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This icon indicates that you can find relevant weblinks at www.hi.com.au/theleadingedge.

Important groundwork

The Study Design

It is important that you understand the structures and contents of both the oral and written exams. This information can be found in the *Japanese Second Language Victorian Certificate of Education Study Design* produced by the Victorian Curriculum and Assessment Authority (VCAA). You cannot be examined on anything NOT contained in the Study Design. Your teacher, as your most valuable resource, may provide you with the relevant parts of the Study Design. Your teacher may also provide you with relevant parts of the other VCAA documents mentioned in this Exam Success Guide. Alternatively, some of these documents are available at the VCAA website.



The Assessment Criteria

The Assessment Criteria are the things the assessors will be looking for in your exam answers and are the measures by which your exam performance will be marked. You need to be aware of the Assessment Criteria when answering exam questions so you can respond in a way that clearly satisfies them. The Assessment Criteria are listed in a VCAA Bulletin usually released in February each year and in the *VCE LOTE Assessment Handbook*, which is available on the VCAA website.



Practical hint: Familiarise yourself with the Assessment Criteria for both the oral and the written exams and start thinking how you will meet them successfully for each part of the exams. Ask your teacher for a copy of the relevant sections of the *VCE LOTE Assessment Handbook* or access it on the VCAA website.



Past written examination papers

Looking at VCE past written exam papers will give you an idea of the sorts of questions that can be asked. They also show the format of the exam paper. But remember to check with your teacher about any changes that may have been made to the types of questions asked and to the format of the exam paper. You can access past written exam papers on the VCAA website.



Practical hint: Try completing one or more past exam papers in the given time limit. Compare your answers to the model answers where available. There are three sample written exams in this Exam Success Guide (see Chapters 5–7).

Assessment Reports

Every year the examiners write a report, called an Assessment Report or sometimes an examiners' report, on the oral and written exams. Reading these reports is a good way to get inside the examiners' heads and find out what they expected in the answers. The reports show what were regarded as good answers and give hints for improvement.



Practical hint: Ask your teacher to provide you with a copy of the Assessment Report for the VCE past exams you try and check your practice answers against the examiners' comments.

Section 1 – Part B: Listening and responding in Japanese

You will hear 1–2 short texts played in Japanese. Each text will be played twice and you will be expected to respond in Japanese to questions written in both English and Japanese.

Ask your teacher for a copy of page 36 from the Study Design, so you can read the detailed specifications for this section.

In the exam:

- You must answer in Japanese. Answers in English will not be given any marks.
- The audio CD will be played non-stop and each text will be heard twice. There will be a pause between the first and the second readings to allow you to take notes. You will then be given time after the second reading to complete your responses.
- Before answering a question, check the number of marks that has been allocated to it. The marks will give you an idea of the length and amount of detail expected in your answer.
- Take notes in Japanese. This does not mean writing everything you understand from the recorded text. Take down only information you need to answer the questions later. Making notes in Japanese saves time and allows you to write down appropriate and accurate Japanese sentences and/or phrases.
- You must use the VCE prescribed kanji in your responses. Misspelling of the script, including hiragana and katakana, and grammatical errors will result in the deduction of marks.

Below are two sample listening tasks. To do these tasks you will need to listen to Tracks 3 and 4 on Audio CD 1, which is in the back of this Exam Success Guide. Check your answers in Chapter 4.



Sample 3 (Listening and responding in Japanese)

Question 1

Ben is asked to talk about his part-time job in class.

Complete the following passage using his speech.

ベンがクラスでアルバイトについて話すようにたのまれました。
ベンのスピーチをもとにして、下の文をかんせいしなさい。

ベンくんは_____でアルバイトをしています。この
アルバイトでベンくんはきっぷを_____
_____をあんないしたりします。そして
_____で_____やポップコーンも
売ります。_____には、一時間12ドル、
土曜日には_____もらいます。
このアルバイトのいいところは_____が
いいことと
えいがが_____ことです。わるいところは
_____まではたらくこととえいがかんの
_____をしなければならないことです。

Space for making notes.

Here is an example of planning a piece of writing, step by step.

The question

You have received a letter from your Japanese penfriend, Hiroshi, who is planning to come to Australia for the first time for a short holiday. His friends have visited the Gold Coast and have recommended that he goes there. Write a letter persuading Hiroshi to come to Melbourne instead.

