**A logo with a tree and text

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**NCEA Level 3 Japanese Revised Vocabulary List 2025**

**Editable Word doc**

Updated NCEA Level 1, Level 2, and Level 3 Vocabulary Lists for Asian and European languages were published on the NCEA Education website in December 2024.

Below is the revised Level 3 Japanese Vocabulary List that should be used with students in 2025 (and thereafter).

The Vocabulary List supports teaching and learning and helps teachers understand the language appropriate at Curriculum Level 8. Language drawn from this Vocabulary List is used to create external assessments and may be used to support teachers when preparing students for internal assessments.

The vocabulary lists belong to the Ministry of Education. The list in this document has been **formatted by NZALT** to make it easier for teachers to print and photocopy for students. NZALT has provided two versions:

1. A PDF that can be printed and photocopied for students.
2. A Word document for teachers who would like to do further formatting.

This version of the vocabulary list is arranged **alphabetically (Japanese to English)**.

Further configurations of the list (eg. English to Japanese; by Category) can be found [here](https://ncea.education.govt.nz/learning-languages/japanese?view=teaching).

Alternatively, you can navigate to the revised vocabulary lists by following this pathway:   
ncea.education.govt.nz > New Zealand Curriculum > Learning Languages: Japanese > Teaching

Teachers are advised to read the Introduction to the vocabulary lists (online, as above), as these contain useful context for teaching and learning, and for internal and external assessments (including the notes below).

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| **Notes to teachers** |
| In addition to the listed vocabulary, students are also expected to be able to recognise: |
| ● items from relevant L1 and L2 Japanese Vocabulary Lists |
| ● where a noun can easily be constructed from the verb or vice versa |
| ● obvious loan words |
| ● names of the four main Japanese islands |

