

JF Standard related sites

The JF Standard for Japanese-Language Education

<http://jfstandard.jp/>

Website introducing the JF Standard

Minna no "Can-do" website

<http://jfstandard.jp/cando/>

The Minna no "Can-do" website is a database of Can-dos that show levels of Japanese proficiency in the form of statements beginning with "I can ...".

Marugoto: Japanese Language and Culture

<http://marugoto.org/>

Website introducing the Japanese language coursebook *Marugoto: Japanese Language and Culture* which was developed based on the JF Standard

The JF Standard for Japanese-Language Education

JAPANFOUNDATION  国際交流基金
<http://www.jpf.go.jp/>

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The Japan Foundation (JF) was established in October 1972 with the objective of promoting international cultural exchange through a comprehensive range of programs in all regions of the world.



JAPANFOUNDATION  国際交流基金

Central to the JF Standard for Japanese-Language Education is the idea that communication in Japanese can lead to mutual understanding among people.



We are now living in a global society where more and more people come into contact with other cultures as part of their personal and professional lives. In order to deepen mutual understanding through cross-cultural language communication the following two competences are needed.

- Competence in accomplishing tasks: the ability to use language to complete specific tasks**
- Competence in intercultural understanding: the ability to understand and respect one's own and other people's cultures**

With the aim of cultivating these competences, the JF Standard for Japanese-Language Education has been developed in order to be practically useful in different educational contexts around the world.



In order for people to understand each other both language and culture are important.



International student: Erin

Erin's teacher: Honigon

Erin's Challenge!! I Can Speak Japanese. <http://www.erin.ne.jp/>


The JF Standard displays levels using to Can-do statements.

The levels of the JF Standard are not based on what kind of grammar you know, or how many words or kanji you know, but what kind of tasks you can accomplish using Japanese.

