

# Introduction to Japanese Society (October 2019)

Using the following points system, all students will receive a raw score out of 100. This determines students' rankings within the class. Grades are then distributed according to university guidelines for GPA.

## Participation in Class (10%)

You start term with 6 points (the basic score for completing the course). You **LOSE points** for absences in the following way.

- 1st Absence: No penalty
- 2nd Absence: No penalty
- 3rd Absence: -1 point
- 4th Absence: -2 points
- 5th Absence: -3 points
- 6th Absence: Automatic fail of the whole course

Students may **GAIN points** by submitting bonus Active Learning Reading Reports (ALRR) over and above the five required for Active Learning (see below). Each bonus ALRR is worth 2 participation points. *Example: 3 absences and one bonus ALRR is  $6-1+2=7$ .*

The maximum number of points is 10. If you get 0 points (5 absences and no bonus reports) it is still possible to pass the whole course, providing your performance in Active Learning and the End-of-term Exam is satisfactory.

## Active Learning Reading Report (20%)

During the course, submit a minimum of FIVE Active Learning Reading Reports (ALRR). An ALRR is a summary + evaluation (200-300 words in English) of an article. The article is either a) a chapter from one of the books, or b) one of the articles **named on the class webpage**.

**Format:** When you write the ALRR, **use the template that can be downloaded from the website**. The ALRR may be typed or hand-written.

**Submission:** An ALRR may be submitted at any time, but the final class at which submission is accepted is 6 January 2020. Print out the ALRR and hand it in during class. It will be returned to you the following week with a score at the top.

**Marking:** Points are given as follows.

- 4 points: It is clear you have read the whole article/chapter. The report is excellent.
- 3 points: It is clear you have read the whole article/chapter. The report is good.
- 2 points: It is not clear if you have read the whole article/chapter. The written report is good.
- 1 points: It is not clear if you have read the whole article/chapter. The written report is weak.

**Pass/Fail:** Students who **fail to submit five ALRRs will receive ZERO for Active Learning** (regardless of how many points they gained for the ALRRs that they did submit) and may fail the whole course as a result.

## End-of-Term Exam (70%)

Your 90-minute end-of-term exam is the most important part of your assessment. It will be held in the exam week (Week 14). In the exam you will write **three essays**. They are worth 15 points, 15 points and 40 points respectively. As a basic principle, you should spend 15 minutes, 15 minutes and 40 minutes answering the questions.

### QUESTIONS 1 AND 2 (15 POINTS EACH)

Write two short essays of a few paragraphs each. There will be a list of 8 questions to choose from. The 8 questions will come from 8 of the weekly topics listed in the syllabus.

**Sample Question:** A question about the topic of Week 1 - *The Japanese Archipelago (geography, climate, territory)* - might be: "Give one way in which Japan's geography and climate affects Japanese society."

**Revision tips:** Prepare well 4-5 topics from the lectures. Revise the lecture notes; read the assigned reading; do extra reading around these topics from other sources. With 4-5 topics prepared, you should be able to answer 2 questions well.

### QUESTION 3 (40 POINTS)

This is a prepared essay. The title is:

"Describe three ways in which Japanese society will need to adapt in order to cope with the climate crisis in the twenty-first century."

You should prepare in detail the content of this essay during the term. Think of it as an end-of-term report that you write by hand in 40 minutes under exam conditions. Points are as follows:

	F	C-	C	C+	B-	B	B+	A-	A	A+
Structure and Overall Argument	0	5	6	7	9	10	11	13	14	15
Insight and Quality of Analysis	0	5	6	7	9	10	11	13	14	15
Data Sheet Content & Usage	-10	0	1	2	4	5	6	8	9	10

No dictionaries or other texts are allowed in the end-of-term exam. But, you may bring into the exam a **Data Sheet**. Your Data Sheet is one side of A4 (Times New Roman, 12-point font). It will be submitted with your essay at the end of the exam. It may contain some or all of the following:

- 1) **Tables:** Tables of numerical data that you want to refer to in your essay.
- 2) **Graphs:** Visual materials indicating trends/statistics that you want to refer to in your essay.
- 3) **Maps/Images:** Visual material that you want to refer to in your essay. Photos of text/writing are **not allowed**.
- 4) **Quotations:** Quotations of up to 40 words from articles/books that you want to cite in your essay. Indicate clearly the source (author, publication name, page number).
- 5) **Facts/Vocabulary:** Little reminders of key information or vocabulary. Each reminder is a maximum of one line (Times New Roman 12-point font) in the Data Sheet.

**Note:** The purpose of the Data Sheet is to allow accurate graphs, tables, data and citations to be included in your exam essays. **The Data Sheet should not contain sentences that will be just copied into your answers.** See the sample Data Sheet on the next page. **Students considered to have broken the Data Sheet rules will be given F (-10 points).**

# Data Sheet (Sample)

Name: Taro Tufs. Student number: 0123456789

Table: Surface Area of Japan (from *Statistical Handbook of Japan 2018* page 2).

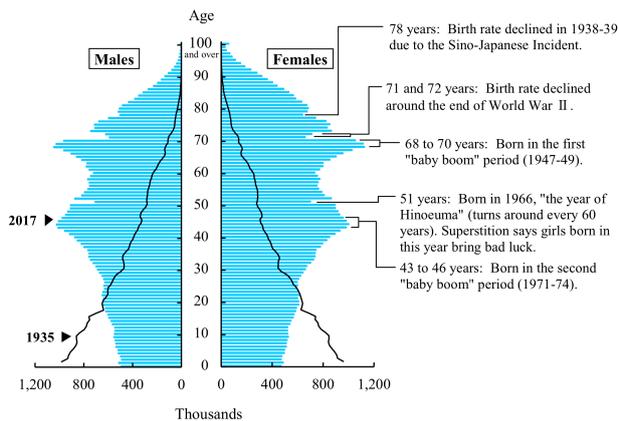
**Table 1.1**  
**Surface Area of Japan (2017)**  
 (Square kilometers)

District	Area
Japan .....	377,974
Honshu .....	231,235
Hokkaido .....	83,424
Kyushu .....	42,231
Shikoku .....	18,804
Okinawa .....	2,281

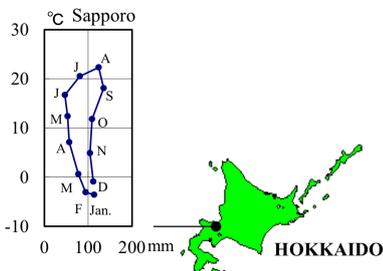
Source: Geospatial Information Authority of Japan.

Graph: Population Pyramid (from *Statistical Handbook of Japan 2018* page 8).

**Figure 2.1**  
**Population Pyramid**



Map: Temperatures in Hokkaido (from *Statistical Handbook of Japan 2018*, page 5)



**Quote:** "The Japanese archipelago has a temperate marine climate. Though they may differ depending on the effects of seasonal winds and ocean currents, the changes in the four seasons are distinct." (from *Statistical Handbook of Japan 2018*, page 5).

**Facts/Vocabulary:**

総務省統計局 = Statistical Bureau of Japan

みどりの日 = Green Day, May 4.