

batj

The British Association
for Teaching Japanese
as a foreign language

第21回



JAPAN FOUNDATION

大学生のための 日本語 スピーチコンテスト

Saturday 7th March 2026

The Twenty-First Japanese Speech Contest
for University Students

In collaboration with:



Opening

1:00pm – 1:15pm

Individual Presentation Category

1:15pm – 2:00pm

Speech Category

2:15pm – 3:45pm

Intervals and Group Presentation

3:45pm – 4:50pm

Award Ceremony

5:00pm – 6:00pm

Reception

6:00pm – 7:00pm

Venue

The Auditorium at Bush House, King's College London,
Strand Campus, 30 Aldwych, London WC2B 4BG

Organisers

- The British Association for Teaching Japanese as a Foreign Language (BATJ)
- The Japan Foundation, London

Supported by (in alphabetical order)

- British Association for Japanese Studies (BAJS)
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- Regions
- Ricoh UK Limited

Finalists

Speech and Presentation Order

Individual Presentation Category

● Studying Japanese at Post-Beginner Level

1 Ria Kosaka

1st year at The University of Leeds
Chinese and Japanese Studies BA

桃太郎の謎

The Mystery of Momotaro

2 Jessie Baker

1st year at Newcastle University
Modern Languages BA

オルタナティブな人(変わり者?ユニークな人?)

What is 'Alternative'?

3 Yui Shing Kwok

2nd year at Keele University
Computer Science (Software Engineering)

僕の先生は日本の動画配信者

My teachers are Japanese video creators.

4 Leah Foster

2nd year at The University of Cambridge
BA Asian and Middle Eastern Studies

日本のオタク文化における過剰消費の問題

The Problem of Overconsumption in Japanese Otaku Culture

5 Stella Shi

4th year at The University of Warwick
Language, Culture and Communication

小さな美しさ、大きな力

Tiny Beauty, Mighty Strength

Speech Category

● Studying Japanese as either a Degree or Non-degree Course

1 Alexander Campbell Brow

4th year at The University of Cambridge
BA Asian and Middle Eastern Studies
(Japanese Studies)

現代日本の動物福祉の現状

The Current State of Animal Welfare in Modern Japan

2 Peter Ashton

4th year at SOAS University of London
BA Japanese

現実逃避の再考察

A Re-evaluation of Escapism

3 Leon Fan

4th year at The University of Edinburgh
Japanese and Linguistics MA

孤独でも輝ける:

ひとりぼっちになった移民の話

To Shine Even in Loneliness: The Story of a Lonely Immigrant

4 Carol Pui Yi Liu

4th year at The University of Leeds
BA Modern Languages (Japanese and Spanish)

お茶が教えてくれた「つながり」の哲学

The Invisible Bridge in a Cup of Tea

5 Thomas Merryfield

4th year at The University of Edinburgh
Japanese MA

共存社会に向けて: LGBT を事例に「多数派」と「少数派」の関係を考える

Towards a Society of Coexistence: Rethinking Minority and Majority Relations from an LGBT Perspective

Group Presentation Category

● Studying Japanese at Beginner Level

1 恋愛凡人たち

Romance Amateurs
The University of Reading

- Sam Wilkins (BSc Psychology with Professional Placement)
- Tiffany Bantin-Herridge (BSc Physical Geography)
- Isaac Lau (BSc Computer Science with Industrial Year)

イギリスで最高の初デート

The Best First Date in the UK

2 ザ・ウォーリックエクスプレス

The Warwick Express
The University of Warwick

- Luaidh Williams (MMath Mathematics)
- Hanqing Du (BSc Mathematics)

200 歳のお誕生日おめでとう!!

- イギリスの鉄道の 200 年 -

Congratulations on your 200th birthday!!

3 チッピーバーム

Chippy Barm
The University of Lancashire

- Samuel James McGrath (BA TESOL & a Modern Language)
- Marnie Josefina Chambers (BA TESOL & a Modern Language)

イギリスのサブカルチャーの歴史

A History of British Subcultures

4 言葉の万華鏡

Kaleidoscope of Languages
Imperial College London

- Yunlan Hou (Chemistry MSci)
- Niki Kan (Design Engineering MEng)
- Chenxuan Xi (Electrical and Electronic Engineering)
- Jay Dong (Electrical and Electronic Engineering)

世界の英語のアクセント

Diverse English accents around the world

5 パイレーツ・オブ・ネス湖

Pirates of Loch Ness
The University of Edinburgh

- Libby Jackson (Japanese MA)
- Dwij Zhaoyi Kwai-Pun (Japanese MA)
- Louie Dunbar (Japanese and Linguistics MA)

