

N4 Purposes of test items

Test section (test time)		Composition of test items	
		Type of test items	Purpose
Language Knowledge (25min.)	Vocabulary	1	<i>Kanji</i> reading Test reading of words written in <i>kanji</i>
		2	Orthography Test <i>kanji</i> for words written in <i>hiragana</i>
		3	Contextually-defined expressions Test words whose meaning is defined by context
		4	Paraphrases Test words and expressions with similar meaning
		5	Usage Test usage of words in sentences
Language Knowledge Reading (55min.)	Grammar	1	Sentential grammar 1 (selecting grammar form) Test judgment on grammar formats that suit sentences
		2	Sentential grammar 2 (sentence composition) Test sentence composition that is syntactically accurate and makes sense
		3	Text grammar Test judgment on suitability of sentences for text flow
	Reading	4	Comprehension (short passages) Test understanding of contents by reading easy original text of approximately 100–200 characters regarding topics and situations involving study, everyday life and work
		5	Comprehension (mid-size passages) Test understanding of contents by reading easy original text of approximately 450 characters regarding topics and situations in everyday life
		6	Information retrieval Test ability to retrieve necessary information from original materials such as notices (approximately 400 characters)
Listening (35min.)		1	Task-based comprehension Test understanding of contents by listening to coherent text (test ability to extract necessary information to resolve specific issues and understand appropriate action to take)
		2	Comprehension of key points Test understanding of contents by listening to coherent text (test ability to narrow down points based on necessary information presented in advance)
		3	Verbal expressions Test ability to select appropriate verbal expressions by listening to circumstances while looking at illustrations
		4	Quick response Test ability to select appropriate responses by listening to short utterances such as questions