

Japanese Language Speech Contest 2026 Guidelines

1. Timeline:

17th August: Application form opens (JFND website)

20th September, 23:59(BTT): Deadline for application form submission.

10th October: Speech Contest Day @Thimphu

Other details of the speech contest will be shared with the participants by 1st October 2026

*Schedule subject to change. If there are too many participants, online qualifying rounds may be held in advance.

2. Eligibility:

- (1) Must be a Bhutanese living in Bhutan.
- (2) Mother or father must not be Japanese.
- (3) Must have studied Japanese in the past (self-taught is acceptable)
- (4) Must not have stayed in Japan for more than three months in the past.
- (5) Must not have won any previous Japanese Language speech contests in Bhutan.

3. Application procedure:

(1) Application form can be downloaded from the JFND website.

(2) Send an e-mail to:

Taisei_Toyomaru@jpf.go.jp, Ishmeet_Kaur@jpf.go.jp, & Sugandha_Sharma@jpf.go.jp

with the manuscript and application form attached.

Please note that the manuscripts should be sent as Word file.

4. Rules:

- (1) Speeches must be written by the contestants themselves. If you are found to have plagiarised, you will be barred from participating in the speech contest.
- (2) Speeches should be 2 minutes 30 seconds to 3 minutes in length, followed by a Q&A session. Points will be deducted if the speech does not meet the time requirement or is shorter than 2 minutes 30 seconds. This will be strictly observed.
- (3) You shouldn't bring any items into the speech. Singing is also not permitted during speeches.
- (4) Speeches are judged on four criteria: Originality, Clarity (structure, grammar, expression), fluency (pronunciation) and Q&A

(5) AI may be used to check Japanese, but it must not be used to develop or formulate the content of the speech. If this is found to have occurred, the applicant will be disqualified.

5. Content: Please create your own speech title. The topic may be anything, provided it is delivered in Japanese.

6. Commendation:

(1) Certificates will be issued to all participants.

(2) Prizes will be awarded to all participants.

(3) The winner of the contest will be invited to make a speech at the opening of the Bhutan-Japan Week **on 10th October.**