

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 video-recorded speech must be within 8-10 minutes for Speech Category. Speeches that are too long or too short will be penalised and may be disqualified. The details of how to video record your speech will be sent to the finalists separately.

3. Questions

After submitting your speech video, the interlocutor will contact you to arrange an online Q & A session. The questions asked will be on your speech topic, as well as more general matters related to your experience of Japan or Japanese.

Please be aware that a video of this session will be recorded and it will be shown on Finals Day.

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.