



2025 AP[®] Japanese Language and Culture

Exam Overview



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This is an overview of the AP Japanese Language and Culture Exam. This presentation will provide you with a preview of the question types and directions screens that you'll see on exam day.

The exam is administered in school on school-owned and -controlled devices through an exam application.

On exam day, you'll follow directions spoken by the proctor. During various parts of the exam, you'll also read on the screen, listen through a headset, type using the keyboard, and speak into a microphone. Read the information on the screens carefully.

Exam Format

The exam will take approximately two hours and 15 minutes to complete. The exam has two sections. This includes a 10-minute break between Sections I and II.

Section I consists of multiple-choice content.

- Part A: Listening
- Part B: Reading

Section II, the free-response section, requires you to produce written and spoken responses.

- Part A: Writing
- Part B: Speaking

About This Presentation

- This overview does not present an entire exam but does include questions that represent the various parts of the actual exam.
- The screen images in this presentation are from the practice exam, which is available through the exam application. Some screen images in this presentation include an Exit Part button, but this button will not appear in the actual exam.
- This presentation includes screens where some details, such as references to the number of questions or administration time, refer to the practice exam and may not match the actual exam.

The screenshot shows the 'Enter Student Information' screen for the AP exam. At the top left is the AP logo. At the top right is an 'Adjust Display' button. The main content area is titled 'Enter Student Information' with a '* Required field' note. The form includes the following fields: 'AP ID' (UV9U1Z58) with an 'Edit' link, 'School Code' (700121), 'Last Name *' (empty), 'Middle Initial' (empty), 'First Name *' (empty), 'Date of Birth *' (Month and Day dropdowns), 'Exam Room Number' (empty), and 'Exam' (AP Chinese Language and Culture). At the bottom is a 'Certification Statement *' with a checkbox and a 'Continue' button.

AP

Adjust Display

Enter Student Information * Required field

AP ID UV9U1Z58 [Edit](#) School Code 700121

Last Name * Middle Initial

First Name *

Date of Birth *
Month Day

Exam Room Number

Exam
AP Chinese Language and Culture

Certification Statement *

☐ I agree to the AP Exam Terms and Conditions available at cb.org/apexamterms. I understand that there are serious consequences for violating these Terms and Conditions. I certify that I am the person whose information appears in this exam application.

Continue

This image shows the **Enter Student Information** screen that you'll complete in place of an answer sheet on exam day.

At the start of the exam, you need to acknowledge that you have read and agreed to the AP Exam Terms and Conditions.

Adjust Display
A

Continue
→

General Directions

The first section of the exam is multiple choice and tests your ability to use Japanese in the interpretive mode of communication. It contains several listening and reading tasks. In this section, choose one answer by selecting the oval ○ or anywhere on the answer choice. To change an answer, select a different answer choice. To leave a question unanswered after you have selected it, select the answer choice again to deselect it. The total score on the multiple-choice section is based only on the number of questions answered correctly. Points are not deducted for incorrect answers or unanswered questions.

The second section of the exam contains four free-response tasks, which test your ability to use Japanese in the interpersonal and presentational modes of communication. You will type your responses for the writing tasks, and you'll record your responses for the speaking tasks.

Various tasks in the exam will also test your knowledge of Japanese culture.

The proctor should have provided you with scratch paper and a pencil, which you may use to take notes and to organize your responses. You must return the scratch paper and pencil to the proctor at the end of the exam.

At a Glance


The following table provides an overview of the the exam. It shows the number of questions, the amount of time for each part, and the contribution of each part to the final AP score. The total time listed for each section considers time for reading directions, moving from question to question, etc. As a result, the estimated time for each section may be greater than the sum of the estimated times for each part.

Note: The directions throughout the exam regarding timing for specific questions reflect the standard timing. If you have been approved for extended time or other accommodation that results in different timing, the adjusted time for applicable parts of the exam will be reflected accurately on the clock that appears on the screen.

Section	Question or Task Type	Number of Questions or Tasks	Percent of Total Score	Approximate Time
Multiple Choice		Approximately 70 Questions	50%	1 hour, 30 minutes
Part A: Listening	Listening Selections	30–35	25%	20 minutes
Part B: Reading	Reading Selections	35–40	25%	1 hour
Free Response		4 Tasks	50%	45 minutes
Part A: Writing	Text Chat	6 questions	12.5%	10 minutes
	Compare and Contrast Article	1 question	12.5%	20 minutes
Part B: Speaking	Conversation	4 questions	12.5%	3 minutes
	Cultural Perspective Presentation	1 question	12.5%	7 minutes

Select **Continue** or **Return** to go on.

At the beginning of the exam, you should read the **General Directions** carefully.


