

JLPT N4: The Essential Credential

18-Week JLPT N4 Prep Course | Updated for 2026

1. The Mission

You've studied Japanese for a while now. Maybe years. But when someone asks what you've actually got to show for it, the honest answer is... not much yet. No credential, no benchmark, just the quiet feeling of not knowing where you really stand.

That's exactly what the Japademy JLPT N4 course is built to fix. Our mission is simple: turn everything you already know into an official, internationally recognized qualification. This isn't "studying Japanese" in general anymore. Every grammar point, vocabulary cluster, kanji, and listening or reading drill is here for one reason: it's on the exam. We don't teach you what you won't need, and we don't skip anything you will.

2. The Transformation: What You Will Be Able To Do

After the successful completion of this 18-week course, you will be able to:

- **Walk Into Exam Day Ready:** Sit the JLPT N4 already knowing the format cold. By the time the real test comes, you've been there before, twice, under full mock conditions.
- **Master the Grammar Section:** Handle N4 grammar the exact way the exam frames it, from conditionals and the passive to giving-and-receiving and obligation forms.
- **Read Around 300 Kanji:** Confidently recognize and read the full N4 kanji set, so signs, short texts, and exam passages stop looking like a wall of symbols.
- **Command ~1,500 Words:** Lock in the official N4 vocabulary list through spaced-repetition flashcards you can drill anywhere.
- **Decode Real Listening:** Follow everyday spoken Japanese at exam speed and catch the small words that decide the right answer.
- **Read Under Time Pressure:** Skim, scan, and answer short passages quickly, which is where a lot of self-study learners quietly lose points.

- **Hold a Credential That Counts:** Earn the proof that employers, universities, and immigration offices actually ask for. It's the difference between "I speak some Japanese" and "I'm certified."

3. The Japademy "Complete Ecosystem"

We don't just give you a class; we give you a system for success. Your enrollment includes:

- **Certified Native Teacher:** A certified Japanese teacher with real JLPT exam expertise, not just a native speaker. She knows where students drop marks and how to fix it before it's too late.
- **18 Live Lessons (105 min each):** Interactive, exam-mapped sessions (up to 10 students) via Zoom. Every week, you're a step closer to ready.
- **Exam-Aligned Curriculum:** Grammar in the exact structure the JLPT tests it, vocabulary and kanji from the official lists, and listening and reading modelled on the real exam format.
- **Practice Flashcards:** Purpose-built Quizlet vocabulary and kanji sets drawn straight from the official N4 lists. Study between lessons, on your commute, or the night before the exam.
- **Full Mock Exam Review:** The final two lessons are dedicated to sitting and reviewing complete JLPT mock tests under real exam conditions.
- **Japanese Conversation Club (JCC):** Because the JLPT doesn't test speaking, we keep class time on what moves the needle, and give you the JCC for speaking practice alongside your prep.
- **Completion Certificate:** Finish the course and receive your Japademy JLPT N4 Prep certificate, a record of the work you put in before the official exam.

4. The "Japademy Edge"

- **A Teacher Who Knows the Test Inside Out:** There's a real difference between a native speaker and a certified teacher trained in JLPT strategy. Ours explains grammar so it clicks, then shows you the specific question patterns the exam repeats every year.
- **Built Around the Exam, Not a Textbook:** A focused group that goes deep. Questions get answered in real time, and nobody gets left behind a week before the test.
- **A Real Deadline, a Real Group:** You and your classmates share one finish line: your exam date. That shared accountability is the thing solo study can never give you.

5. Who is this course for?

- **N5-Ready Learners:** You're at roughly Japademy Intermediate 3 level (about Lessons 1–37 of Minna no Nihongo), or solidly N5-ready and hungry for the next step.
- **Career Switchers & Serious Expats:** Anyone who needs N4 or above for a job application, a work visa, a university program, or long-term residency in Japan.
- **The "Now What?" Graduate:** You've done the studying but have no external benchmark to show for it. The JLPT gives you the goal, and the deadline, you've been missing.
- **Second-Attempt Candidates:** Failed N4 studying alone with no idea where your weak points were? This course is literally built around the exam, which is exactly what a retake needs.

6. The 18-Week Roadmap

Sixteen weeks of structured skill-building, then two weeks of full mock exams. Every week we weave in kanji and vocabulary from the official lists as between-lesson practice.

