

Japanese 11
Introduction to Different Genres of Japanese Writing and Film
Amherst College

Course Instructor

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Course Description

Japanese 11 introduces different genres of writing: short novels, essays, newspaper and magazine articles, poems, expository prose, and others. Various genres of films will also be introduced. Development of higher speaking and writing proficiency levels will be focused upon as well. The class will be conducted entirely in Japanese. Attending two large classes and two practice sessions per week are normally required throughout the semester.

Required textbooks

1. *Japanese: The Stage-Step Method, Grammar-Reference Book (2008)* by Wako Tawa
2. *The Japanese Stage-Step Course: Workbook 2: (Wako Tawa, 2009) NEW*
Available at Amherst Books, www.amherstbooks.com, 8 Main St Amherst,
(413) 256-1547 or any other bookstores.
3. Photocopied selected readings

Please purchase #2 above. The cost of #3 will be charged to your account at the end of the semester. This is true for all students, including 5-college interchange students.

Course Objectives

General objectives for this course are:

- to be familiar with characteristics of different genres of readings and/or films;
- to know the difference between spoken and written Japanese;
- to be able to judge situations for appropriate speech and writing styles;
- to be able to discuss and support abstract ideas in sustained conversations and writings.

In order to achieve these objectives, every student must:

- attend every class
- do daily work, as directed and suggested by your instructor (it need not be long, but it is very important to study everyday)
- communicate the problems he or she has with the material to the instructor as soon as and as often as possible

Policies on attendance, deadlines and quizzes

Being successful in a Japanese language class requires attending classes regularly and meeting deadlines for frequent assignments and preparing thoroughly for quizzes and classes. We understand, however, that keeping up with frequent requirements for a Japanese class may be difficult at times. We have therefore made the following policies to have a little more flexibility.

- We allow each student to miss up to two TTh Practice Sessions without penalty per semester.
- We allow each student to submit two assignments late per semester, but the late assignments must be completed by the following Monday, 5:00 pm.
- There will be 10 kanji quizzes per semester, and you must complete 8 of out 10 quizzes (minimum requirement). You must create your own Kanji quiz and submit it by Friday 5 pm to the box near my office door. Then, take it by Thursday next week in Webster 114. (See CMS to download a blank kanji quiz sheet.)
- No make-up test will be given under any circumstances, but the students will have an option of correcting any quiz; in this case, some points may be added to the original grade, and the number of point depends on the quality of corrections.
- No delays are allowed for the final written examination or oral tests.
- It is not possible to give a make-up class or practice session to a student who was absent. It is your responsibility to check the daily schedule and to know what you have missed with your classmate(s). Please do not ask your instructor if you have missed anything important when you were absent because the answer is always YES. If you have specific questions, we would be happy to meet with you at our offices.
- Other exceptions can be made only with the class Dean's or your doctor's note.

Grade Distribution

MW class attendance and participation	10%
TTh practice session attendance, preparation and performance	10%
Assignments (quantity/quality)	15%
2 oral presentations and/or interviews	20% (10% each)
2 written quizzes	20%(10% each)
Written final	15%
Effort (Kanji acquisition, steady development, communication)	10%

Final written examination

12/18 (Friday) ~12/22 (Tuesday): Self-scheduled examination (announced in the Registrar's website).

IMPORTANT: For five-college interchange students: Unfortunately the academic calendar of the five-colleges is not uniform. It is our expectation, however, that all students who take Japanese at Amherst will follow the Amherst calendar, including the final examination schedule as well as the daily schedule. To be fair to other students, we will NOT be able to make special arrangements for the final examinations for the five-college students.

Things to remember in practice sessions

- ✓ No English is allowed as soon as you enter your practice session.
- ✓ Japanese should be used among the students in the room as well as with the teacher.
- ✓ When you use English in the session, your teacher will remind you to say it in Japanese.
- ✓ It is required that the students study the material BEFORE coming to each practice session so that the practice sessions will move smoothly and meaningfully.
- ✓ There will be no new material introduced in class, so you should avoid any grammar questions in the practice sessions. If you must ask, wait until the session is over.
- ✓ When you have other questions (e.g. word meanings), ask in Japanese.
- ✓ Do not be afraid to make mistakes. It is natural to make more mistakes when you speak more. But this should not prevent you from speaking Japanese.
- ✓ Do not take it personally when corrected. Being corrected is one of the best ways to learn to speak. In fact, you must get used to being corrected all the time.
- ✓ Come to every practice session. This is probably the most important way to participate in class and learn.