 **AP**

Adjust Display
AA

Continue
→

Hardware Check


Before the exam begins, we will check the headset and microphone volumes. Please make sure your headset is on and your microphone is placed in front of your mouth.



Select **Continue** to go on.

Before the first part of the exam, you'll check that your headset and microphone are working properly.

IMPORTANT: If you are using a Chromebook, your headset needs to be connected before launching the exam application.

 **AP**

Exit PartAdjust DisplayA AVolumeContinue→

Listening

Listening Part Directions

You will hear a selection in Japanese. This selection will play once. You may take notes as you listen. Your notes will not be graded. After listening to the selection, you will be presented with questions in English. For each question, choose the response that is best according to the selection. You will have 12 seconds (standard time) to answer each question.

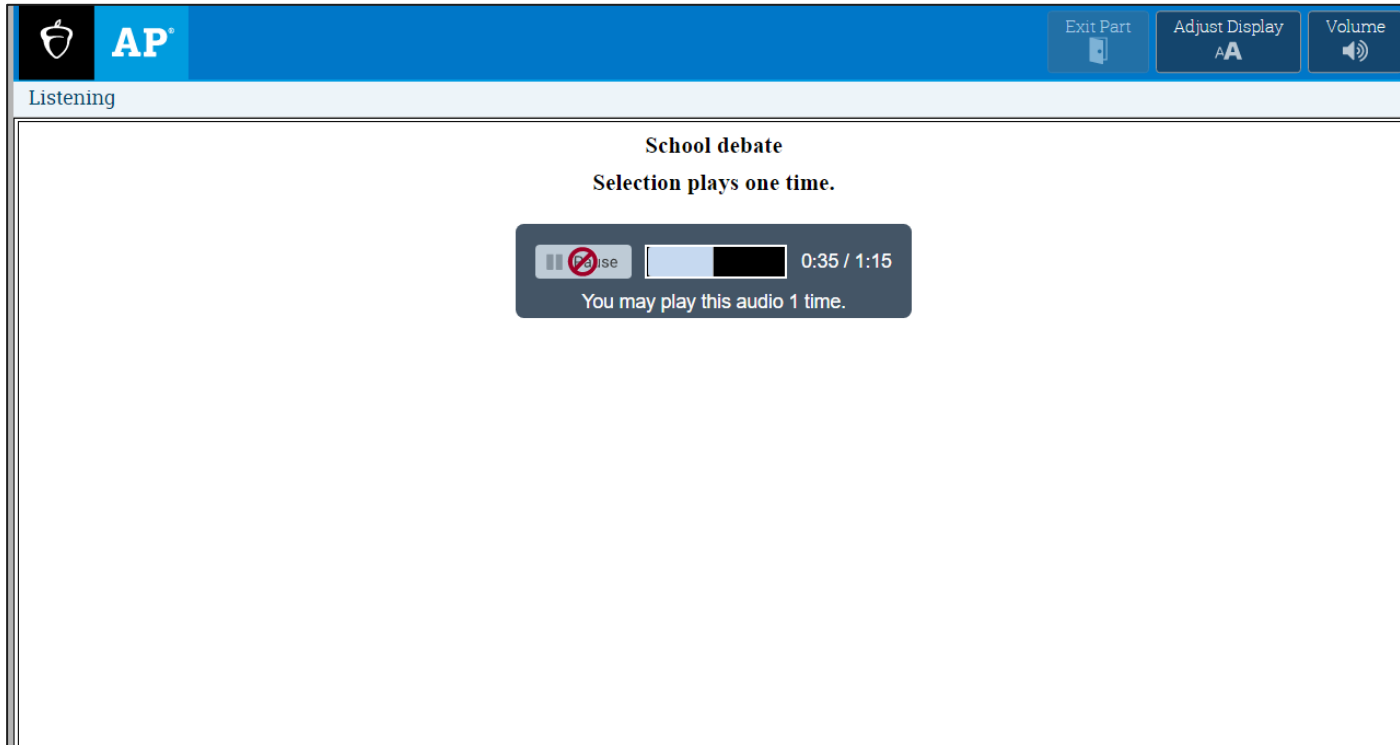
A clock will indicate how much time is remaining to answer the question.

When the response time has ended, you will automatically go on to the next question. You cannot return to previous questions.


You will now begin this part.

Select **Continue** to go on.

The multiple-choice section begins with
Part A: Listening.



An audio progress bar appears whenever you hear audio material through your headset.