Week	Focus	Core Capability
01	Giving & Receiving	Master あげる/くれる/もらう and the te-form favor expressions the exam tests constantly.
02	Linking Ideas	Connect thoughts naturally with ~たり, ~し, and reason/contrast forms (~ので, ~のに).
03	Conditionals (Part 1)	Use と and ば to describe natural results and give advice.
04	Conditionals (Part 2)	Handle たら and なら, the "if / when" patterns the N4 loves to test.
05	Potential & Volitional	Say what you can do and what you intend to do (~よう, ~ようと思う).

06	Appearance & Hearsay	Report how things look and what you've heard with ~そう, ~みたい, ~らしい.
07	Passive & Causative	Describe things done to you, and making or letting others act.
08	Rules & Keigo Basics	Master obligation, permission, and prohibition, plus your first steps into polite keigo.
09	Listening Foundations	Learn the N4 listening question types and the key phrases that signal the answer.
10	Reading Foundations	Build a repeatable method for short passages: skim, scan, then answer.
11	Grammar Review Sprint I	Consolidate Weeks 1–4 in true exam format, under time.
12	Listening Under Pressure	Tackle longer dialogues and quick-response tasks at real exam speed.
13	Grammar Review Sprint II	Consolidate Weeks 5–8 and iron out the patterns you still mix up.
14	Reading Speed & Strategy	Work longer passages and information-retrieval questions without running out of clock.
15	Vocabulary & Kanji Lock-In	Close the gaps on the full official N4 word and kanji lists.
16	Full-Section Drills	Timed practice across every section, so nothing on test day feels new.
17	Mock Exam & Review I	Sit and review a full Vocabulary & Reading mock under real exam conditions.

18	Mock Exam & Review II	Sit and review a full Listening mock. Final prep, then celebrate how far you've come!
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7. Course Requirements

- **Prerequisites:** Japademy Intermediate 3 level or equivalent (roughly Lessons 1–37 of Minna no Nihongo), or JLPT N5-ready. Not sure where you stand? Take our placement questionnaire.
- **Materials:** Everything's included. Your fee covers all lesson materials, your Quizlet vocabulary and kanji sets, and your completion certificate. No textbooks to buy, no surprise extras.
- **Commitment:** 105 minutes for the live class each week, plus regular self-study with your flashcard sets. Consistency beats cramming every time.

8. Logistics

- **Format:** 100% online via Zoom. One 105-minute live lesson per week, led by a certified native teacher.
- **Two Intakes a Year:** Timed to the official JLPT schedule. Term 1 starts in January (→ July exam); Term 2 starts in July (→ December exam). Each group is capped tight and spots go quickly.
- **Catching Up:** Miss a session? You'll get a summary of what was covered, and every lesson opens with a short recap of the week before. To earn your certificate, plan to attend at least 15 of the 18 live lessons.
- **Focus:** The N4 has no speaking section, so we spend every minute on what the exam actually scores: grammar precision, vocabulary, kanji, listening, and reading.

9. Trust & Success

- **4.67 / 5 Stars:** Based on 150+ student reviews across Japademy programs.
- **700+ Students & Counting:** A growing community of serious learners who've trusted us with their Japanese journey.

- **Risk-Free Guarantee:** Not satisfied after your first live lesson? Let us know within 6 days for a refund (minus a small admin fee). We just ask for your honest feedback so we can keep improving.

10. Frequently Asked Questions

Do I need to buy the N4 textbooks?

Nope. Everything you need is included, from lesson materials to your Quizlet flashcard sets. The price you see is the complete price.

What if I've never sat a JLPT exam before?

That's exactly who this course is for. We treat the exam as something you learn, not something you gamble on. By Weeks 17–18 you'll have sat two full mock tests, so the real thing feels familiar, not terrifying.

Is the N4 kanji load overwhelming?

It's real work, but it's manageable when it's spaced out. We fold kanji every week as flashcard practice rather than dumping it on you at the end, so it builds instead of piling up.

11. A Message from the Founder

"For years, our students told me the same thing: 'I love learning, but I have nothing official to show for it.' The N4 changes that. It's the moment your Japanese stops being a private hobby and becomes a credential the world recognizes. I can't wait to see your name on that certificate." — **Kanami Iwasaki**



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