ラ・ブーシュと 18 世紀の海賊の栄光

La Buse and Piracy's Glory during the 18th Century

Judges and Prizes

Chief Judge	Dr PERERA Natsuko	Chair of the British Association for Teaching Japanese as a Foreign Language and Lecturer in Japanese and Language Acquisition (Education), School of Languages, Cultures and Linguistics, SOAS University of London
Deputy Chief Judge	Ms SEMBA Tomoko	Chief Japanese Language Advisor, The Japan Foundation, London
Judges	Mr MAEDA Shuji	Minister for Public Diplomacy and Media, Embassy of Japan in the UK
	Professor Jennifer COATES	President, British Association for Japanese Studies and Professor in Japanese Studies, School of Languages, Arts and Societies, University of Sheffield
	Mrs Bridget BRODY	Academic Lead for World Languages including Japanese, Language Services Direct at Foreign Office Language Centre
Interlocutor	Ms YAMAGUCHI Nozomi	Senior Language Tutor, School of Arts, Languages and Cultures, The University of Manchester

PRIZES

Speech Category

First Prize

- JAL Mileage Bank 54,000 miles (Equivalent of a Japan Airlines Economy Class Return Ticket to Japan) (Japan Airlines)
- Japan Rail Pass (Central Japan Railway Company)
- £100 (Regions)
- £50 Japanese Studies books voucher (British Association for Japanese Studies)

Second Prize

- THETA SC2 360 Degree Camera (Ricoh UK Ltd)
- £100 book voucher (Japan Association in the UK)
- £50

Runners-up

- £20 voucher (JP BOOKS)
- £30



All Speech Category finalists will receive ¥ 6,000 vouchers (Ningyocho IMAHAN), a one-year membership to BAJs including journal, *Japan Forum* (British Association for Japanese Studies), a one-year JA membership, one or two editions of *Eikoku Shunju* (Japanese anthology) and pen pots (Japan Association in the UK), a two-month subscription to Nikkei Online (Nikkei Europe) and a three-month Japanese newsletter subscription (Eikoku News Digest).

Individual Presentation Category

First Prize

- £100 Japan Centre vouchers (Japan Centre)
- £100 (Regions)
- Matcha Green Tea Powder Gift Set (Clearspring)

Second Prize

- £50 book voucher (Japan Association in the UK)
- Matcha Green Tea Powder Gift Set (Clearspring)
- £50

Runners-up

- £20 voucher (JP BOOKS)
- £30



All Individual Presentation Category finalists will receive a one-year membership to BAJs including journal, *Japan Forum* (British Association for Japanese Studies), a one-year JA membership, one copy of *Eikoku Shunju* (Japanese anthology) and pen pots (Japan Association in the UK), and a two-month subscription to Nikkei Online (Nikkei Europe).

Group Presentation Category

All Groups

- £30 gift vouchers per group and Japanese liquid seasonings (NIHON SHOKKEN HOLDINGS CO.,LTD)
- £20 voucher for Japanese books and stationery
- Fude brush pens

All Finalists

Finalists in all categories will receive beauty & lifestyle products from SUQQU and athletia (E'quipe Japan, Ltd.) and shields or medals.

Special Thanks: We appreciate the generous financial support of the Great Britain Sasakawa Foundation.



Participating Universities

- Durham University
- Imperial College London
- Keele University
- King's College London
- Newcastle University
- SOAS University of London
- University of Cambridge
- University of East Anglia
- University of Edinburgh
- University of Exeter
- University of Hertfordshire
- University of Lancashire
- University of Leeds
- University of Manchester
- University of Oxford
- University of Reading
- University of Sheffield
- University of Warwick



Clearspring

NEWDIGEST
INTERNATIONAL



JA | JAPAN
ASSOCIATION



JP BOOKS



NIKKEI

人形町今半

REGIONS

RICOH
imagine. change.

Organising Staff:

BATJ: S Chiba-Mooney (University of Edinburgh), Y Hasegawa (King's College London), M Kawabata (University of Cambridge), R Lee (University of Warwick), M Nagai (University of Sheffield), Y Nakane Berrecloth (King's College London, University of Hertfordshire), E Suda (Newcastle University), S Suzuki (SOAS University of London), M Thomas (University of Lancashire), H Uno (Cardiff University, University of Bristol)

The Japan Foundation, London: K Takahashi, T Semba, H Tanaka, M Starling, M Nitou, C Witney