



# **Japanese: Second Language ATAR course practical (oral) examination requirements**

---

**2023**

## **Acknowledgement of Country**

Kaya. The School Curriculum and Standards Authority (the Authority) acknowledges that our offices are on Whadjuk Noongar boodjar and that we deliver our services on the country of many traditional custodians and language groups throughout Western Australia. The Authority acknowledges the traditional custodians throughout Western Australia and their continuing connection to land, waters and community. We offer our respect to Elders past and present.

## **Copyright**

© School Curriculum and Standards Authority, 2017

This document – apart from any third party copyright material contained in it – may be freely copied, or communicated on an intranet, for non-commercial purposes in educational institutions, provided that the School Curriculum and Standards Authority (the Authority) is acknowledged as the copyright owner.

Copying or communication for any other purpose can be done only within the terms of the *Copyright Act 1968* or with prior written permission of the Authority. Copying or communication of any third party copyright material can be done only within the terms of the *Copyright Act 1968* or with permission of the copyright owners.

Any content in this document that has been derived from the Australian Curriculum may be used under the terms of the [Creative Commons Attribution 4.0 International \(CC BY\) licence](#).

## Contents

<b>Japanese: Second Language ATAR course practical (oral) examination .....</b>	<b>1</b>
1. Reporting achievement.....	1
2. Provisions for sickness or misadventure .....	2
3. Principles of external assessment.....	2
4. Criteria for marking.....	2
5. Marking procedure .....	3
6. Examination procedure.....	3
7. Breach of examination rules .....	4
8. Structure of the practical (oral) examination .....	4
9. Conduct of the practical (oral) examination.....	4
10. Key dates.....	6
<b>Appendix 1: Personalised practical examination timetable.....</b>	<b>7</b>



## Japanese: Second Language ATAR course practical (oral) examination

This document provides general advice to teachers, candidates and parents about the Japanese: Second Language ATAR course practical (oral) examination.

Where a Year 12 ATAR course has both a written and a practical examination, students are required to sit for both of these examinations. Students who do not sit an ATAR course examination and do not have an approved sickness/misadventure application for that course will not have the grades for the pair of units completed in that year contribute to the calculation of the Western Australian Certificate of Education (WACE).

The practical (oral) examination for the Japanese: Second Language ATAR course will be held during the period from **Saturday, 14 October** to **Sunday, 22 October 2023** (weekends included) at metropolitan locations. Candidates must be available to complete their practical (oral) examination during this time. A *Personalised practical examination timetable* (Appendix 1) for each candidate will be made available from **Tuesday, 5 September 2023**. Examination timetables can be download by schools/providers via SIRS and by students from the School Curriculum and Standards Authority (the Authority) [student portal \(https://studentportal.scsa.wa.edu.au/\)](https://studentportal.scsa.wa.edu.au/). Country candidates are expected to sit their practical (oral) examination via telephone or may choose to travel to the examination centre at their own cost.

For the Japanese: Second Language ATAR course examination, the weightings are:

- Written examination 70%
- Practical (oral) examination 30%

### 1. Reporting achievement

Teachers are responsible for ensuring the practical (oral) examination requirements are met and making sure candidates are adequately prepared. Teachers must ensure they are using the current syllabus. Any further advice on matters related to the syllabus or assessment will be published in the [11to12 Circulars \(https://www.scsa.wa.edu.au/publications/circular-ecircular/11to12-circulars\)](https://www.scsa.wa.edu.au/publications/circular-ecircular/11to12-circulars), on the Authority website.

Teachers should also refer to the ATAR course examination information published in Section 6 of the [WACE Manual \(https://www.scsa.wa.edu.au/publications/wace-manual\)](https://www.scsa.wa.edu.au/publications/wace-manual), on the Authority website.

For all ATAR courses with a practical examination, for the pair of units, schools are required to submit to the Authority a:

- course mark out of 100 (weighted for each component)
- mark out of 100 for the written component
- mark out of 100 for the practical component
- grade for the completed pair of units.

## 2. Provisions for sickness or misadventure

Consideration may be given to candidates (with the exception of non-school candidates) suffering from a temporary sickness or misadventure close to or during the examinations. The candidate may submit a *Sickness/Misadventure Application*, if they believe their performance in an examination has been affected by the sickness or misadventure.

If a candidate misses or is not able to complete an examination session for health reasons, it is important that medical evidence be provided to verify the nature and severity of the illness/injury. In most cases, that will mean producing evidence from a medical professional who was consulted on the day of the examination or the day before.

Applications will be considered only if made on the correct form, available from examination centres and the Authority website (from September 2023) at <http://www.scsa.wa.edu.au/forms/forms>.

**Applications that relate to the practical component must be submitted immediately following the practical examination.**

Only one form should be used to cover all examinations for which the application is being made. The completed form and all supporting evidence must be received at the Authority by **4.00 pm Tuesday, 21 November 2023**.

A candidate with an injury or illness existing at the start of Term 3 is not entitled to apply for sickness/misadventure consideration on the basis of the existing injury or illness.