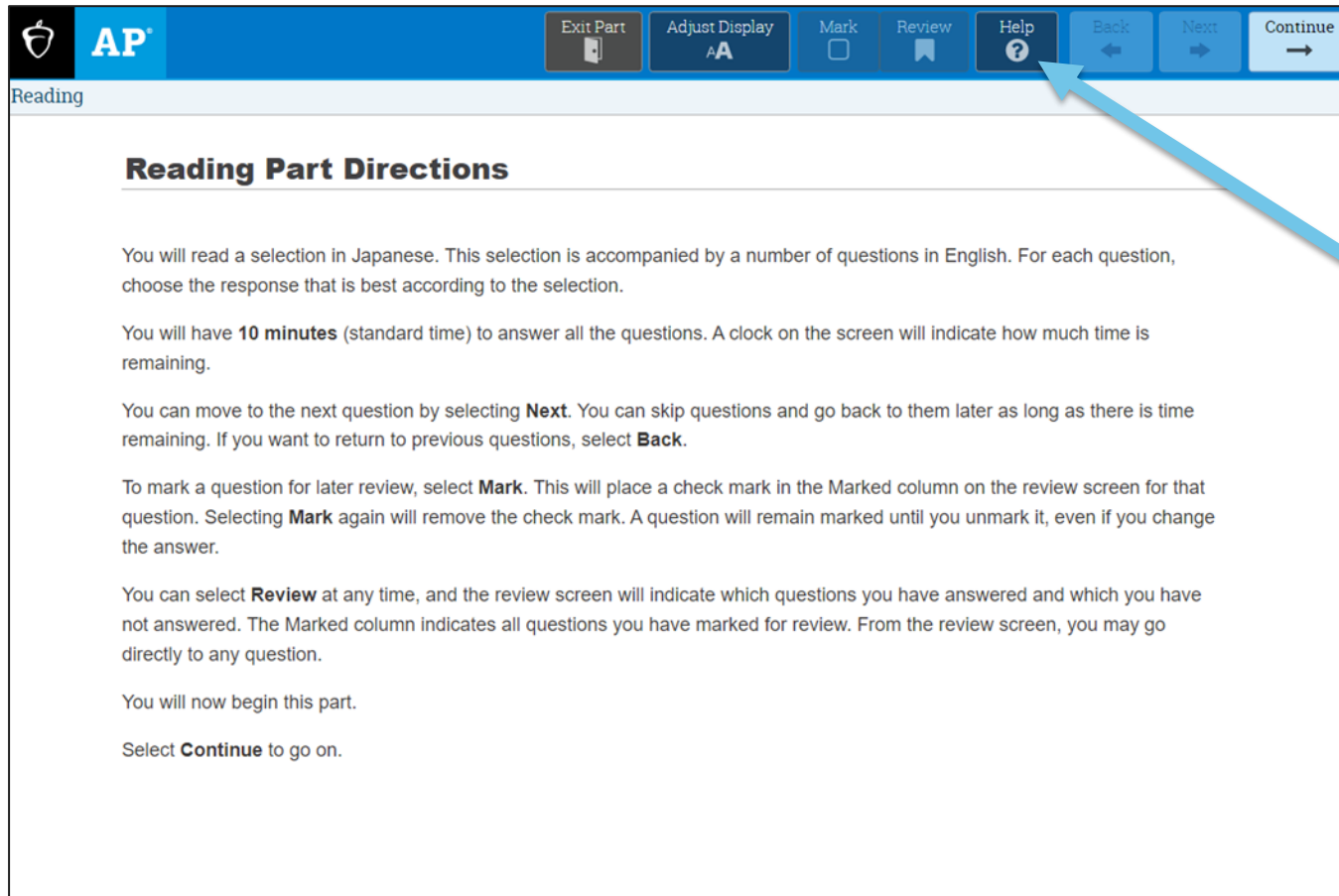
 AP

Exit PartAdjust DisplayVolume

Listening | Question 1 of 500:00:10 Hide Time

Why does Ms. Suzuki dislike school uniforms?

- ☐ They are not fashionable.
- ☐ They are expensive.
- ☐ They cannot be worn to an after-school job.
- ☐ They are uncomfortable.



Reading

Reading Part Directions

You will read a selection in Japanese. This selection is accompanied by a number of questions in English. For each question, choose the response that is best according to the selection.

You will have **10 minutes** (standard time) to answer all the questions. A clock on the screen will indicate how much time is remaining.

You can move to the next question by selecting **Next**. You can skip questions and go back to them later as long as there is time remaining. If you want to return to previous questions, select **Back**.

To mark a question for later review, select **Mark**. This will place a check mark in the Marked column on the review screen for that question. Selecting **Mark** again will remove the check mark. A question will remain marked until you unmark it, even if you change the answer.

You can select **Review** at any time, and the review screen will indicate which questions you have answered and which you have not answered. The Marked column indicates all questions you have marked for review. From the review screen, you may go directly to any question.

