

**THE TWENTY-FIFTH JAPANESE LANGUAGE SPEECH CONTEST IN**  
**OTTAWA**  
**RULES AND REGULATIONS**

**DATE AND TIME:**

Saturday, March 1, 2014, 13:30~

**ORGANIZED BY:**

The Organizing Committee for the Japanese Language Speech Contest in Ottawa

**IN COLLABORATION WITH:**

The Embassy of Japan in Canada

**SPONSORED BY:**

The Japan Foundation

**PLACE:**

The Embassy of Japan in Canada  
(255 Sussex Drive, Ottawa, Ontario)

**QUALIFICATIONS:**

To qualify, applicants must:

- (1) presently be studying Japanese as a foreign language; and
- (2) not have Japanese nationality. (Applicants with dual nationalities, including Japanese, will be accepted.)

**CATEGORIES:**

(1) **Beginner Level**

Applicants for this level:

- (i) must not have a parent who is a native speaker of Japanese;
- (ii) \*must have studied the Japanese language for less than 130 hours;
- (iii) must not have stayed in Japan for more than a total of three months from the age of six.

(2) Intermediate Level

Applicants for this level:

- (i) must not have a parent who is a native speaker of Japanese;
- (ii) \*must have studied the Japanese language for less than 260 hours; and
- (iii) must not have stayed in Japan for more than a total of six months from the age of six.

(3) Advanced Level

Applicants for this level:

- (i) must not have a parent who is a native speaker of Japanese;
- (ii) there is no limit on the hours of study; and
- (iii) must not have stayed in Japan for more than a total of three years from the age of six.

(4) Open

Applicants for this level:

- (i) both or either of the parents may be native speakers of Japanese language as long as applicants are studying Japanese as a foreign language.
- (ii) there is no limit on the hours of study.
- (iii) there are no restrictions on length of stay in Japan.

Note: The hours of Japanese study are defined as the hours of post-secondary study up to the date of the contestant's district Japanese speech contest.

\*Exceptions can be made dependent on the contestants' level of Japanese language.

The final decisions will be made by the organize committee.

**If any questions arise regarding contestants' qualifications, the Organizing Committee's decision will be final.**

SPEECH TITLES AND CONTENT:

- (1) **Subjects and titles are the contestants' choice.**
- (2) Speeches must be written by the contestants themselves.
  - \*If the contestants read entirely from their scripts, they will be subject to penalty points.
- (3) Performance of any kind (music, storytelling etc.) is not acceptable.

LENGTH OF SPEECH:

- (1) **Beginners - 3 minutes; Intermediate - 4 minutes; Advanced - 5 minutes; High School - 3 minutes; Open - 5 minutes**
- (2) Speeches exceeding the limited time will be subject to penalty points.

**JUDGES:**

Three judges including language experts.

**CERTIFICATES AND PRIZES:**

(1) Certificates and prizes will be awarded to the 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> places in every category; however, if the number of contestants in a category is fewer than 10, the number of prizes awarded may be subject to change.

(2) 1<sup>st</sup> place winners of all categories are eligible to participate in the National Speech Contest to be held on Saturday, March 29, 2014 at the Embassy of Japan in Canada. If the 1<sup>st</sup> place winner chooses not to attend the National Speech Contest, the 2<sup>nd</sup> place winner may compete. There will be no substitution in case of the 2<sup>nd</sup> place winner's absence.

(3) All contestants (except winners) will receive prizes for participation.

**APPLICATIONS:**

The application form must be submitted to applicant's instructor in the respective organizations no later than Friday, February 14, 2014 before 17:00.