- Tentative practice sessions (Tuesdays and Thursdays, Webster 115):

Sign up for Thursday, 9/10 and Tuesday, 9/15

- (1) 9:00 - 9:50
- (2) 10:00 - 10:50
- (3) 11:30 - 12:20
- (4) 1:00 - 1:50
- (5) 2:00 - 2:50

Daily Schedules (subject to change)

- Check CMS often for detailed instructions.
- Page numbers below are those in the *workbook 2*.
- Friday assignments: due 5:00 p.m. 111 Webster (in the box next to the office door)
- For writing, write 1~2 pages (using 原稿用紙 is the best in most cases)
- KQ = Kanji Quiz

Date	Topics	Focus	Task before class
Unit 1: メディア (Genre: Media language)			
9/8 (火)	ニュースメディア	Skimming, Discussion	
9/9 (水)	テレビメディア	Skimming, Discussion	
9/10 (木)	メディア	Discussion	See CMS
9/11 (金)	ニュースレポート Create KQ #1	Writing about summer events/news	Assignment #1
9/14 (月)	Stage 3-2	pp.216-219	Read Grammar
9/15 (火)	Stage 3-2	pp.216-219	Study vocab
9/16 (水)	Stage 3-2	pp.219-223	Read Grammar
9/17 (木)	Stage 3-2	pp.219-223	Study vocab
9/18 (金)	Script for oral Create KQ #2	Writing news	Assignment #2
9/21 (月)	Stage 3-2	pp.224-226	Read Grammar
9/22 (火)	Stage 3-2	pp.224-226	Study vocab
9/23 (水)	Stage 3-2, Steps 2/3	pp.227-229 Steps 2/3(1)(2)	Check vocab
9/24 (木)	Stage 3-2, Steps 2/3	pp.227-229	Study vocab
9/25 (金)	Listening	Listening comprehension	Assignment #3
9/28 (月)	Test #1	materials 9/8~9/25	
9/29 (火)	Oral test #1	report with visuals	
Unit 2: 日本社会 (Genre: essay, film, and short story)			
9/30 (水)	Stage 3-2, Step 3	p. 229-230	Check vocab
10/1 (木)	Stage 3-2, Step 3	p. 229-230	Study vocab
10/2 (金)	Movie, KQ #3	Viewing film “ <i>Shall we dance?</i> ”	
10/5 (月)	<i>Shall we dance?</i>	Content, Vocabulary	Check vocab
10/6 (火)	<i>Shall we dance?</i>	Giving storylines	Study vocab
10/7 (水)	Essays	Skimming	(worksheet)
10/8 (木)	Essays,	Expressing opinions	Study vocab
10/9 (金)		Rest!	
10/12 (月)	秋休み	Sleep!	
10/13 (火)	TBA	Discussion	
10/14 (水)	Stage 3-3	pp.234-238	Read Grammar わけ
10/15 (木)	Stage 3-3	pp.234-238	Study vocab
10/16 (金)	KQ #4, Writing	Writing essays	Assignment #4
10/19 (月)	Stage 3-3	pp.238-242	Read Grammar
10/20 (火)	Stage 3-3	pp.238-242	Study vocab
10/21 (水)	Stage 3-3	pp.242-245	Read Grammar

10/22 (木)	Stage 3-3	pp.242-245	Study vocab
10/23 (金)	KQ #5, Writing	Writing essays	Assignment #5
10/26 (月)	Stage 3-3	pp.246-250	Read Grammar
10/27 (火)	Stage 3-3	pp.246-250	Study vocab
10/28 (水)	Short stories	Close reading	Check vocab
10/29 (木)	Short stories	Telling stories	Study vocab
10/30 (金)	KQ #6, Listening	Listening comprehension	Assignment #6
11/2 (月)	Test #2	materials 9/30~10/30	
11/3 (火)	Oral test #2	Debate (topics given)	
Unit 3: 食文化 (Genre: expository)			
11/4 (水)	和食	Close reading	Check vocab
11/5 (木)	和食	Speaking in discourse	Study vocab
11/6 (金)	DVD (cooking)	Viewing & understanding instructions	Assignment #7
11/9 (月)	食文化	Close reading	Check vocab
11/10 (火)	食文化	Speaking in discourse	Study vocab
11/11 (水)	Stage 3-4	pp.259-263	Read Grammar
11/12 (木)	Stage 3-4	pp.259-263	Study vocab
11/13 (金)	KQ #7, Writing	Writing instructions	Assignment #8
11/16 (月)	Stage 3-4	pp.263-265	Read Grammar
11/17 (火)	Stage 3-4	pp.263-265	Study vocab
11/18 (水)	Stage 3-4	pp.265-269	Read Grammar
11/19 (木)	Stage 3-4	pp.265-269	Study vocab
11/20 (金)	KQ #8, Writing	Writing expository	Assignment #9
Thanksgiving break (11/21~11/29)			
11/30 (月)	Stage 3-4	pp.269-272	Read Grammar
12/1 (火)	Stage 3-4	pp.269-272	Study vocab
12/2 (水)	Reading instructions/manuals	Skimming and close reading	worksheets
12/3 (木)	Reading instructions	Speaking in discourse	Study vocab
12/4 (金)	KQ #9	Giving instruction; explaining	Assignment #10
Unit 4: 詩 (Genre: poetry reading and writing)			
12/7 (月)	詩	Poetry comprehension	Study the poems
12/8 (火)	詩	Speaking in discourse	Study vocab
12/9 (水)	詩の説明	Reading comprehension	Check vocab
12/10 (木)	詩の説明	Speaking in discourse	Study vocab
12/11 (金)	KQ #10, writing poems	Writing poetry	Assignment #11
12/4 (月)	詩の種類	Close reading	Check vocab Post your corrected poem in CMS
12/15 (火)	詩の種類 友達の詩	Speaking in discourse	Read your friends' poems (Blogs)

Final examination: Self-scheduled (12/18~12/22). See final examination schedules in the Registrar's website. The focus of the written final examination will be Units 3 and 4.