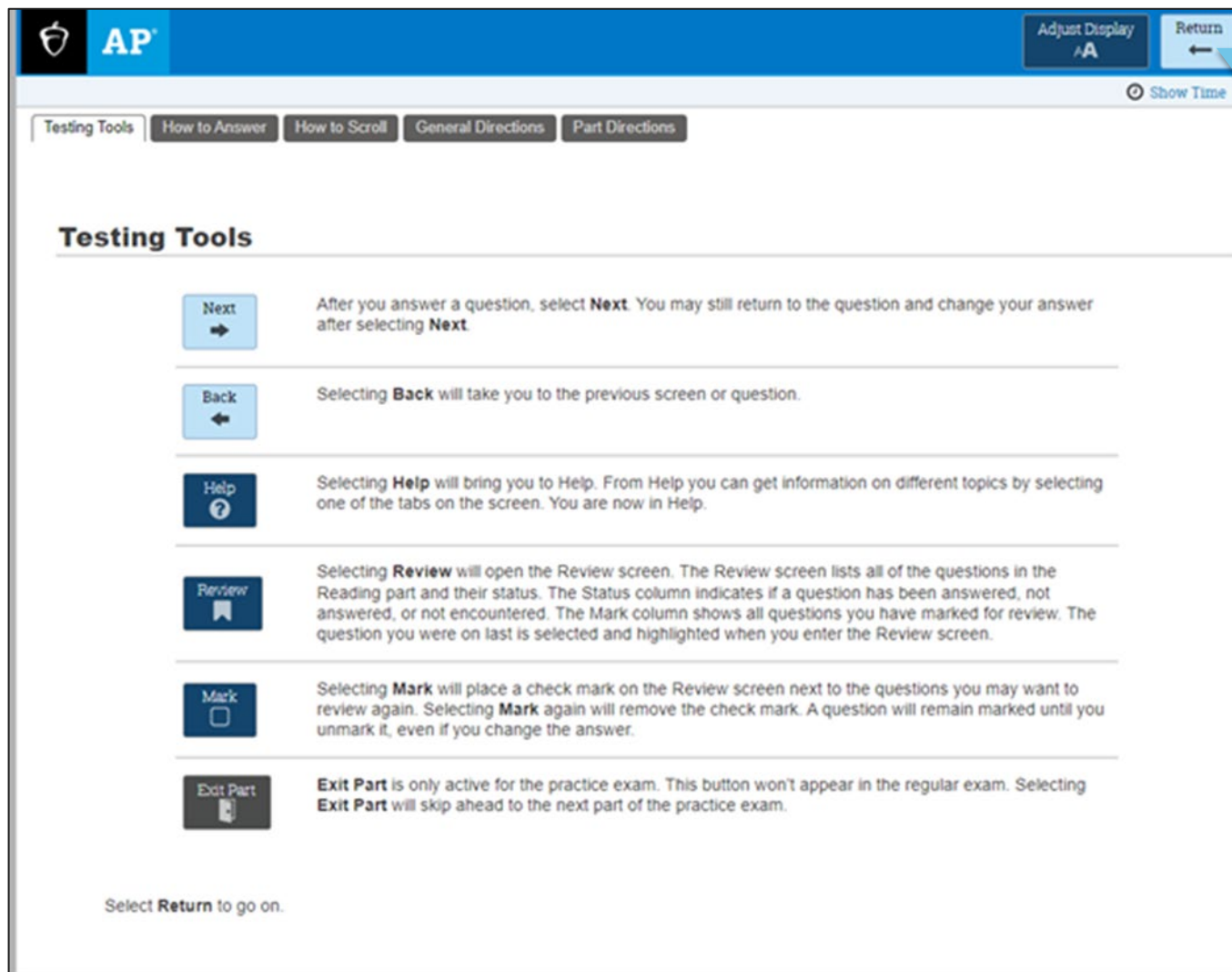
You will now begin this part.

Select **Continue** to go on.

The multiple-choice section continues with **Part B: Reading**.

During the Reading part, you can access the **Help** screens for support.

NOTE: The clock does not stop when viewing the **Help** screens. The more time you spend on **Help**, the less time you have to answer questions.



This is an example of a **Help** screen.

Select **Return** to go back to the exam questions.

AP

Exit Part Adjust Display Mark Review Help Back Next

Reading | Question 1 of 5

Questions 1 through 5

Show Time

Read this news article.

