



## Key information for the Japanese Continuers Stage 6 Syllabus

- The Japanese Continuers Stage 6 Syllabus is designed for students who, typically, will have studied Japanese for 400–500 hours by completion of Stage 6. Some students with less formal experience will also be able to meet the requirements of the syllabus successfully.
- Students wishing to undertake the Japanese Continuers Stage 6 course must apply for an [eligibility determination](#).
- Schools and teachers use syllabuses to develop educational programs for students. The [Japanese Continuers Stage 6 Syllabus](#) requires students to study 3 prescribed themes – the individual, Japanese-speaking communities and the changing world. Each theme has a number of **prescribed** topics and **suggested** sub-topics.
- The Japanese Continuers Stage 6 Syllabus has 4 objectives. Each objective has related outcomes which summarise the associated knowledge, understanding and skills that students are expected to achieve at the end of the course.
- Students may be expected to produce the following written texts in the external examination – article, diary entry, email, letter, message, note, notice, postcard, recount, report, script of an interview and script of a speech or talk.
- There is a prescribed character list and a vocabulary list comprising basic vocabulary relevant to the themes and topics for the Japanese Continuers Stage 6 course.
- Students are expected to recognise and use grammatical structures which are included in the [Japanese Continuers Stage 6 Syllabus](#). Please note, some grammatical structures are for receptive use only.
- The [Assessment and Reporting in Japanese Continuers Stage 6 webpage](#) includes the recommended (for Year 11) and mandated (for Year 12) course components and weightings. Also refer to this document for assessment and reporting updates.

## HSC examinations

- The HSC Japanese Continuers examination consists of a written paper worth 80 marks and an oral examination worth 20 marks.
- The written paper will consist of 3 sections, Section I – Listening and Responding (25 marks), Section II – Reading and Responding (40 marks) and Section III – Writing in Japanese (15 marks). Students are able to use monolingual and/or bilingual dictionaries in the written examination.
- The oral examination will consist of a 10-minute interview-style conversation between the student and the examiner, relating to the prescribed topics from the perspective of the personal world.
- Past HSC papers by NESA, are a useful resource to help students to become familiar with the

examination format and structure. Past papers for Japanese Continuers can be found on [NESA's website](#).

- The [HSC Standards Materials](#) provide a collection of resources of sample responses typical of work at the boundaries between HSC bands.

## Support materials

The Languages and Culture curriculum team provides resources to support NSW teachers in the implementation of the Japanese Continuers Stage 6 Syllabus and can be located on the [Languages K-12 webpage](#).

Generic support for Stage 6 languages courses can be found on the department's [Planning, programming and assessing languages 11-12](#)



[webpage](#), including how to approach answering listening and reading questions in Continuers, a video on how to approach the HSC examination in Continuers, and advice on developing a notice of assessment.

The department's support for the Japanese Continuers Stage 6 Syllabus can be found on the [Japanese Continuers webpage](#). Support includes a student advice document, sample unit templates, sample scope and sequence, practice speaking questions (organised by topic), sample listening and reading resources, and support on understanding the requirements of text types.

Resources can also be found in the Languages Statewide Staffroom. NESA also has a range of support materials on the [Japanese Continuers Stage 6 Syllabus webpage](#).

## Professional learning

There is a range of 'on demand' professional learning resources to support the implementation of the Japanese Continuers Stage 6 Syllabus including:

- microlearning – [HSC speaking tasks in Beginners and Continuers modern language courses](#)
- statewide staff meeting recordings:
  - [Strategies for HSC success](#)
  - [Stage 6 Beginners and Continuers speaking skills](#).

We also offer a range of live online and face to face professional learning events throughout the year. To view any upcoming events, go to the [Languages Professional Learning calendar](#).

## General HSC information

- The [NSW Education Standards Authority \(NESA\)](#) oversees the Higher School Certificate (HSC), offering resources for students on exam preparation, course selection, and academic integrity.
- The [NESA HSC glossary](#) provides teachers with guidance on how to use key terms consistently, ensuring students understand their meanings and apply them appropriately across various subjects for effective exam preparation.
- The NESA [HSC assessment moderation](#) process ensures fairness by adjusting school assessment marks based on exam results, making them comparable across schools.
- The [ACE rules](#) outline HSC school-based assessment integrity, task development, marking, appeals, and record-keeping. They cover malpractice policies, illness/misadventure procedures, task notifications, ranking, and restrictions on reporting final marks, ensuring compliance with NESA's assessment standards.
- HSC monitoring advice, Section 1.6 outlines HSC record-keeping requirements, including teaching programs, assessment documentation, interventions and work samples. Visit [Stage 6 – monitoring implementation and support](#) for more information.
- School-based assessment for the HSC contributes to a student's final mark and is designed to evaluate students' understanding and skills based on syllabus outcomes.

## Contact us

If you would like further information or support, please email [LanguagesandCulture@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:LanguagesandCulture@det.nsw.edu.au) or reach out to our team via the Languages Statewide Staffroom – join by completing [this short survey](#).

