. I**. The following is the sentence patterns that you are expected to master in each chapter.

- L. 1            Watashi wa nihonjin desu.  
                  Ima nanji desuka.  
                  Takeshi-san no denwa bangou wa nan desuka.
- L. 2            Are wa nan desuka. Ano tokei wa sen-en desu. Toire wa asoko desu.  
                  Kore wa dare no kaban desuka.  
                  Otousan wa nihonjin desu. Okaasan mo nihonjin desu.  
                  Watashi wa gakusei ja naidesu. Kore wa sakana desuyo.
- L. 3            Tanaka-san wa kaisha de koohii o nomimasu.  
                  Nichiyoubi ni nihon ni kaerimasu.  
                  Ashita, eiga o mimasenka.  
                  Maki-san wa zenzen manga o yomimasen.  
                  Kyou wa nani o shimasuka.

## Anime

Structured for high school students and fans of Japanese animation, this course will use various popular anime as a medium to introduce students to basic vocabulary, elementary conversation, and simple sentence structures.

## Yukkuri Nihongo: Learn Japanese at a Leisurely Pace

(covers textbook *Japanese for Busy People, Vol. 1, Romanized version Lesson 1-5*)

This class will proceed at a slower pace to accommodate those who would like to take time mastering Japanese. The class will use the textbook written in the English alphabet.

## Level 2

(covers textbook *GENKI 1* Lesson 4-5 & *Katakana*)

You must be able to read and write *Hiragana*.

- L. 4 Asoko ni sensei ga imasu. Getsuyoubi ni kurasu ga arimasu.  
Ginkou wa kissaten no tonari desu.  
Yamashita sensei wa ryuugakusei deshita.  
Watashi wa kinou benkyou shimasen deshita.  
Senshuu resutoran ni ikimashita. Hon-ya nimo ikimashita.  
Kinou nihongo o sanjikan benkyou shimashita.  
Kouen de shashin o takusan torimashita.  
Nihongo to eigo o hanashimasu. Tomodachi to kankoku ni ikimasu.
- L.5 Nihongo wa tanoshii desu. Tomodachi wa totemo genkina hito desu.  
Yamashita sensei wa manga ga suki deshita.  
Kissaten de koohii o nomimasenka.  
Lee-san wa kitte o sanmai kaimashita.

### **Level 3**

(covers textbook *GENKI 1* Lesson 6-7 & Kanji)

You must be able to use both *Hiragana* and *Katakana* comfortably. This course will focus on the introduction and use of the “te” form of the verb, noun, and adjective, and continue with the building of conversation skills and vocabulary.

- L. 6 かんじを おしえてください。  
きょうかしよを みてもいいですか。  
ここのしゃしんを とってはいけません。  
けさ6じにおきて、しゅくだいを しました。  
こんばん うちで べんきょうします。あした テストがありますから。  
にもつを もちましようか。
- L.7 おとうさんは、いま テレビをみています。  
キムさんは けっこんしています。  
トムさんは かみが ながいです。  
あのホテルは きれいで、よかったです。  
デパートに かばんをかいに いきました。  
クラスに イギリスじんのがくせいが ひとりいます。

### **Level 4**

(covers textbook *GENKI 1* Lesson 8-9 & Kanji)



～たり～たりする

～たことがある

Noun A や Noun B: コーヒーやおちゃを飲みます。

## Level 6

(covers textbook *GENKI 2* Lesson 12-14 & Kanji)

- L. 12      ～んです  
            ～すぎる  
            ～ほうがいいです  
            ～ので: 今日は日曜日なので、ぎんこうは休みです。  
            ～なければなりません  
            ～でしょう: あしたは雨でしょう。
- L. 13      Potential Form: 日本語をはなせます。  
            ～し: あの mise は安いし、家に近いし、よく行きます。  
            ～そうです: この本はむずかしそうです。  
            ～てみる  
            ～なら  
            一週間に三回
- L. 14      ほしい  
            ～かもしれません  
            あげる/くれる/もらう  
            ～たらどうですか  
            #も、#しか～ない: ともだちは、ねこを四ひきも かっています。

## Level 7

(covers textbook *GENKI 2* Lesson 15-17 & Kanji)

- L. 15      Volitional Form : 食べに行こう。  
            Volitional+と思っています  
            ～ておく  
            Using Sentences to Qualify Nouns : 日本で見れないえいが
- L. 16      ～てくれる/あげる/もらう, ～といい  
            ～時, ～てすみませんでした
- L. 17      ～そうです (I hear...), ～って  
            ～たら

～なくてもいいです, ～みたいです

～前に/～てから

L. 15-17

レベル7まとめ

## **Level 8**

(covers textbook *GENKI 2* Lesson 18-20 & Kanji)