エンカレッジ・スクール

今年、エンカレッジ・スクールという学校ができた。エンカレッジは、日本語で「はげます」とか「力づける」という意味である。エンカレッジ・スクールは、学校がきらいで、勉強しない子どもたちのために作られた。たとえば、エンカレッジ・スクールの一つ、桜台高校では期末テストがない。ホームルームは二人の先生が受け持っている。1クラス 20人ぐらいで、ふつうの高校より 1クラスの人数が少ない。また、ふつうの高校では授業が 50 分だが、桜台高校では 30 分授業だ。「30 分授業は、短いから集中して勉強できる」と、このみんなに人気がある。それに、「和太鼓」や「福祉ボランティア」など、ふつうの高校にはない体験学習もできる。桜台高校はいろいろなことがふつうの高校とちがうようだ。先生たちもいっしょうけんめいにおうえんしている。すでにエンカレッジ・スクールの効果が上がっていることが報告されている。学校ぎらいの高校生をおうえんするために、エンカレッジ・スクールがこれからも全国にますます作られることを期待する。

According to the article, what is the benefit to students of attending the type of school described?

- ☐ They receive individual attention.
- ☐ Their teachers are highly qualified.
- ☐ They are well prepared for college.
- ☐ Their books and materials are provided by the school.

Glossary

福祉ボランティア: Community service

Some students may see characters underlined in blue. Clicking on the characters underlined in blue displays a definition or explanation.

AP

Exit Part Adjust Display AA Mark Review Help Back Next

Reading | Question 2 of 5 00:01:46 Hide Time

Questions 1 through 5.

Read this news article.


エンカレッジスクール

今年、エンカレッジスクールという学校ができた。エンカレッジは、日本語で「はげます」とか「力づける」という意味である。エンカレッジスクールは、学校がきらいで、勉強しない子どもたちのために作られた。たとえば、エンカレッジスクールの一つ、桜台高校では期末テストがない。ホームルームは二人の先生が受け持っている。1クラス 20人ぐらいで、ふつうの高校より1クラスの人数が少ない。また、ふつうの高校では授業が50分だが、桜台高校では30分授業だ。「30分授業は、短いから集中して勉強できる」と、ここのみんなに人気がある。それに、和太鼓や福祉ボランティアなど、ふつうの高校にはない体験学習もできる。桜台高校はいろいろなことがふつうの高校とちがうようだ。先生たちもいっしょうけんめいにおうえんしている。すでにエンカレッジスクールの効果が上がっていることが報告されている。学校ぎらいの高校生をおうえんするために、エンカレッジスクールがこれからも全国にますます作られることを期待する。

According to the article, what stands out about Sakuradai High School?

- ☐ It has served as a model for other high schools.
- ☒ All of the students are required to do community service.
- ☐ There are no final exams.
- ☐ Teachers are very strict.

During the Reading part, selecting the **Review** option will allow you to review the status of each question.

 **AP**

Adjust Display
A A

Return
←

Go to Question
⌕

Reading | Question 2 of 5

00:08:06

Hide

Review

This page presents information about questions in the current section. You may sort the questions by **Question**, **Status**, and **Marked**. The question you were on is selected and highlighted by default. Questions you have encountered have a status of **Answered** or **Not Answered**. Questions you have not encountered have a status of **Not Encountered**. Marked questions are indicated with a ✓.

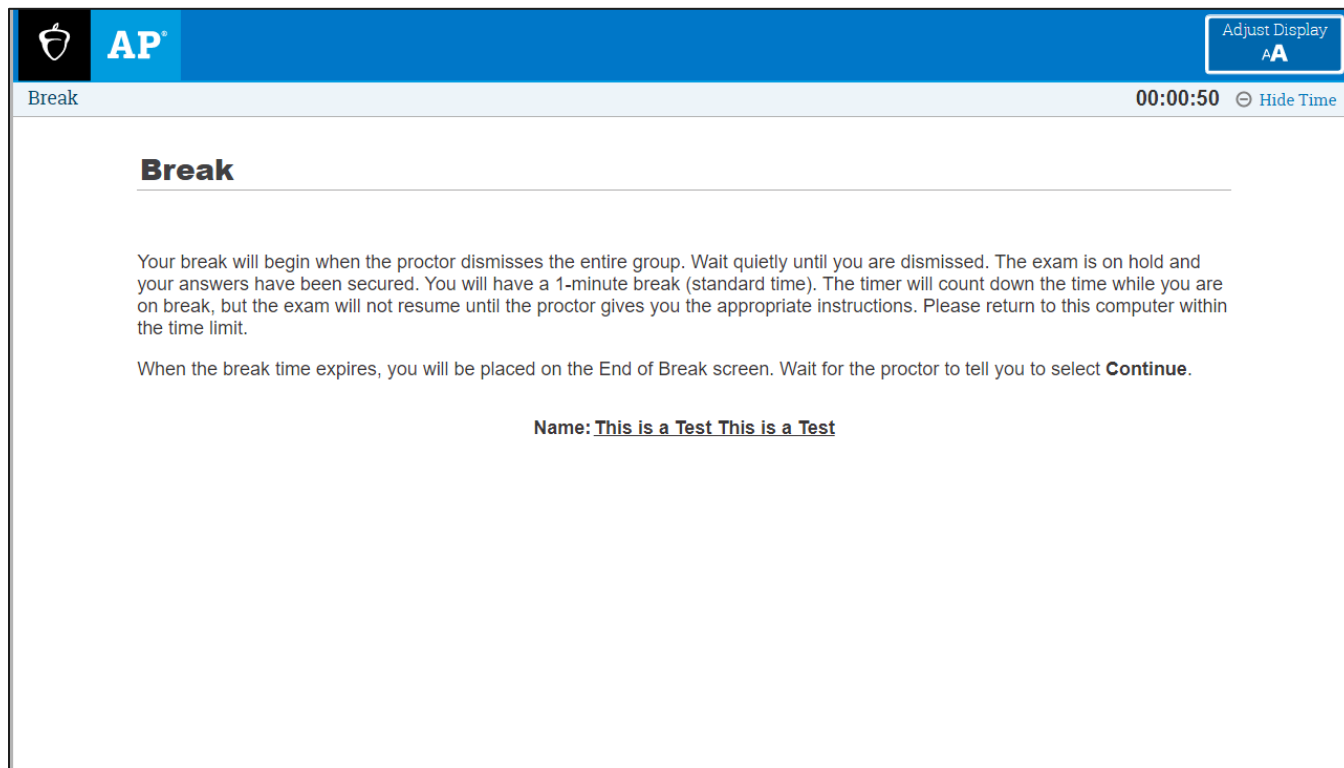
To return to the question you were on, select **Return**. To go to a different question, select that question and select **Go to Question**. You will be unable to go to questions that have a status of **Not Encountered**.