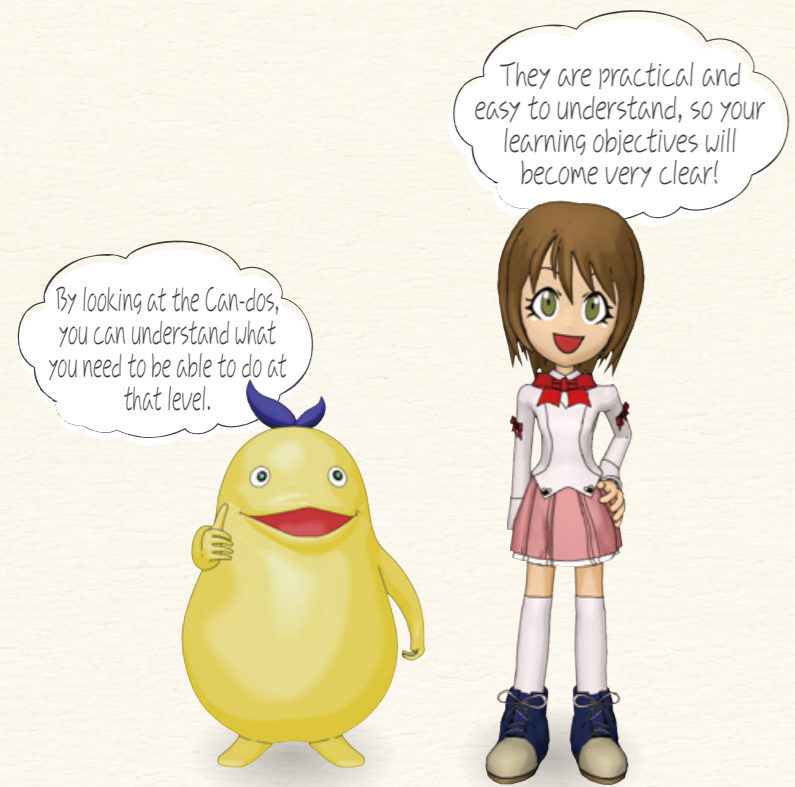
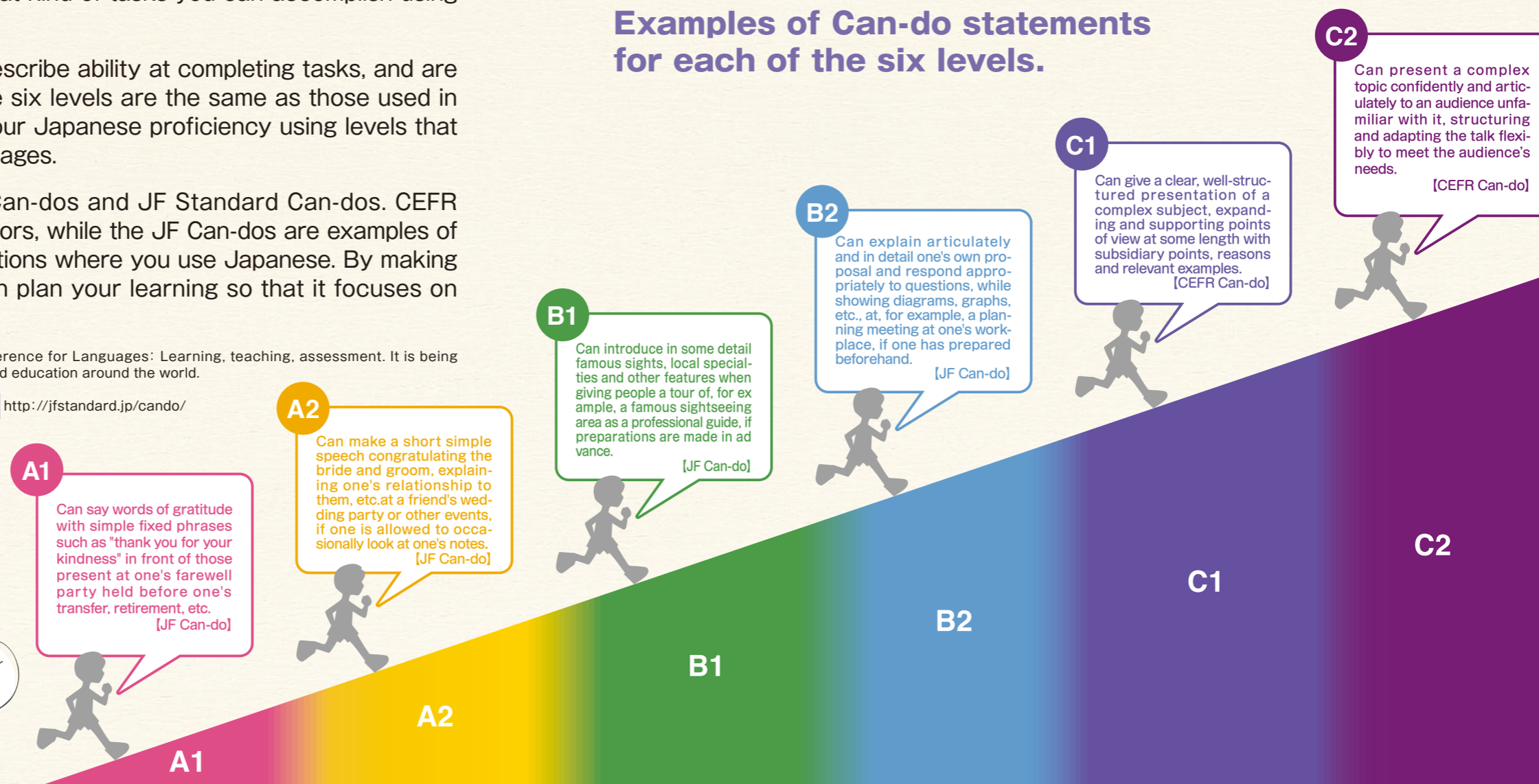
These **Can-dos**, beginning with "I can ...", describe ability at completing tasks, and are divided into six levels from A1 to C2. These six levels are the same as those used in the CEFR, so it is possible to understand your Japanese proficiency using levels that are common with those used for other languages.

The JF Standard consists of both CEFR Can-dos and JF Standard Can-dos. CEFR Can-dos are multipurpose abstract descriptors, while the JF Can-dos are examples of practical language activities related to situations where you use Japanese. By making these Can-dos learning objectives, you can plan your learning so that it focuses on actual communication.

CEFR is an abbreviation of Common European Framework of Reference for Languages: Learning, teaching, assessment. It is being widely introduced as a common framework for language learning and education around the world.

You can search CEFR Can-dos and JF Can-dos at  <http://jfstandard.jp/cando/>

Examples of Can-do statements for each of the six levels.



