

LESSON NOTES

JLPT S2 #1

New JLPT N4 Prep Course

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VOCABULARY

Kanji	Kana	Romaji	English
通う	かよう	kayou	to commute, to attend, to go back and forth;V1
通る	とおる	tōru	to pass (by), to go through
代わりに	かわりに	kawari ni	instead of
早く	はやく	hayaku	early; soon
以上	いじょう	ijō	more than, above, over
以下	いか	ika	less than, below, not exceeding
以外	いがい	igai	other than, except from
以前	いぜん	izen	since, before
以後	いご	igo	after this, from now on, hereafter, thereafter

SAMPLE SENTENCES

<p>毎日、私は学校に通っています。 <i>Mainichi watashi wa gakkō ni kayotteimasu.</i></p> <p>I go to school every day.</p>	<p>この道を通りたいけど、狭くて車が入れない。 <i>Kono michi o tōritai kedo semakute kuruma ga hairenai.</i></p> <p>I want to pass through this road, but it's too narrow for the car to enter.</p>
<p>牛肉の代わりに、鳥肉を使った。 <i>Gyūniku no kawari ni, toriniku o tsukatta.</i></p> <p>I used chicken instead of beef.</p>	<p>早く家に帰りたいです。 <i>Hayaku ie ni kaeritai desu.</i></p> <p>I want to go home soon.</p>

<p>気温が30度以上になる。 <i>Kion ga sanjū-do ijō ni naru.</i></p> <p>The temperature gets above 30 degrees.</p>	<p>気温が0度以下になる。 <i>Kion ga rei-do ika ni naru.</i></p> <p>The temperature gets below 0 degrees.</p>
<p>わたしは、肉以外は好きです。 <i>Watashi wa, niku igai wa suki desu.</i></p> <p>I like anything except meat.</p>	<p>以前、メキシコに行ったことがあります。 <i>Izen, Mekishiko ni itta koto ga arimasu.</i></p> <p>I've been to Mexico before.</p>
<p>以後、気をつけます。 <i>Igo, ki o tsukemasu.</i></p> <p>I'll be careful from now on.</p>	

GRAMMAR

New JLPT N4 Prep Course Lesson 1 About the New JLPT Format

In 2010, the Japanese Language Proficiency Test (JLPT) will switch over to a new format. Before 2010, there were four levels (Levels 1, 2, 3, and 4), but starting in 2010, a new level will be inserted between Levels 2 and 3, increasing the number of levels to 5.

N1	Passing requirements do not change from old Level 1
N2	About the same as old Level 2
N3	New level between old Levels 2 and 3
N4	About the same as old Level 3
N5	About the same as old Level 4

Under the new system, all of the levels will be offered twice a year, in July and December. The application process differs depending on where you take the test, so please refer to the following links for more information.

For those taking the test in Japan: <http://www.jees.or.jp/jlpt/>
For those taking the test abroad: <http://www.jlpt.jp/>

For those taking the test in Taiwan: <http://www.koryu.or.jp/>

About Level N4

The criteria and content of Level N4 are as follows:

Reading	Examinee is able to understand passages with basic vocabulary and kanji on familiar topics.
Listening	Examinee is able to follow along with everyday conversations spoken at a slow pace.

Level N4 is 125 minutes altogether and is comprised of three different sections. The table below shows the time allotted for each section:

Kanji/Vocabulary	30 minutes
Grammar/Reading Comprehension	60 minutes
Listening Comprehension	35 minutes

In this prep course for Level N4, we will go over Kanji and Vocabulary in Lessons 1-3, Grammar and Reading Comprehension in Lessons 4-8, and Listening Comprehension in Lessons 9-12.

About the Language Knowledge, Kanji, and Vocabulary Section

In this section, you are tested on how many words you know as well as how well you know certain words. There are five types of questions:

もんだい	Number of Questions	Type of Question
1	9 questions	Kanji ⇒ Hiragana: select the correct reading of the kanji.

2	6 questions	Hiragana ⇒ Kanji: select the correct kanji that corresponds to the hiragana.
3	10 questions	Choose the word that best fits in the context.
4	5 questions	Choose the sentence that has the same meaning as the given sentence.
5	5 questions	Choose the sentence that correctly uses the given word.

In this lesson, you'll get an idea of what **もんだい** 1 and 2 of the Kanji and Vocabulary section are like.

Sample Question

もんだい 1

Instructions

____のことは どう よみますか。

1・2・3・4から いちばん いい ものを ひとつ えらんでください。

How do you read the underlined *kanji*?

Choose the best answer from 1 to 4.

Sample question:

1. あには バスで 会社に 通っています。

1) かよって 2) 行って 3) むかって 4) とおって

Answer: 1) かよって

もんだい 2

____のことは どう かきますか。

1・2・3・4から いちばんいい ものを ひとつ えらんでください。

How do you write the underlined Hiragana in Kanji?

Choose the best answer from 1 to 4.