5 Questions Sorted by Number in Ascending Order

Question ▲	Description	Status	Marked
1	According to the article, what is the benefit to students of	Answered	
2	According to the article, what stands out about Sakuradai	Answered	✓
3	What does the article say about classes at Sakuradai High	Not Encountered	
4	The schools described in the article are intended for what	Not Encountered	
5	What does the writer suggest about the future of the schools	Not Encountered	

This is the **Review** screen, which allows you to check the status of each question.


Select **Return** to go back to the exam questions.



There will be a 10-minute break between the multiple-choice and free-response sections.

You must wait for the proctor's instructions before beginning the break.

After the break, you must wait for the proctor's instructions before resuming the exam.

 **AP**

Exit PartAdjust DisplayHelpContinue

Writing

Writing Part Directions

You will participate in a simulated exchange of text-chat messages.

The input method for typing Japanese text is the Google Japanese IME, which allows you to type in different modes. To produce hiragana (あ), type in romaji and press the **Enter** key. To convert a typed word to katakana (ア) or kanji, type in romaji and press the **space bar**, which displays a list of options for katakana and kanji. Choose the desired option by pointing and selecting with the mouse or by using the **up** and **down arrows** and pressing the **Enter** key. If you need to produce English letters, such as "ATM", press and hold the **Shift** key while typing the letters, then press the **Enter** key. Releasing the **Shift** key returns you to the Japanese IME. Note that you should use English letters only in cases where they would normally be used in authentic Japanese writing. Do not use romaji or English as a substitute for words that should be written in Japanese.

For this task, you will have a specific amount of response time. A clock on the screen will indicate how much time is remaining.

When the response time has ended, you will proceed to the next question. You cannot return to previous questions.

Select **Continue** to go on.

The free-response section begins with **Part A: Writing**.

During the Writing part, you can access the **Help** screens for support.

NOTE: The clock does not stop when viewing the **Help** screens. The more time you spend on **Help**, the less time you have to answer questions.

AP

Adjust Display AA

Return ←

00:01:18 Hide Time

Testing Tools | How to Answer | How to Scroll | General Directions | Part Directions

Writing Tools Information

This is an overview of the writing tools and keyboard keys available to you during the exam. These tools and keys will help you write your essay.

Tools:

Cut—To delete something you have typed or cut it to paste elsewhere:

- select the text
- select **Cut**

Paste—To put text in a different location:

- select the text
- select **Cut**
- go to the spot where you want to place the text
- select **Paste**
- **Note:** You can only **Cut** and **Paste** within a response to a question, not between responses to different questions.


Undo—select **Undo** to reverse or cancel your last action. Each time you select **Undo**, it reverses one more action.

Redo—select **Redo** to reverse the action of the **Undo** command. Each time you select **Redo**, it reverses one more **Undo** command.

Character Count—select **Hide Character Count** to remove the character count. Select **Show Character Count** to show the character count.

This is an example of a **Help** screen.

Select **Return** to go back to the exam questions.