日本人のペンパル、ひろしさんから、オーストラリアに来ると言う手紙をもらいました。このオーストラリア旅行ははじめてです。ひろしさんの友達^{ともだち}はゴールドコーストに行ったことがあって、ひろしさんにそこに行くようにすすめています。ひろしさんにゴールドコーストのかわりにメルボルンに来るようにせつとくする手紙を書きなさい。

Text type table

My role as a writer	Australian student
Kind of writing	Persuasive
Text type	Personal letter
Purpose	Persuade a friend to come to Melbourne
Audience	Japanese student

Main points

- Hiroshi can stay with us in Melbourne and experience the Australian way of life.
- My family cannot speak Japanese so Hiroshi can practise his English every day.
- He can meet my friends.
- I have a car, so we can go sightseeing.
- Highlights of Melbourne: beaches, shops, restaurants.
- My uncle lives in the country. Hiroshi can see animals.

Plan

First line	ひろしさんへ
Second line	Thanks for your letter.
Introduction	Glad to hear that you are coming to Australia.
1 st paragraph	Staying with my family; things we can do together.
2 nd paragraph	Highlights of Melbourne.
3 rd paragraph	Australian animals.
Conclusion	Hiroshi can experience an Australian way of life.
Closing	Look forward to seeing you, signing off, date and my name.



JAPANESE SECOND LANGUAGE Practice Written Examination 1

Reading time: 15 minutes
Writing time: 2 hours

Section	Number of questions	Number of questions to be answered	Number of marks	Suggested times (minutes)
1 – Part A	8	8	15	30
– Part B	4	4	15	
2 – Part A	5	5	20	40
– Part B	4	4	10	
3	5	1	15	50
			Total 75	120

Any printed monolingual or bilingual dictionary in one or two volumes is permitted.

The listening texts for Section 1 of this exam are on Track 5 of Audio CD 1, which is in the back of this Exam Success Guide.

Disclaimer

This is a practice examination. It represents Harcourt Education's view only of what would be useful preparation material for the externally assessed examination.

Instructions for Section 1 – Part B

Text 4, Questions 10–14

- The listening texts for Section 1 of this exam are on Track 2 of Audio CD 2, which is in the back of this Exam Success Guide.
- You will hear one text. The text will be played twice. There will be a short break between the first and second playing of the text. You may make notes at any time.
- Listen carefully to the text and then answer the questions in **JAPANESE**.
- All answers *must* be based on the text.

TEXT 4 – Answer the following questions in **JAPANESE**.
Responses in the wrong language will receive no credit.

Question 10

When is White Day?

ホワイトデーはいつですか。

Question 11

What do Japanese young people do on White Day?

ホワイトデーに日本のわかい人たちは何をしますか。

Question 12

Why does Erica think that men and women are not equal in Japan?

エリカさんはどうして日本では、男の人と女の人

は**びようどう**平等じゃないと思いましたか。

Question 13

Who are given *giri choko* on Valentine's Day?

バレンタインデーに「ぎりチョコ」をもらうのはどんな人たちですか。

•

•

Question 14

Explain why Erica thinks that young people in Japan still maintain old customs.

エリカさんは、どうして日本のわかい人たちが今でも古いしゅうかんをまもっていると思いましたか。

Space for making notes.

Total 15 marks



Text 3

- よしだ： キャシーさんおはよう。
- キャシー： あ！よしださん、おはようございます。
- よしだ： キャシーさんちょっと．．．
- キャシー： あら、何ですか。
- よしだ： あの．．．きのうスプリンクラーを使っていたら、となりの人がスプリンクラーはいけないと言ったんです。どうしてですか。
- キャシー： 何時ごろでしたか。
- よしだ： そうですね。ちょうど昼ご飯がおわった時だから、1時半ごろだったと思います
- キャシー： ああ、分かりました。3月1日から、水を使うルールが変わったんです。スプリンクラーを使ってもいいのは、午後8時から朝の10時までです。
- よしだ： まあ！そうなんですか。3月1日から？知りませんでした。午後8時から朝10時までですね。雨が少ないから水をたいせつにしなければなりませんね。キャシーさんの家ではどうやって、水をたいせつにしていますか。
- キャシー： そうですね。家では家族みんなが水をむだにしないように気をつけています。シャワーは4分、せんとくは週に一回だけと決めています。そして、あまり水がいらぬオーストラリアの花や木をうえています。
- よしだ： まあ、そうですか。

Answers

Question 7

Mrs Yoshida was told not to use her watering system yesterday because it was 1:30pm. According to the new water-saving rules, watering systems should be used between 8pm and 10am.

Question 8

The rules changed on March 1st.

Question 9

- They limit their showers to 4 minutes.
- They only wash clothes once a week.
- They have Australian flowers and trees that need less water.