

2023 NCEA Assessment Report

Subject:	Japanese
Level:	Level 3
Achievement standard(s):	91553, 91556

General commentary

Candidates who were successful were able to use the planning page appropriately and answer the questions directly in a logical manner. They showed their understanding of the texts by repurposing the information and supporting this with evidence from the text, to fulfil the requirements of the questions. They often addressed the questions by using wording in the questions as a starting point for their answers and stating overtly, 'for example...' rather than including their personal understanding of the subject matter.

Candidates could answer questions in English, te reo Māori, and / or Japanese. Those candidates who chose to respond in Japanese generally provided some valid information from texts and passages. Candidates who offered an exact transcription or summary of the texts and passages in Japanese alone did not show their thorough understanding of the text(s).

Candidates who analysed titles, introductions, and visuals in both English and Japanese, while also paying attention to glossed vocabulary, found assistance in grasping the passage(s)' context and identifying crucial information for answering questions.

Candidates are encouraged to use the digital version of the exam where possible as some handwritten responses were hard to read with some ideas and key messages being indecipherable.

Report on individual achievement standards

Achievement standard 91553: Demonstrate understanding of a variety of extended spoken Japanese texts

Assessment

The examination consisted of three questions. Candidates were required to respond to all three. The texts related to concrete and abstract matters of social interest. Candidates could respond to questions either digitally or on paper.

Commentary

Candidates who achieved with Merit or Excellence tended to make extensive listening notes and transferred all necessary details in their answers. They addressed the question in a structured manner and incorporated all relevant supporting detail from the passages in a meaningful way, instead of merely listing details.

Candidates need to ensure that they demonstrate understanding by connecting their ideas to the information heard, as well as including explanations of what they have understood rather than offering personal opinions and advice.

Grade awarding

Candidates who were awarded **Achievement** commonly:

- demonstrated a general understanding of the passages
- interpreted questions correctly and could give partially correct answers but sometimes provided insufficient or basic detail to support their responses.

Candidates who were awarded **Achievement with Merit** commonly:

- selected and linked information, messages, and key points from throughout the passage
- developed their answers by adding some correct specific detail to justify their responses
- addressed all parts of each question correctly
- omitted or misinterpreted some of the complex information in the passages.

Candidates who were awarded **Achievement with Excellence** commonly:

- justified their ideas with a wide range of specific and detailed evidence from the passage
- developed well-articulated answers that were comprehensive with comparisons, opinions, and conclusions, that clearly showed understanding of the intent of the passage and the question
- rearranged evidence from the texts to fit with their answer so that their responses flowed well and directly addressed all parts of the question.

Candidates who were awarded **Not Achieved** commonly:

- did not address questions properly and merely listed details, which were generally incorrect
- did not demonstrate understanding of the main points of the texts or misinterpreted the passages and basic details
- offered their own opinion and information instead of basing their answers on the passage
- formulated answers based on isolated lexical items
- demonstrated limited knowledge of Japanese at curriculum level 8.

Achievement standard 91556: Demonstrate understanding of a variety of extended written and / or visual Japanese texts

Assessment

The examination consisted of three questions. Candidates were required to read and respond to all three written texts, which included photographs and a graph, relating to concrete and abstract matters of social interest.

Commentary

Successful candidates built their answers around information in the text and used all the relevant information to justify their response. The questions could not be directly addressed by merely translating sections from the text. Candidates needed to process the information, group it in a logical way and make comparisons and draw conclusions supported by examples from the text. Candidates who did well could select relevant information from different text types within one question and then integrate the information to communicate a response.

Grade awarding

Candidates who were awarded **Achievement** commonly:

- identified some key vocabulary
- provided some relevant information and demonstrated a general understanding of the texts, but also included details with inaccuracies and misinterpretations.

Candidates who were awarded **Achievement with Merit** commonly:

- provided detailed responses that directly answered questions and identified key points from the text
- included specific evidence from the texts when justifying their responses
- included relevant information from two different text types in one question but did not link the information to answer the question.

Candidates who were awarded **Achievement with Excellence** commonly:

- responded fully to each part of the questions, using all relevant pieces of information as evidence
- integrated relevant information from two different text types within one question to formulate a response
- drew parallels between two concepts by identifying key values supported by examples from the text
- showed full understanding of the purpose of the text and the intent of the question
- showed understanding of the fine detail of the texts in a comprehensive manner with justifications for their responses
- demonstrated understanding of curriculum levels up to 8, that enabled them to fully comprehend the texts.

Candidates who were awarded **Not Achieved** commonly:

- produced answers which were logically inconsistent with the main ideas of the texts
- produced answers totally based on their own opinions of the topics and omitted any information from the texts
- based their answers on the recognition of single lexical items
- did not encapsulate the gist of the texts.