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|  | **Japanese** | **Kanji** | **English** |
| **あ** | アイデンティティ |  | identity |
| アウトドア |  | outdoors, outdoor recreation |
| あがる・あがります | 上がる | rise (verb) |
| あんないする |  | guide (verb) |
| **い** | いけん |  | opinion |
| いちにちじゅう | 一日中 | all day |
| いつか |  | someday |
| いつでも |  | any time |
| いみん |  | immigrant |
| インフルエンサー |  | influencer |
| **う** | うえる・うえます |  | plant (verb) |
| **え** | えいきょう |  | influence |
| えいきょうする・えいきょうします |  | have an influence/impact on (verb) |
| エコ（な） |  | ecology, ecological (eg, エコカー、 エコバッグ) |
| **お** | おと | 音 | sound, noise |
| おとしより |  | elderly person |
| おもいやり | 思いやり | empathy |
| おんせん |  | hot spring |
| おんだんか |  | warming (global) |
| **か** | かいしゃ | 会社 | company |
| かえる・かえます |  | change (someone changes something) (verb) |
| かざん | 火山 | volcano |
| ガソリン | ガソリン | petrol |
| かみ(さま) |  | deity/spirit in legends |
| かんがえる・かんがえます |  | consider (verb) |
| かんきょう |  | environment |
| かんこうきゃく |  | tourist |
| かんこうち |  | tourist spot |
| かんしんが　ある・かんしんが　あります |  | concerned about (be) (verb) |
| **き** | キウイ |  | kiwifruit, kiwi (bird) |
| きおん |  | temperature |
| きこう |  | climate |
| きっと |  | surely |
| キャラクター |  | character (fictional) |
| きゅうりょう |  | salary |
| きょうりょくする・きょうりょくします |  | work together (verb) |
| きを　つける・きを　つけます | 気を　つける | pay attention/be careful (phrase) |
| **け** | けいかく |  | plan |
| けいかくを　たてる・けいかくを　たてます |  | plans (make) (phrase) |
| けいけん |  | experience |
| けいけんする・けいけんします |  | experience (verb) |
| げんいん |  | cause |
| **こ** | こうがい |  | pollution |
| こうじょう |  | factory |
| こうずい |  | flood, flooding |
| こうばん |  | police box |
| こころ | 心 | heart, mind |
| こと |  | matter, issue |
| こまる・こまります |  | troubled (be) (verb) |
| こわれる・こわれます |  | break, be broken (verb) |
| コンポスト |  | compost |
| **さ** | さがす・さがします |  | look for (verb) |
| さがる・さがります | 下がる | lower (verb) |
| さべつ |  | discrimination |
| さべつする・さべつします |  | discriminate (verb) |
| さんぎょう |  | industry |
| さんせいする・さんせいします |  | agree (verb) |
| **し** | ジェンダー |  | gender |
| じしん |  | earthquake |
| しゅと |  | capital city |
| しげん |  | resource(s) |
| しぜん |  | nature |
| しま | 島 | island |
| しまぐに | 島国 | island country |
| しゃかい | 社会 | society |
| じゆう （な） | 自由 | freedom |
| しゅうきょう |  | religion |
| じゅうぶん (な) | 十分 (な) | enough |
| じょうほう |  | information |
| しょうらい |  | one’s future |
| しらべる・しらべます |  | investigate (verb) |
| じんこう | 人口 | population |
| **せ** | せいかつする・せいかつします |  | lead a life, make a living (verb) |
| せいふ |  | government |
| せかい |  | world |
| せきにん |  | responsibility |
| せだい |  | generation |
| ぜったい(に) |  | definite(ly) |
| **た** | だいじにする・だいじにします |  | value (verb) |
| たいふう |  | typhoon |
| たすけあう・たすけあいます |  | help each other (verb) |
| ただ |  | free of charge |
| たぶん |  | probably |
| たぶんか | 多文化 | multicultural |
| ためる・ためます |  | save (money) (verb) |
| だれか |  | someone |
| だれでも |  | whoever |
| だれも |  | no one (with negative) (phrase) |
| **ち** | ちきゅう |  | Earth, the globe |
| ちほう |  | region |
| **つ** | つゆ |  | rainy season |
| **て** | できるだけ |  | as much as possible (phrase) |
| でぐち | 出口 | exit |
| テクノロジー |  | technology |
| **と** | とかい |  | urban area |
| とくに |  | especially |
| どこか |  | somewhere |
| どこでも |  | anywhere |
| どこも |  | nowhere (with negative verb) (phrase) |
| どりょくする・どりょくします |  | make an effort (verb) |
| **な** | なおす・なおします |  | repair (verb) |
| なにか | 何か | something |
| なにも | 何も | nothing (with negative verb) (phrase) |
| なんでも | 何でも | anything |
| **に** | について |  | about (following a noun) (phrase) |
| によって |  | depending on (following a noun) (phrase) |
| **の** | のかわりに |  | instead of (following a noun) (phrase) |
| のりかえる |  | change (bus, train) (verb) |
| **は** | はくぶつかん |  | museum |
| はっきり |  | clearly |
| はんたい |  | opposite |
| はんたいする・はんたいします |  | oppose (verb) |
| ビジネス |  | business, Business (school subject) |
| ひろう ひろいます |  | pick up, gather (verb) |
| **ふ** | ふる・ふります |  | fall (rain, snow, etc) (verb) |
| フレンドリー（な） |  | friendly |
| **へ** | へいわ | 平和 | peace |
| **ほ** | ポップカルチャー |  | pop culture |
| **み** | みつける・みつけます | 見つける | find (verb) |
| **も** | もういちど |  | once more (phrase) |
| もつ・もちます |  | have, hold (verb) |
| もの |  | thing, object |
| **や** | やっぱり |  | as I thought |
| やる・やります |  | do (verb) |
| **ゆ** | ゆめ |  | dream |
| **ろ** | ロボット |  | robot |
| **わ** | わける・わけます | 分ける | divide, share (verb) |

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| **Suffixes** | | |
| ~かわ, がわ | 川 | …River |
| ~こ |  | Lake… |
| ~さん | 山 | Mt… |

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| **Classifiers** | |
| ~ど | degree (temperature) |
| ~かい | number of times |