

Japanese Teachers' Association of NSW



JTAN

ABN 94 045 344 808

PO Box 6453 North Sydney 2060

<https://sites.google.com/site/jtanaustralia/home>

March 2011 Newsletter

Hi Everyone,

Our thoughts are with those who are suffering the devastating effects of Friday's earthquake and tsunami that hit the east coast of Honshu. The images we have been seeing on the Internet, in newspapers and on television in recent days are disturbing. We hope the relief efforts and community will continue to work together to start the mammoth task of rebuilding both mentally and physically.

President's Message

Dear JTAN members,

It has been an incredibly busy start to the year for JTAN executive members with the trialling of our new online registration system. We have had a few bumps and rough patches with the new Google site and its invoicing system. Currently we are working very hard to resolve and eliminate these problems for the future. Our biggest problem has been slow processing of invoices for our members. We are experiencing technical difficulties and hope to resolve this issue very soon. I thank you for your patience and understanding with the 'teething problems' we are experiencing.

We are also revamping our <http://www.jtan.org.au/> site to incorporate online registration, and have it ready for relaunch in 2012. Meanwhile the Google site will serve as interim site for JTAN. However, you can still access the wonderful resources uploaded by our members, on the members' only section of the [jtan.org.au](http://www.jtan.org.au/) site.

For those members with HSC classes, don't forget to register your students online at BOS for their HSC Oral Examination. Registration opens on 1 June and closes on 24 June. Students should receive a confirmation letter by 8 July.

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I have come across some wonderful YouTube clips that can be incorporated in your teaching. I have listed below some of the better ones I have found.

Happy Youtubing!

- <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=D3won-7W3Js>
Genki Japan Numbers; very catch and fun song to learn numbers/Kanji
- <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pN6xfiAaWXg>
Japanese brand songs; great introduction to Japan/culture/technology for junior years. Again song is very catchy. You will have your students happily comment that it was stuck in their head for the whole day!
- <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IWR1Ziynt8g>
Genki Japan Hiragana.
- <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lrMkJAzBWQc&feature=related>
Hiragana song; When students get sick of Genki Japan Hiragana song, try this one!
- <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8Zxuy6eojZY&feature=related>
Katakana song
- <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8j2aOAaHzoY>
Greetings song; cute animation and includes everything from おはよう、ごちそうさま、はじめまして、ひさしぶり、いってきます。

Don't forget to download it permanently using www.zamzar.com

Regards
Cathleen

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Invoices and Receipts

All members should now have received invoices for membership fees and examination orders. We ask members to check their invoices carefully and ensure that all ordered examinations appear on the invoice. If you haven't received an invoice for your membership fees and/or examination order, please email Ken Gillespie at: ken.gillespie@optusnet.com.au.

Examination Orders and Declarations

If you would like to place an order for JTAN's examinations, please go to: <https://sites.google.com/site/jtanaustralia/sample-exams>. When you place your order, you will receive an invoice that will outline payment details.

Before JTAN can dispatch examinations, we require a signed declaration from your Principal. The declaration is available [here](#). Please send the declaration when sending payment.

Members are reminded that the closing date for examination orders is **Friday 29th April**. To avoid disappointment, please ensure that you order before this date.

Examination Embargo Dates

Members are reminded that the embargo dates for examinations are as follows:

Trial HSC Examinations: **31st August 2011**
Preliminary Examinations: **16th September 2011**

Teachers may hand the paper back to go through it with their students, however they must collect them back before the above dates.

Unfortunately the above embargo dates are fixed and we are unable to move the dates either forward or back.

Contact: Aaron McLuckie enquire@jtan.org.au (02) 87413193

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Resources – www.jtan.org.au

All members have now been issued via email with a username and password for the above site. All the resources are still available. We will let you know when they will be uploaded to the new site. If you haven't received a username and password, please email me at: amcluckie@mlcsyd.nsw.edu.au.

Student and Teacher Workshops

Information and details regarding applying for JTAN's workshops can be found under the Events tab at: <https://sites.google.com/site/jtanaustralia/events>.

Below is a list of upcoming events and their dates for your diary.

21st May 2011 – Producing Stage 4 and 5 Listening Items

11th June 2011 – Yr12 Continuers Speaking Day

21st July 2011 – Yr10 Day

23rd July 2011 – Yr12 Beginners Speaking Day

Country members are reminded that JTAN will pay for your travel and accommodation expenses for you to attend ONE workshop per year. If you would like further information, please don't hesitate to contact us at: enquire@jtan.org.au

Workshop Ideas

We are currently planning our AGM Workshop and would like to tailor it to our members' needs. If you have any areas that you would like professional development in or have ideas that you feel would be good sessions for the AGM Workshop, please email us at: enquire@jtan.org.au.



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'A – Z of Planning a Successful Trip to Japan' Workshop

On Saturday 12th March, 30 teachers attended an informative workshop at the Japan Foundation Sydney, on planning a successful trip to Japan. Sessions at the workshop included, DET and AIS requirements, must see sights, communicating with parents and the community at home using blogging and facebook and a Q and A session. There were also travel agent stalls from Japan Navigator, Mitsui Travel, Saizen Tours, Price Travel and ~~~

JTAN would like sincerely thank presenters Glen Tippett, Cathleen Jin and Liberty Campbell. We would also like to thank the travel agent exhibitors and the Japan Foundation Sydney.

A big congratulations to Charles Wheeler who won the lucky door prize of a flip video camera valued at \$200. We hope it gets some good use on your upcoming trip to Japan.

HSC Japanese Oral Examinations

The BOS has released the dates for the HSC Oral Examinations. The complete timetable is attached to this newsletter.

Japanese Examinations are as follows:

Japanese Beginners – Saturday 13th August

Japanese Continuers – Saturday 6th August

Japanese Extension – Saturday 13th August

Please note from this year, teachers/schools are required to register their students online. As soon as the BOS releases more information, JTAN will forward it to our members.

Draft Shape of the Australian Curriculum – Languages

As you may or may not be aware, the Draft Shape of the Australian Curriculum: Languages, has been released by Australian Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting Authority (ACARA) for consultation. This shape paper can be downloaded from: <http://www.acara.edu.au/curriculum/languages.html>. The period of consultation is 31st January until 7th April. Several agencies have produced online surveys. Language teachers in all sectors are encouraged to complete one or all of these.

Surveys (NB: this is not a complete list of surveys)

ACARA - <http://www.acara.edu.au/curriculum/languages.html>.

AIS – <http://www.quia.com/sv/509311.html>

DET -

http://www.curriculumsupport.education.nsw.gov.au/secondary/languages/assets/Australian/Survey_langs.pdf

Japan Earthquake and Tsunami Fundraising

Given the catastrophic events in recent days, we are sure you and your school communities are looking for ways in which we can all assist. If you have fundraising ideas, please send them to enquire@jtan.org.au, so we can share them with all members.

Some ideas include:

1. Japanese Food - お好み焼き、寿司、焼きそば、カレーライス、おにぎり、焼き鳥
2. 書道 - Get Japanese students to write other students' names in calligraphy and sell them.
3. Have students draw manga/anime characters and sell them to other students
4. Get a large map of Japan and ask students to put a coin in - try and fill the whole map
5. Have students dress in a kimono and take photos of them with other students - these could be sold.

Hide and Seek (see: <http://hideandseek.bigcartel.com/product/relief-tee>) have designed a special shirt and all proceeds will go directly towards helping those in desperate need.

Aaron McLuckie
JTAN Communications Officer

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