

FAQ for Japanese from Scratch (JFS)

Q: I want to know the availability of classes, please.

A: Due to the fluid nature of these classes, we are unable to provide an answer right now. If you wish to enter the class, please submit an application form.

Q: I would like to observe the class.

A: It is not possible to observe classes, sorry.

Q: I submitted my application but have not received a response.

A: If you do not receive a reply within one week, please contact the office.

Q: I want to participate with my friends.

A: We will contact each student one by one based on classroom availability and the application form you submitted.

Q: Can I join even in the middle of the term?

A: You can start the eighth class out of the ten classes. After the ninth class, application will be invalid. There are no alternative classes.

Q: I have been notified that I am on a waiting list, but when can I join?

A: We are unable to provide a specific answer right now. As soon as space becomes available, priority will be given to those who live in Shinjuku City. Unfortunately, participation is not guaranteed.

Q: I attended a class before, and I would like to study again.

A: If you are not eligible for termination, please resubmit an application form.

Q: I would like to be introduced to other Japanese language class.

A: Although we cannot introduce you to them, please try searching for Nihongo Hiroba (Shinjuku City), Tokyo Nihongo Kyoshitsu Site (Tokyo Metropolitan Foundation "TSUNAGARI"), Tokyo Nihongo Volunteer Network (TNVN), and so on as these are recommended.

Q. Do I need to bring anything?

A. There are no specific items required.

Q. Which text are your teachers using?

A. The secretariat has not specified text for the volunteer teachers.

Q. How do the students learn?

A. Basically, it is a study group where several learners participate with one volunteer. New learners can join from the first day of the term, and others joining later can study in the class accordingly.

Q. I want to learn grammar, sentence structure, reading, and writing.

A. JFS and SJC focuses on listening and speaking, aiming to support people living in Shinjuku to communicate smoothly in Japanese within the community. Those who wish to receive support for reading and writing should consider attending other schools.

Q. Are there any people in the secretariat or classrooms who can speak foreign languages, such as English or Chinese?

A. Basically, there are not any. Communication is carried only in Japanese language. If you need assistance, please use application or another AI tool.

Q. How should very beginners learn Japanese?

A. Learning through the NHK world program, "LEARN Japanese" or Bureau of Cultural Affairs "TSUNAHIRO," online-learning tools have multilingual support, and they are helpful. First you begin with yourself and then join the language class, and try to express yourself with easy Japanese. If you realize you can make yourself understood in Japanese, that success experience will surely help improve your Japanese communication skills.

(Updated from time to time)