## 3. Principles of external assessment

The marking process preserves the anonymity of candidates and their school. This requires that candidates are identified only by their Western Australian student number (WASN).

Markers apply a consistent standard to assess the candidate's performance. This requires:

- a marking key for the practical (oral) examination
- attendance at a marker training meeting prior to the commencement of marking
- trial marking of sample oral recordings to ensure a common understanding of the marking key
- the practical (oral) examination to be marked independently by two markers who then reconcile any differences between them
- the Chief Marker to ensure consistency throughout the marking by monitoring the marking process and reconciling significant differences where necessary.

## 4. Criteria for marking

Practical (oral) performance is assessed on what a candidate is able to demonstrate through each part of the interview. The *Japanese: Second Language ATAR course practical (oral) marking key 2023*, published on the Authority website, identifies the assessment criteria suited to each part of the interview and describes levels of candidate performance for each criterion. Therefore, candidates are advised to familiarise themselves with the marking key as preparation for their performance in the examination. Candidates are strongly advised to participate in a conversation with the marker, rather than attempt to recite a prepared response that resembles a monologue. In

the interest of the candidate, such monologues will be interrupted by the marker at an appropriate point.

A numerical scale is used to assess candidate performance in the practical (oral) examination. All candidates are examined against the following criteria:

- comprehension
- response (relevance and depth of information)
- language range (vocabulary and grammar)
- language accuracy (grammar)
- speech (fluency, pronunciation and intonation).

## 5. Marking procedure

Each candidate's practical (oral) examination is marked independently by two markers. One marker conducts the interview while the second marker sits in the background and makes notes on the candidate's performance. An audio recording of each candidate's performance is made. The audio recordings are used to ensure comparability between markers.

## 6. Examination procedure

On the day of the practical (oral) examination, the candidate **must** bring a signed hard copy of their *Personalised practical examination timetable* to the examination as proof of enrolment, together with a form of photographic ID for proof of identity. An image of their *Personalised practical examination timetable* on their mobile phone will not be accepted as proof of enrolment.

The candidate must also bring one stimulus item of their choice (e.g. picture, image, object, diagram, map) related to the learning contexts and topics of Unit 3 and/or Unit 4. Notes or annotations are not permitted on the stimulus item. Candidates may bring prepared notes to support their stimulus item. A candidate who does not bring the required stimulus item to the examination is unable to complete Part B of the examination and will therefore receive a zero score for this part.

The candidate may bring one combined print dictionary (one Japanese/English and English/Japanese dictionary) or two separate print dictionaries (one Japanese/English dictionary and one English/Japanese dictionary). Dictionaries must not contain any notes or other marks. No electronic dictionaries are allowed.

If a candidate is found with any unauthorised materials during the examination, they will be referred to the Breach of Examination Rules Committee.

Candidates **must not** wear or carry anything that identifies them, any school, club or achievements. Failure to do so will result in a breach of examination rules. The candidate is responsible for their personal belongings at all times.

The candidate is required to report to a supervisor at the examination centre at the scheduled reporting time. This reporting time is 20 minutes before the scheduled examination time. The scheduled examination time is the time at which the candidate begins their preparation. The practical (oral) examination includes both the preparation time and interview.

A candidate who has not reported to a supervisor once their scheduled examination time has commenced will not be admitted to the practical (oral) examination and the examination cannot be rescheduled.

The supervisor takes the candidate to a preparation room. There may be more than one candidate being supervised in the preparation room.

At the commencement of the scheduled examination time, a supervisor gives the candidate a preparation booklet. During the preparation time, the candidate prepares for the interview by continuing to make notes in their preparation booklet and, if they wish, by referring to their dictionary.

The candidate is taken to an interview room at the prescribed time.

The candidate must leave the examination area once they have completed the examination and must not have contact with candidates waiting to be examined, teachers, or other parties who are seeking feedback from the examination until all the examinations have concluded. Failure to do so may result in a breach of examination rules.

## 7. Breach of examination rules

An alleged breach of examination rules will be referred to the Breach of Examination Rules Committee. Further information related to examination breaches can be found on the [Rules of conduct for Year 12 ATAR course examinations page \(https://senior-secondary.scsa.wa.edu.au/assessment/examinations/rules-of-conduct-for-atar-course-examinations\)](https://senior-secondary.scsa.wa.edu.au/assessment/examinations/rules-of-conduct-for-atar-course-examinations) on the Authority website and in Part II of the *Year 12 Information Handbook*, published in July.

A breach of one of these rules can result in cancellation of part or all of the practical raw examination mark.

## 8. Structure of the practical (oral) examination

Examination	Duration
Part A: Preparation of stimulus	15 minutes
Part B: Discussion prompted by stimulus	approximately 3–4 minutes
Part C: Conversation	approximately 7–8 minutes

## 9. Conduct of the practical (oral) examination

### Part A: Preparation of stimulus (15 minutes)

During the preparation time, the candidate prepares responses to the stimulus item they have brought with them, and using their prepared notes, continues to make notes in the preparation booklet provided. The candidate may refer to a dictionary during the preparation time, but not during Part B and Part C of the examination.