Basic User Independent User Proficient User

- | | | | | | |
|---|--|---|---|--|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Can understand and use familiar everyday expressions and very basic phrases aimed at the satisfaction of needs of a concrete type. ● Can introduce him/herself and others and can ask and answer questions about personal details such as where he/she lives, people he/she knows and things he/she has. ● Can interact in a simple way provided the other person talks slowly and clearly and is prepared to help. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Can understand sentences and frequently used expressions related to areas of most immediate relevance (e.g. very basic personal and family information, shopping, local geography, employment). ● Can communicate in simple and routine tasks requiring a simple and direct exchange of information on familiar and routine matters. ● Can describe in simple terms aspects of his/her background, immediate environment and matters in areas of immediate need. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Can understand the main points of clear standard input on familiar matters regularly encountered in work, school, leisure, etc. ● Can deal with most situations likely to arise whilst travelling in an area where the language is spoken. ● Can produce simple connected text on topics which are familiar or of personal interest. Can describe experiences and events, dreams, hopes and ambitions and briefly give reasons and explanations for opinions and plans. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Can understand the main ideas of complex text on both concrete and abstract topics, including technical discussions in his/her field of specialisation. ● Can interact with a degree of fluency and spontaneity that makes regular interaction with native speakers quite possible without strain for either party. ● Can produce clear, detailed text on a wide range of subjects and explain a viewpoint on a topical issue giving the advantages and disadvantages of various options. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Can understand a wide range of demanding, longer texts, and recognise implicit meaning. ● Can express him/herself fluently and spontaneously without much obvious searching for expressions. ● Can use language flexibly and effectively for social, academic and professional purposes. ● Can produce clear, well-structured, detailed text on complex subjects, showing controlled use of organisational patterns, connectors and cohesive devices. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Can understand with ease virtually everything heard or read. ● Can summarise information from different spoken and written sources, reconstructing arguments and accounts in a coherent presentation. Can express him/herself spontaneously, very fluently and precisely, differentiating finer shades of meaning even in more complex situations. |
|---|--|---|---|--|---|

Common Reference Levels: global scale

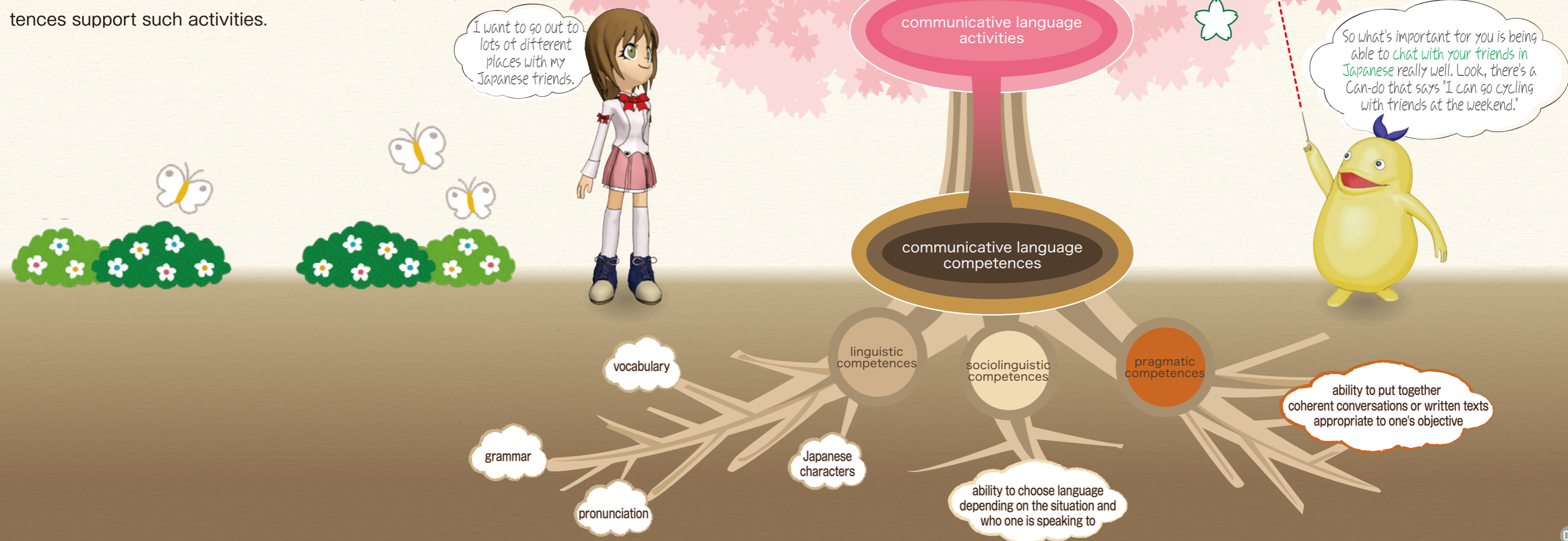
The JF Standard tree shows what Japanese language proficiency consists of.

