

Revision of “Japanese as a Foreign Language” in EJU

The EJU has been administered twice a year since the first EJU held in June, 2002, marking a total of 16 administrations at the time of the EJU conducted in November, 2009.

During this period, JASSO has been investigating more appropriate versions. Here we revise the “Japanese as a Foreign Language” in the EJU.

1. Effective Date

It will be implemented from the first session of the 2010 EJU (to be administered in June)

2. Content

(1) Change of description of the syllabus

The new syllabus will describe the following aspects.

- * The type of abilities that will be measured
- * The type of texts that will be used (in the reading, listening, and listening-reading sections) and the type of tasks that will be assigned (in the writing section) to measure the above abilities.

The “Japanese as a Foreign Language” of EJU measures the ability of Japanese language skills which are required by universities and other institutions. The new syllabus will show more concretely the type of abilities that are examined.

(2) Restructuring of sections of Japanese as a Foreign Language

- (i) We will modify the score range and test time of the listening comprehension, listening-reading comprehension and the reading comprehension, to improve the balance of the section structure.
- (ii) In the reading comprehension, we will introduce multi-questions (two or more questions for one text) using long and short articles to measure the reading comprehension skills that may be required by universities and other institutions.
- (iii) In the listening comprehension and listening-reading comprehension, we will shorten the test time for examinees to sustain their concentration.
- (iv) In the writing section, we will expand the type of writing tasks and modify the rating standard and score presentation so that universities and other institutions can make better use of the writing scores.

Section	Score range		Time		Changes in examination tasks
	Before revision	After revision	Before revision	After revision	
Writing	Grammatical abilities 0~3 scores	0~50 scores	20 minutes	30 minutes	Expansion of tasks (refer to the question sample)
	Logical abilities 0~3 scores				
Reading comprehension	0~160 scores	0~200 scores	30 minutes	40 minutes	Introduction of multi-questions and long article (refer to the question sample)
Listening comprehension	0~120 scores	0~200 scores	70 minutes	55 minutes	/
Listening and Reading comprehension	0~120 scores				
Total time			120 minutes	125 minutes	/

*The time in the table indicates the answering time, and the test time, i.e. the binding time including the time to distribute question booklets and answering sheets, will remain the same as before.

* In the reading section of the EJU to be conducted in June 2010, the questions for long articles will be given in one text and other texts will be for short articles (the length of these texts will be the same as before). Both multiple questions and conventional single questions are included in the short articles.

(3) Change of order of sections

Though we have administered the examination in the order of “writing”, “reading comprehension”, “listening comprehension”, and “listening and reading comprehension” sections, the order of the “listening comprehension” and “listening and reading comprehension” sections will be exchanged in the examination to be held in June 2010 and afterward.

The examination will be administered in order of “writing”, “reading comprehension”, “listening and reading comprehension” and “listening comprehension” sections from June 2010.

3. How to convert the scores gained before revision

The score of the EJU will be valid for two years. (Respective universities will decide how long the scores will be valid with the upper limit of two years)

If you want to use scores gained before the revision after 2010, they will be converted to the score range set after the revision, We will inform you on our official web site.

(Reference)

- Opinions and questions regarding the public announcement of the proposed revision/frequently-asked questions (Q&A)
- Japanese syllabus
- Sample Questions
 - reading comprehension question (long article)
 - reading comprehension question (short article)
 - writing question
- Score Rating of “Writing” Section