L. 18

Transitivity Pairs : ドアをしめます v s ドアがしまります

～てしまう

～と, ～ながら

～ばよかったです

L. 19

Honorific Verbs : いらっしゃる、めしあがる、おっしゃる

Giving Respectful Advice : お読みください

～てくれてありがとう, ～てよかったです

～はずです

L. 20

Extra-Modest Expressions : おります、申します、ございます

Humble Expressions : お会いします、本をいただきました

～ないで

Questions within Larger Sentences : J Sがどこにあるか知っていますか。

Name という Item, ～やすい/にくい

## **Level 9**

(covers textbook *GENKI 2* Lesson 21-23 & Kanji)

L. 21

Passive Sentences : カードを使われました

～てある

～間に

Adj + する

～てほしい

L. 22

Causative Sentences : 学校に行かせました

Verb+なさい

～ば

～のに

～のような/ように

L. 23

Causative-Passive Sentences : 勉強させられます

～ても

～ことにする

～まで

～方

-----**PLEASE NOTE: Courses above Level 9 are designed to be taken repeatedly.**-----

### **Level 10**

(Comparable in level to the Kanji 1, Kanji 2, JLPT N4 or JLPT N3 course)

Designed for those who have mastered basic grammar and sentence patterns. Development of conversational skills will be the focal point of these classes.

### **Level 10.5**

(Comparable in level to the Kanji 1, Kanji 2, JLPT N4 or JLPT N3 course)

Designed for those who have mastered basic grammar and sentence patterns. Development of speaking, listening and reading skills will be the focal point of these classes.

### **Level 11**

(Comparable in level to the Kanji 2 or JLPT N3 course)

Reading materials include short articles and stories of current interest. Listening comprehension is improved by the use of television programs, including Japanese drama. Use of idioms is emphasized in both speaking and writing. Recognition of 500 kanji is expected. Topic based courses may also be offered.

### **Level 12**

(Comparable in level to the Kanji 3 or JLPT N2 course)

Theme based courses such as J-Drama, Business, and Novels. Students will be asked to express their opinions on a wide range of topics in class. Recognition of 800 kanji is expected.

### **Level 13**

(Comparable in level to the Kanji 4 or JLPT N1 course)

The most advanced level. Original source materials from current events from television programs, Japanese newspapers and magazines, as well as drama, movies, etc. will be used to increase knowledge of useful expressions and idioms. Discussion will be encouraged to promote oral communication. Writing is

also emphasized. Students should be able to recognize at least 1200 kanji. Topic based courses may also be offered.

### **Kanji 1 or JLPT N4**

(Comparable in difficulty to level 9, 10 or 10.5)

For students who want to master the essential *kanji* taught in Japan's elementary schools. Students are expected to learn approximately 300 *kanji*, with a focus on understanding the basic radical systems. This course covers the *kanji* necessary for taking the JLPT N4 and N5 tests. This course is conducted almost entirely in Japanese.

### **Kanji 2 or JLPT N3**

(Comparable in difficulty to level 10, 10.5 or 11)

For students who have already mastered approximately 300 *kanji*, and are looking to learn 680 total *kanji* (taken from the JLPT N3 preparatory books). This course is conducted in Japanese, and covers the *kanji* necessary for taking the JLPT N3 test.

### **Kanji 3 or JLPT N2**

(Comparable in difficulty to level 12)

Students will study approximately 500 *kanji* (taken from the JLPT N2 preparatory books) to master 1,180 *kanji*, a level at which Japanese newspapers can be read with some assistance. This course is conducted in Japanese, and covers the *kanji* necessary for taking the JLPT N2 test.

### **Kanji 4 or JLPT N1**

(Comparable in difficulty to level 13)

Students will study approximately 950 *kanji* (taken from JLPT N1 preparatory books) to master the 2,000 plus *kanji* necessary to comfortably read Japanese newspapers. This course is conducted in Japanese, and covers the *kanji* necessary for taking the JLPT N1 test.

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## **Conversational Japanese Levels**

**Beginner Conversation**= for students who have finished Level 1 or 2 content (from our regular levels above)



**Advanced-Beginner Conversation**= for students who have finished Level 3 or 4 content (from our regular levels above), or equivalent.

**Intermediate Conversation**= for students who have finished Level 5, 6 or 7 content (from our regular levels above), or equivalent.

**Advanced-Intermediate Conversation**= for students who have finished Level 8, 9, 10 or 10.5 content (from our regular levels above), or equivalent.

**Advanced Conversation**= for students who have finished or are enrolled in Level 11 or higher (from our regular levels above), or equivalent.

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***Still have questions? Unsure about your level?***

Please call Director and Japanese instructor Tomoyo Kamimura at 212-715-1293 to discuss further, or email [language@japansociety.org](mailto:language@japansociety.org).

We hope to see you soon!

頑張りましょう！ Ganbarimashou! Let's study hard!