Conversational Japanese Courses
Level Guide

Last updated Nov. 11, 2022

Links below will take you to each level in order of increasing experience. Please read the grammar points at that level to see if they are familiar to you. Note that the categories “Beginner,” “Intermediate,” and “Advanced” below are approximations.

Conversational Japanese classes are offered in the 5-week semesters between every core-curriculum 10-week semester (Levels 1-13). They were structured to supplement and reinforce coursework from the numbered levels, and therefore the prerequisites refer to what level you have finished. New students are also welcome to join, even if they have not taken classes at Japan Society before.

These courses are offered during the 5-week semesters, approximately: mid-April to mid-May, early August to mid September, and early December to late January.

Beginner Levels

Conversation: C1
Conversation: C2
Conversation: C3-4

Intermediate Levels

Conversation: C5-6
Conversation: C7-8
Conversation: C9-10

High Intermediate & Advanced Levels

Conversation: C11-12
Conversation: C13

Still have questions? Unsure about your level?
Beginner Levels

Conversation: C1

For students who have finished Level 1 of our Japanese Courses (see the Levels 1-13 Japanese Level Guide), or equivalent.

Elementary social/situational conversation skills will be introduced. This course covers the first portion of the Marugoto Japanese Language and Culture, Starter (A1) Katsudoo textbook (Topics 1-6). See Table of contents and Sample.

Conversation: C2

For students who have finished Level 2 of our Japanese Courses (see the Levels 1-13 Japanese Level Guide), or equivalent.

Students will learn more social/situational conversation skills. This course covers the second portion of the Marugoto Japanese Language and Culture, Starter (A1) Katsudoo textbook (Topics 7-9). See Table of contents and Sample.

Conversation: C3-4

is for students who have finished Level 3 or 4 of our Japanese Courses (see the Levels 1-13 Japanese Level Guide), or equivalent, and feel confident with Level 3 content/grammar. This class will be a nice challenge for the student who has just finished Level 3, and more comfortable for those who have finished Level 4. (If you are not confident in Level 3 patterns, C 2 may be a better conversational course for you.)

The course will focus on skills needed to survive in Japan. Frequently used expressions will be practiced in context. The course is taught in two parts (odd lessons and even lessons) of the Marugoto Japanese Language and Culture, Elementary 1 (A2) Katsudoo textbook. See Table of contents and Sample.

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Intermediate Levels

**Conversation: C5-6**

is for students who have **finished Level 5 or 6** of our Japanese Courses (see the Levels 1-13 [Japanese Level Guide](#)), or equivalent, and **feel confident with Level 5 content/grammar**. This class will be a nice challenge for the student who has just finished Level 5, and more comfortable for those who have finished Level 6. If you are not confident in Level 5 patterns, C 3-4 may be a better conversational course for you.

The course will focus on strengthening speaking skills by having students engage in various exercises. The course is taught in two parts (odd lessons and even lessons) of the *Marugoto Japanese Language and Culture, Elementary 2 (A2) Katsudoo* textbook. See [Table of contents](#) and [Sample](#).

**Conversation: C7-8**

is for students who have **finished Level 7 or 8** of our Japanese Courses (see the Levels 1-13 [Japanese Level Guide](#)), or equivalent, and **feel confident with Level 7 content/grammar**. This class will be a nice challenge for the student who has just finished Level 7, and more comfortable for those who have finished Level 8. If you are not confident in Level 7 patterns, C 5-6 may be a better conversational course for you.

The course will focus on activities in various situations and language structures (e.g. sentence patterns) which support communication. The course is taught in two parts (odd lessons and even lessons) of the *Marugoto Japanese Language and Culture, Pre-Intermediate A2/B1* textbook. See [Table of contents](#) and [Sample](#).

**Conversation: C9-10**

is for students who have **finished Level 9, or are taking or finished level 10** of our Japanese Courses (see the Levels 1-13 [Japanese Level Guide](#)), or equivalent, and **feel confident with Level 9 content/grammar**. This class will be a nice challenge for the student who has just finished Level 9, and
more comfortable for those at a higher level. If you are not confident in Level 9 patterns, C 7-8 may be a better conversational course for you.

The course will emphasize role-playing by the students in different social and business situations. The focus will be on maintaining a conversation and learning and using situational vocabulary. The course is taught in two parts, first and second half.

See Sample here.

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**High Intermediate & Advanced Levels**

**Conversation: C11-12**

is for students who have **finished at least one semester of Level 11** (see the Levels 1-13 Japanese Level Guide) and are conversationally fluent at that level of our Japanese Courses or higher. If you are not confident in Level 11, C 9-10 may be a better conversational course for you.

Students will study and discuss various Japanese cultural topics, including social media. New vocabulary and expressions will be introduced. The course is repeatable and will cover different content every semester.

**Conversation: C13**

is for students at Level 12 (see the Levels 1-13 Japanese Level Guide) or equivalent, and have passed JLPT N2 or equivalent knowledge. Students should recognize at least 1,200 kanji.

実際の日本の番組をみながら、実用的な慣用句、表現、生きた日本語の習得を目指す最上級者向けコースです。

さすが上級者！と言われるような洗練されたカッコいい日本語を会話で使いこなしてみませんか。
Still have questions? Unsure about your level?

Please call the Language Center office at 212-715-1269 or 212-715-1293, or email language@japansociety.org.

It may also be possible to arrange a level assessment with the Director, Kamimura sensei. Level assessment appointments are typically on Wednesday afternoons Eastern Time, and can be arranged by emailing language@japansociety.org.

We hope to see you soon!