Sample question:

1. ふねで にもつを おくります。

1) 送ります 2) 遅ります 3) 近ります 4) 遠ります

Answer: 1) 送ります

Kanji You Have to Know for N4

Verbs

Here is a list of thirty basic verbs that often show up in the Kanji section. Please note that on the test, the verb may show up in different forms (negative, past, *te* form, etc.). Please check the box if you already know the vocabulary word and how to conjugate it.

Group 1

<input type="checkbox"/>	Kanji	Hiragana	"English"
<input type="checkbox"/>	洗う	あらう	"to wash"
<input type="checkbox"/>	歌う	うたう	"to sing"
<input type="checkbox"/>	使う	つかう	"to use"
<input type="checkbox"/>	間に合う	まにあう	"to make it in time"
<input type="checkbox"/>	習う	ならう	"to learn"
<input type="checkbox"/>	歩く	あるく	"to walk"

<input type="checkbox"/>	急ぐ	いそぐ	"to hurry"
<input type="checkbox"/>	着く	つく	"to arrive"
<input type="checkbox"/>	働く	はたらく	"to work"
<input type="checkbox"/>	引く	ひく	"to pull"
<input type="checkbox"/>	貸す	かす	"to lend"
<input type="checkbox"/>	写す	うつす	"to copy," "to take a photo"
<input type="checkbox"/>	持つ	もつ	"to possess"
<input type="checkbox"/>	死ぬ	しぬ	"to die"
<input type="checkbox"/>	進む	すすむ	"to move ahead"
<input type="checkbox"/>	住む	すむ	"to live"
<input type="checkbox"/>	集まる	あつまる	"to gather"
<input type="checkbox"/>	売る	うる	"to sell"
<input type="checkbox"/>	送る	おくる	"to send"
<input type="checkbox"/>	終わる	おわる	"to finish"
<input type="checkbox"/>	帰る	かえる	"to return"
<input type="checkbox"/>	知る	しる	"to know"
<input type="checkbox"/>	作る	つくる	"to make"
<input type="checkbox"/>	乗る	のる	"to ride"
<input type="checkbox"/>	走る	はしる	"to run"

Group 2

<input type="checkbox"/>	Kanji	Hiragana	"English"
<input type="checkbox"/>	教える	おしえる	"to teach"
<input type="checkbox"/>	考える	かんがえる	"to think"
<input type="checkbox"/>	借りる	かりる	"to borrow"
<input type="checkbox"/>	答える	こたえる	"to answer"
<input type="checkbox"/>	始める	はじめる	"to start"

Note: The Kanji 通

The tricky thing about this kanji (通) is that the reading changes depending on the context.

For Example:

1. 通う (かよう)
"to commute," "to attend"
→ 会社に通う "to commute (to work)"
2. 通る (とおる)
"to pass," "to go through"
→ その道を通る
"to go down that street"

We write the *te* form as 通って, which we can read as かよって or とおって depending only on the context.

Adjectives

Here are the top five adjectives that frequently appear in the Kanji section. Make sure you study not only the dictionary forms but also the other forms (negative, past, negative past, etc.) as well.

<input type="checkbox"/>	Kanji	Hiragana	"English"
<input type="checkbox"/>	楽しい	たのしい	"fun"
<input type="checkbox"/>	黒い	くろい	"black"
<input type="checkbox"/>	広い	ひろい	"spacious"
<input type="checkbox"/>	親切	しんせつ	"kind"
<input type="checkbox"/>	有名	ゆうめい	"famous"

When you learn a new adjective, please also look up the adjective that has the opposite meaning if possible.

<input type="checkbox"/>	Kanji	Hiragana	"English"	<input type="checkbox"/>	Kanji	Hiragana	"English"
<input type="checkbox"/>	明るい	あかるい	"bright"	<input type="checkbox"/>	暗い	くらい	"dark"
<input type="checkbox"/>	重い	おもい	"heavy"	<input type="checkbox"/>	軽い	かるい	"light"
<input type="checkbox"/>	強い	つよい	"strong"	<input type="checkbox"/>	弱い	よわい	"weak"
<input type="checkbox"/>	寒い	さむい	"cold"	<input type="checkbox"/>	暑い	あつい	"hot"
<input type="checkbox"/>	遠い	とおい	"far"	<input type="checkbox"/>	近い	ちかい	"near"
<input type="checkbox"/>	正しい	ただしい	"correct"	<input type="checkbox"/>	悪い	わるい	"bad"
<input type="checkbox"/>	古い	ふるい	"old"	<input type="checkbox"/>	新しい	あたらしい	"new"
<input type="checkbox"/>	長い	ながい	"long"	<input type="checkbox"/>	短い	みじかい	"short"
<input type="checkbox"/>	低い	ひくい	"low"	<input type="checkbox"/>	高い	たかい	"high"

□

便利

べんり

"convenient"

□

不便

ふべん

"inconvenient"