The part of the tree where the branches spread out and produce flowers shows specific **communicative language activities**, divided into **receptive activities**, **productive activities** and **interactive activities**.

The Can-dos represented by the flowers are examples of communicative language activities.

The roots show **communicative language competences**, which correspond to knowledge of the Japanese language, such as knowledge of Japanese characters, vocabulary, grammar, etc., and these support the communicative language activities.

By looking at the JF Standard tree, you can see which communicative language activities your learning objectives are, and which communicative language competences support such activities.



Marugoto: Japanese Language and Culture is a Japanese language coursebook that is based on the JF Standard.

Marugoto: Japanese Language and Culture aims to be a course of Japanese language study that contributes to mutual understanding among the people of the world through competence in accomplishing tasks and competence in intercultural understanding.

Marugoto: Japanese Language and Culture is based on the JF Standard.



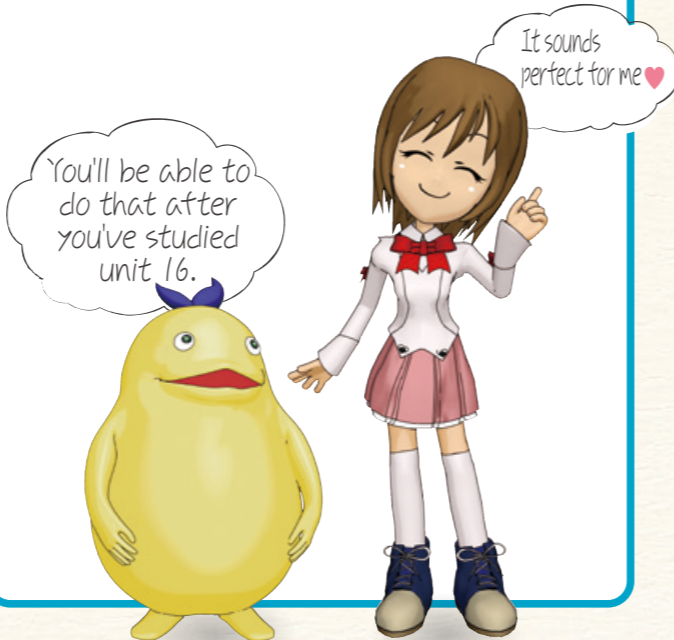
More to be published in the future.

Learning objectives are shown as Can-do statements.



Can-do

Can make comments in short simple terms such as "How cute" and "I want that" when shopping with a friend.



It places an emphasis on intercultural understanding.



You can study language and culture together. You can do this not just by learning about Japanese things, but by looking back and reflecting on your own culture too.

You use the portfolio to manage your own learning.



In your portfolio you can put, for example, self-assessment checklists, reflections on lessons and cultural experiences, compositions and recordings of speeches. By managing your own portfolio you can develop your approach to independent study. By showing your portfolio, you can also share your own learning processes and successes with teachers, classmates, and your family.

The Japan Foundation carries out a range of activities centred around the JF Standard in order to develop Japanese education overseas.

Marugoto: Japanese Language and Culture

Marugoto: Japanese Language and Culture is a coursebook based on the JF Standard.



<http://marugoto.org/>

Materials Development

Coursebook
Companion Website

Marugoto +

Marugoto + is a website where you can study Japanese language and culture follows the contents of the coursebook.



<http://marugotoweb.jp/>

Teacher Training

The Japan Foundation offers teacher training courses based on the JF Standard for overseas teachers of Japanese.



The JF Standard for Japanese-Language Education

aims to cultivate
competence in accomplishing tasks
and competence in intercultural understanding.



みんなの「Can-do」サイト

<http://jfstandard.jp/cando/>

The Minna no "Can-do" website is a database of Can-dos. It provides support for practical aspects of Japanese language education, such as course design, lesson planning, and materials development.

Role-play test based on the JF Standard

The role-play test is a test that can measure your ability in spoken interaction.



<http://jfstandard.jp/roleplay/ja/render.do>

Assessment

Test Creation
Development of Assessment Methods

Educational Practice

Course Design
Curriculum Development

JF Language Course

JF Language Course are Japanese language and culture courses based on the JF Standard.



Cities where JF Language Course are run