 **AP**

Exit Part

Adjust Display
A A

Help
?

Continue
→

Writing

Writing Part Directions: Text Chat


You will participate in a simulated exchange of text-chat messages. Each time it is your turn to write, you will have 90 seconds (standard time) to respond. You should respond as fully and as appropriately as possible.

There will be six times when it is your turn to write.

You will now begin this part.

Select **Continue** to go on.

NOTE: Pressing and holding **Shift** or enabling the **Caps Lock** will make the text appear in English.


 **AP**

Exit Part

Adjust Display
A A

Help
?

Writing | Question 1 of 6

00:01:21  Hide Time

Directions: You will participate in a simulated exchange of text-chat messages. The time you will have to write each response is indicated on the clock. You should respond as fully and as appropriately as possible.


You will have a conversation with Mariko Morimoto, a student in a Japanese school, about your future plans.

Respond.

それでは、よろしくお願いします。最初の質問です。
大学を卒業してから、どんな仕事をしたいと考えていますか？

CutPasteUndoRedo

Hide Character Count0

 **AP**

Exit PartAdjust DisplayA AVolumeContinue→

Speaking

Speaking Part Directions

You will participate in a simulated conversation and make a presentation.

For the presentation, you will have a specific amount of preparation time. During the preparation time, a clock will indicate how much time is remaining.

For both tasks, you will have a specific amount of response time. During the response time, a clock will indicate how much time is remaining.

When the response time has ended, you will automatically go on to the next question. You cannot return to previous questions.


Your cue to start speaking will always be this tone.

Select **Continue** to go on.

The free-response section continues with **Part B: Speaking**.

Before beginning this part, you will perform another headset and microphone check.

You should record your responses at a normal speaking level.



Exit PartAdjust DisplayVolumeContinue

Speaking


Speaking Part Directions: Conversation

You will participate in a simulated conversation. Each time it is your turn to speak, you will have 20 seconds (standard time) to record. You should respond as fully and as appropriately as possible.

There will be four times when it is your turn to speak.

You will now begin this part.

Select **Continue** to go on.

 **AP**

Exit PartAdjust DisplayVolume

Speaking | Question 1 of 5


Directions: You will participate in a simulated conversation. You will hear a series of 4 questions or statements; after each question or statement, you will hear a tone signifying that it is your turn to speak. You will have 20 seconds to record each response. You should respond as fully and as appropriately as possible. When you are ready to begin, select the Continue button.

You will have a conversation with Masao Yamada, a store manager, about a part-time job.

▶ Play0:00 / 0:03

You may no longer play this audio.

RESPONSE TIME

 00:00:16



AP

Exit Part



Adjust Display

A A

Volume



Continue




Speaking

Speaking Part Directions: Cultural Perspective Presentation

Imagine that you are making an oral presentation to your Japanese class. First, you will read and hear the topic for your presentation. You will have 4 minutes (standard time) to prepare your presentation. Then you will have 2 minutes (standard time) to record your presentation. Your presentation should be as full as possible.

You will now begin this part.

Select **Continue** to go on.

 **AP**

Exit PartAdjust DisplayVolume

Speaking | Question 5 of 5

Directions: Imagine that you are making an oral presentation to your Japanese class. First, you will hear and read the topic for your presentation. The time you will have to prepare your presentation is indicated on the clock. You will then have 2 minutes to record your presentation. Your presentation should be as complete as possible.

Present your own view or perspective on Japanese meal customs. Discuss at least FIVE aspects or examples of Japanese meal customs.


Begin with an appropriate introduction, give details, explain your own view or perspective, and end with a concluding remark.