Following the preparation time, the candidate hands their prepared notes and preparation booklet to the supervisor.

The candidate takes all their belongings, including dictionaries and the stimulus item, with them to the interview room and is instructed where to place them for the duration of the interview.

**Part B: Discussion prompted by stimulus** (approximately 3–4 minutes)

When the candidate enters the interview room, the marker begins by greeting the candidate in Japanese and then asks them in English to state their WASN. The candidate reads out their WASN in English.

For example:

Marker: おはようございます・こんにちは

Candidate: おはようございます・こんにちは

Marker: おげんきですか。

Candidate: はい、げんきです。

Marker: I am your interviewer for the Japanese: Second Language practical (oral) examination today. Can you read me your WA student number in English please?

Candidate: Yes my number is ...

Marker: Thank you. I'll repeat that number (repeats number to confirm).

The marker initiates Part B of the examination with one of the following questions:

For example:

Marker: 何かもってきましたか。

or

何について話しますか。

and

では、話してください。おねがいします。

The candidate responds by introducing the stimulus item in Japanese in up to 60 seconds and states the learning context and topic from Unit 3 and/or Unit 4 of the syllabus to which they are relating it. During this time the marker does not ask questions.

The marker then asks questions about the stimulus item that provide the candidate with the opportunity to express ideas and opinions. The candidate uses their responses to support the discussion and should also aim to display a flexible use of a range of linguistic structures and vocabulary during this time.

At the end of Part B, the marker asks the candidate whether they have any more to add to the discussion.

For example:

Marker: 他に何か言いたいことはありますか?

Candidate: いいえ。

or

はい。

Marker: ありがとうございます。

### **Part C: Conversation (approximately 7–8 minutes)**

In Part C, the candidate participates in a conversation in Japanese with the marker, drawing on a range of topics from Unit 3 and Unit 4.

The marker initiates Part C of the examination.

For example:

Marker: では、次はパートCです。今年、日本語のクラスでは、何をべんきょうしましたか。

The marker asks questions to encourage the candidate to speak about the topics from Unit 3 and Unit 4. The conversation does not include the focus of the stimulus item discussed in Part B of the examination. Neither the number of questions nor the number of topics covered by the examination is predetermined; however, the candidate can expect to be asked a range of questions sampling the content of both course units. The questions the marker asks may relate to a previous response made by the candidate or introduce a new topic. The range and depth of questions asked are sufficient to allow an accurate assessment of the candidate's linguistic ability. The candidate uses their responses to demonstrate their Japanese oral communication skills and understandings of the topics of each of the course units.

At the end of Part C, the marker stands, thanks the candidate, and states that the examination has concluded.

For example:

Marker: はい、おつかれさまでした。これでしけんがおわりました。さようなら。

## **10. Key dates**

### **Thursday, 20 July 2023**

Last date for withdrawal of enrolment from ATAR courses with a practical examination component

### **Tuesday, 5 September 2023**

Personalised examination timetables can be downloaded by schools/providers via SIRS. Students can access their personalised examination timetables via the student portal

### **Saturday, 14 October to Sunday, 22 October 2023 (weekends included)**

Japanese: Second Language ATAR course practical (oral) examination

# Appendix 1: Personalised practical examination timetable



Government of **Western Australia**  
School Curriculum and Standards Authority



## Personalised practical (oral) examination timetable 2023 Japanese: Second Language

WA student number: 

X	X
---	---

X	X	X
---	---	---

X	X	X
---	---	---

Candidate: Sample Candidate

School name: Sample School School code: XXXX

### Examination details

Course: Japanese: Second Language

Date: Day, Date Month Year

Reporting time: 8:40 am

Examination time: 9:00 am

Venue: Sample Venue  
**(Re-check on the day prior to the examination)**

Reporting location: Sample Location

Refer to the map on the following page

**These examination details are final and no changes can be made.**

Candidates, staff and visitors are required to comply with all venue specific requirements.

Students who are unwell must complete and submit a *Sickness/Misadventure Application Form*, with supporting evidence, to the School Curriculum and Standards Authority (the Authority). If you are a non-school candidate for this course, there is no option to apply for Sickness/Misadventure.

Candidates who have not reported to a supervisor once their scheduled examination time has commenced will not be admitted to the practical (oral) examination. The examination cannot be rescheduled.

Candidates **must not** wear or carry anything that identifies either them, any school, club or achievements. Failure to do so will result in a breach of examination rules.

Candidates are required to sign this timetable prior to the examination. This signed timetable must be shown to the supervisor, with photographic ID, when registering at the examination venue for the practical (oral) examination. Digital copies of your timetable, e.g. on a mobile telephone, are **not** permitted.

Candidates **must not** contact the venue about the examination arrangements. Any queries must be directed to the Authority on 9273 6377.

Signature .....Date .....

**Emergency contact for candidates: Phone 0434 734 248**