

Japanese Teachers' Association of NSW



JTAN

ABN 94 045 344 808

PO Box 6453 North Sydney 2060

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

May 2011 Newsletter

Hi Everyone,

We hope that you had an enjoyable break after what was an exhausting Term 1. We are sure that you are straight back into the swing of things and have hit the ground running. JTAN has many exciting things coming up in the near future both for our members and their students.

President's Message

Dear JTAN members

I trust that everyone had a wonderful break and ready to rock Term 2.

As more horrifying images of the recent March earthquake/tsunami continues to surface so do the news of miracles and survivals. The cleanup is still underway in Japan, and the worldwide effort to assist their recovery has been overwhelming. It has been wonderful to hear about many Japanese teachers holding school events to raise funds with their creative ideas. JTAN's suggestion to donate the profits of the sales of 2011 trial exam papers to the Red Cross Australia Japan Appeal has been warmly received by our members. I will keep you up-to-date once we have received all payments with when and how much we will donate to Red Cross.

We are always open to suggestions and ideas from our members. Also, if you would like to be a serving Executive Member of the Committee for 2012, please do let us know. I have served my term as a president for a year and a half now and I can confidently say that it has been a rewarding experience both professionally and personally. I will complete my presidency at the end of 2011 and am certain that JTAN will continue to flourish and achieve more with the injection of new executive members.

Have a wonderful Term 2 and I hope to see you soon at the DET conference on 27 ~ 28 May.

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

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Membership and Examination Invoices

All members should now have received their membership and examination invoices. If you haven't please check your junk mail and ask other Japanese teachers in your school whether they have received the invoice (only for examinations.) Please contact Ken Gillespie, JTAN's Treasurer at: sydken11@gmail.com if you need your invoice resent. Receipts for all payments will be sent out shortly.

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.

Term 2 Workshop - 'Creating Listening Items for Stage 4 and 5'

JTAN understands that its members sometimes find it difficult to source listening items, both for in class use and for assessments, so we have decided to hold a collaborative workshop on 21st May at the Japan Foundation Sydney. The workshop only costs \$30 and each participating member will receive a professionally recorded CD of all the items and because we know how time poor language teachers are, we have decided to throw in a few extra items as well.

More information about the workshop can be found at: <https://sites.google.com/site/jtanaustralia/term-2-workshop> and to register: <https://sites.google.com/site/jtanaustralia/term-2-workshop-application>. Please note: applications and payment must be received by no later than 14th May.

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HSC Written Examination Dates

The HSC Written Examination dates have been released and are as follows:

Japanese Background Speakers	18 th October 2011
Japanese Continuers	1 st November 2011
Japanese Beginners	1 st November 2011
Japanese Extension	9 th November 2011

The complete timetable can be found at:

http://www.boardofstudies.nsw.edu.au/events/pdf_doc/hsc-timetable-2011.pdf

JTAN Contact Details

Members are requested to ensure they have up to date contact details for JTAN. Some communication is still being sent to incorrect addresses. In order for effective and seamless communication, can you please ensure that your and your accounts department's records are updated with the following details:

Website: www.jtan.org.au

Enquires: enquire@jtan.org.au

Tech Support: support@jtan.org.au

Address: PO Box 6453
North Sydney, NSW
2060

EFT Details: Bank: Westpac Banking Corporation
Branch: 23-25 Broughton Street, Milson's Point
BSB: 032-195
Account No.: 17-4882
Account name: Japanese Teachers' Association
of NSW
Reference Your name

Please note JTAN does NOT have a fax, so please remove the old fax number from your records.

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Student Workshops

JTAN is in the process of organising the following student workshops/days:

Year 12 Speaking Days

Continuers – 11th June 2011

Beginners – 23rd July 2011

These days are invaluable for your students. Students participate in mock speaking examinations in the format of the HSC Examination. Students then receive on the spot feedback on their strengths and areas for improvement. As different teachers conduct the mock examinations, students are able to experience different styles of questioning which could assist them greatly in the final examination. Both days also have a listening workshop, which further prepares students with strategies on how to approach the listening component of the HSC Examination. The application closing date for the Continuers Day is: **21st May** and for the Beginners Day is: **17th June**.

Further information and details regarding applying for these workshops can be found under the Events tab at: <https://sites.google.com/site/jtanaustralia/events>.

Year 10 Day

The planning for the Year 10 day, to be held on Thursday 21st July 2011, is well under way. The theme for this year's day is まつり and there are many exciting and engaging activities planned. Activities will include all skill areas and involve cultural performances as well. Feedback from previous year's days has indicated that this day can have a positive impact on students' Stage 6 language subject choices. The closing date for applications is ~~~~~.

Further information and details regarding applying for this workshop can be found under the Events tab at: <https://sites.google.com/site/jtanaustralia/events>.

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JTAN AGM

The Committee is currently organising the AGM and workshop, which will be held later in the year. One of JTAN's primary goals is to ensure that we tailor our workshops so they meet the needs and interests of our members. If you have any areas that you would like to be inserviced in or feel that they would be worthwhile for other members, please email us at: enquire@jtan.org.au.

Practicum Places Urgently Sort

Dear Japanese teachers,

Greetings. I am a former Japanese teacher now working in tertiary teacher education at Macquarie University, producing our future Japanese teachers. I am rather urgently looking for school placements for my Japanese pre-service teachers. Some to start immediately, some later in the year, with a variety of durations. Even a short prac with you (5-10 days) as contribution can help us greatly, as long pracs can be broken up into smaller durations. The placements need to be principally in the greater Sydney region, but there is the possibility for students to do 5 or 10 days prac in country schools when uni is on holidays. (This is helped if a school can provide free or cheap accommodation for the student).

As this process is becoming exceedingly difficult, I would appreciate so much if you were able to consider helping to train one of these teachers. If you are able to help, can I ask you please to contact our prac coordinator, Nanette La Cava, nanette.lacava@mq.edu.au or on 9850 8717. Nanette would love to hear from you.

Many thanks to all, and thankyou to JTAN for facilitating.

Best wishes, Robyn
robyn.moloney@mq.edu.au



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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. If you haven't received a username and password, please email me at: amcluckie@mlcsyd.nsw.edu.au.

If you have any suggestions or enquires, please don't hesitate to contact us at: enquire@jtan.org.au

Enjoy the term!

Aaron McLuckie
JTAN Communications Officer