

**Date and Time :** 09:30-12:30, 21<sup>st</sup> September

**Session :** **Kyotsu Test (共通テスト) – Understanding the reading test and improving students’ reading proficiency**

**Aimed at:** **Secondary-school teachers and university instructors**

**Background:** From 2020 the Japanese national curriculum and assessment are changing, placing greater emphasis on using English to promote thinking skills and self-expression. This session will look the kind of thinking that is expected of students in the reading papers of the new Kyotsu tests trialed in 2017 and 2018.

**Learning aims:** Teachers will be better able to:

- recognise different kinds of reading tasks in the Kyotsu test and what they are testing
- practise teaching activities related to the demands of the reading test
- help students to improve their reading ability, leading to improved results in tests of reading.\*

TIME	SESSION	CONTENT
09:30-12:30 (includes comfort break)	Reading skills needed for the reading paper on the Kyotsu test	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Analysis of different reading tasks in the Kyotsu test</li> <li>• What kind of knowledge and thinking do Kyotsu reading test tasks prompt?</li> <li>• What practical classroom activities can teachers use to improve students’ reading ability?</li> </ul>

\* Note that this session will not teach tricks for artificially boosting students’ scores on reading tests.

**Date and Time :** 09:30 - 12:30, 22<sup>nd</sup> September

**Session :** **Kyotsu Test (共通テスト) – Understanding the listening test and improving students’ listening proficiency**

**Aimed at:** **Senior high school teachers and junior high school teachers**

**Background:** From 2020, senior high school students will take the new Kyotsu test to enter university. 50% of the new Kyotsu test score will be based on students’ listening proficiency. This session will look at practical classroom activities which help to improve students’ listening and pronunciation skills.

**Learning aims:** Teachers will:

- analyse the demands of the Kyotsu test for listening
- learn how to help students switch on their brains for listening by using purposeful listening strategies
- learn how to help students make use of tables and graphic organisers
- learn how to help students perceive familiar words in the stream of speech.

TIME	SESSION	CONTENT
09:30-12:30 (includes comfort break)	<b>Improving students’ listening skills</b>	An in-depth look at the skill of listening, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What mental processes occur when we listen?</li> <li>• What tasks and listening text types are used in listening tests?</li> <li>• The role of goal-setting in effective listening</li> <li>• The role of decontextualized listening practice</li> <li>• Improving students’ bottom-up listening skills through micro-listening tasks</li> </ul>