

Rules and Guidance for Speech Category Finalists

1. Evaluation

Speeches will be judged according to these four criteria.

- Speaking Skills
 - Pronunciation / Accent / Intonation
 - Fluency / Naturalness (including good use of pause)
 - Complexity and accuracy in grammar and vocabulary
- Content / Organisation
 - Clarity of main points
 - Discourse structures and flow
 - Originality
- Presentation Skills
 - Delivery/Elocution
 - Awareness of audience
 - Time management
- Answering questions and explanation
 - Accuracy, complexity and appropriateness of the language
 - Content (relevance to questions, persuasiveness etc.)
 - Communication strategies

2. Speech length

Your speech must be within 8-10 minutes for Speech Category. If your speech is not within this time limit, you may be disqualified.

3. Questions

After you have delivered your speech, you will be required to answer questions in Japanese for approximately five minutes. These questions will be both on your speech topic and on more general matters related to your experience of Japan or Japanese.

4. Notes and aids

- When delivering your speech, you may use notes (in any language) but you must not read from a prepared text.
- You may not use audio or visual aids.
- You are not allowed to use props in your speech.
- The theatrical performance techniques will not influence the evaluation of your speech.