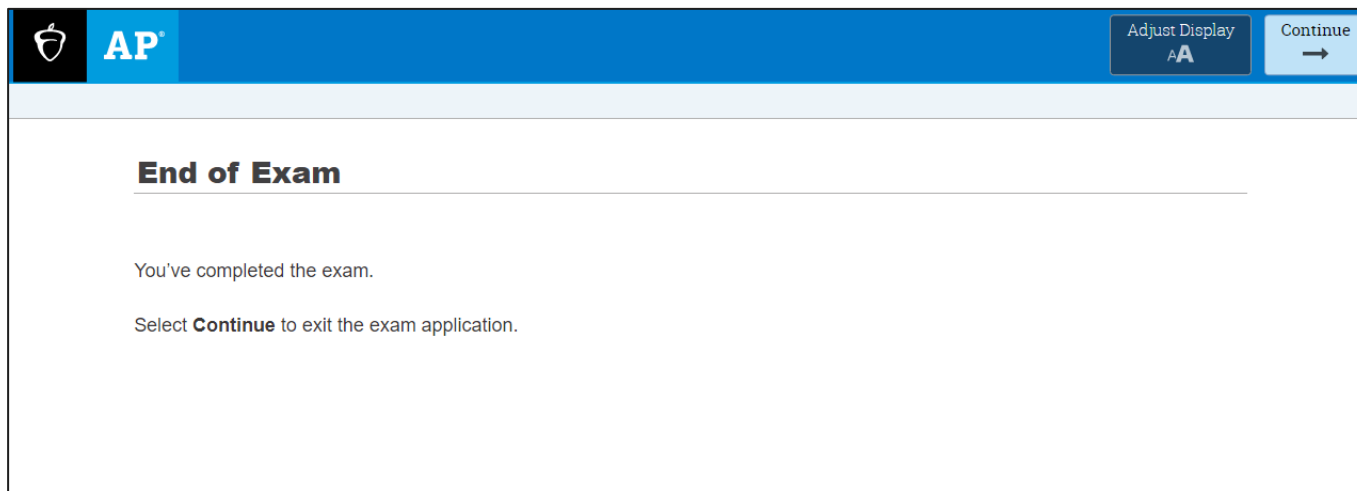
Play0:00 / 0:21

You may no longer play this audio.

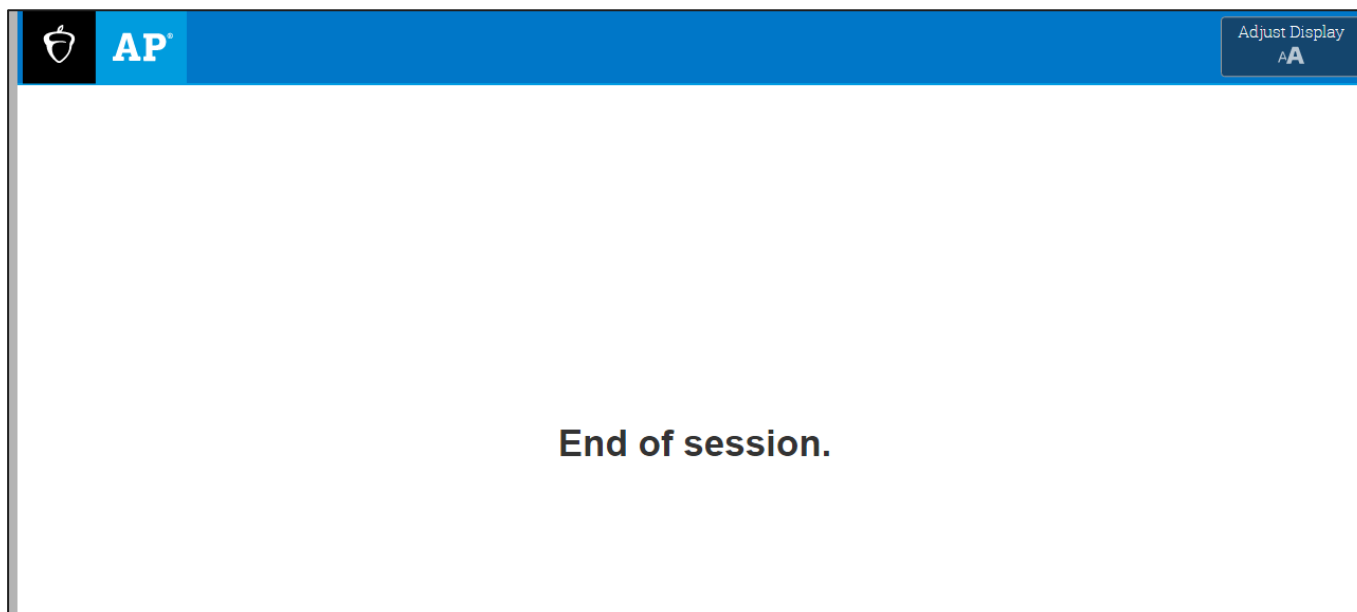
Preparation Time: 4 Minutes
Response Time: 2 Minutes

PREPARATION TIME

 00:03:45



At the end of the exam, you'll click **Continue** on the **End of Exam** screen. Next, the **End of session** screen will appear for a few seconds before the exam application closes.



After the exam, do not touch the computer.

Sit quietly and wait for the proctor to dismiss all students at the same time.

If you'd like more information about the AP Japanese Language and Culture Exam or the AP Exam administration, refer to the following resources:

- The AP coordinator of the school where you will be testing can provide you with more information about the exam schedule, what to bring on exam day, and any pre-exam-day activities.
- Visit the AP Japanese Language and Culture pages at **apstudents.org/courses** to see the complete course description as well as free-response questions and scoring guidelines from last year's exam.
- Read the AP Exam Terms and Conditions at **cb.org/apexamterms**.