

Year 2025

Otsuma Nakano Junior High School

Entrance Exam

November 22, 2024

English

Attention:

1. This test has two reading tasks and one essay writing task.
2. Write your name and your application ID number on the booklet and your answer sheet.
3. The test duration is 40 minutes.
4. Write your answers on your answer sheet.
5. The full score for this test is 60 points.

Application ID. No.		Name in Kanji	
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Reading 1-A

Instructions: Read the passage carefully. Answer each question by choosing the correct letter.

The Power of Passion

Mei's heart raced as she clutched her note cards. It was finally her turn to give her presentation on "A Country I'd Like to Visit" in Mr. Johnson's English class. She had spent weeks researching New Zealand, practicing her speech, and creating a colorful poster.

As she walked to the front of the room, Mei felt her confidence waver. She took a deep breath and began, "Hello, everyone. Today, I'm going to talk about why I'd like to visit New Zealand." Her voice was a bit shaky at first. She pointed to her poster, which showed pictures of lush forests and pristine beaches. "New Zealand is known for its beautiful landscapes and unique wildlife."

As Mei continued, she gradually relaxed. She described the native Maori culture and explained why New Zealand was chosen as the filming location for "The Lord of the Rings" movies. Her classmates listened attentively, and some even asked questions. "And that's why I'd love to visit New Zealand someday," Mei concluded, feeling a sense of accomplishment. After class, her friend Kurumi approached her. "Great job, Mei! But weren't you nervous?"

Mei nodded. "I was at first, but once I started talking about things I found exciting, it got easier. I realized that if I'm interested in the topic, others might be too."

Mr. Johnson overheard and added, "That's an excellent observation, Mei. Passion for your subject is key to engaging your audience. Remember, public speaking is a skill that improves with practice."

As Mei packed up her poster, she felt proud. She had faced her fear and discovered that she had the power to inform and interest others through her words.

1. What was the topic of Mei's presentation?
 - a. the Lord of the Rings movies
 - b. public speaking tips
 - c. the Maori culture
 - d. a country she'd like to visit

2. How did Mei's feelings change during her presentation?
 - a. She started confident but became nervous.
 - b. She remained nervous throughout.
 - c. She began nervously but gradually relaxed.
 - d. She was relaxed from start to finish.

3. The word "attentively" in paragraph 3 most closely means:
- a. boringly
 - b. carefully and with interest
 - c. loudly
 - d. quickly
4. What helped Mei feel more comfortable during her presentation?
- a. Her classmates left the room.
 - b. Mr. Johnson gave her answers.
 - c. Kurumi encouraged her during the speech.
 - d. She focused on topics she found exciting.
5. Based on the reading, what best describes Mr. Johnson's teaching style?
- a. He prefers written reports to oral presentations.
 - b. He encourages students and provides helpful advice.
 - c. He doesn't care about the students' performances.
 - d. He is very strict and critical.

Reading 1-B

Instructions: Read the passage carefully. Answer each question by choosing the correct letter.

High School Fights Littering with Recycling Program

East Nakano High School is tackling littering in an innovative way: by implementing a comprehensive recycling program. The East Nakano High School Environmental Club has launched a project to encourage recycling among students and staff, providing specially designed bins for paper, plastic, and metal throughout the school.

Principal Keiko Tanaka consulted with teachers to determine the best locations for the bins. Once installed, Tanaka organized an educational campaign to inform everyone about the importance of recycling and how to use the new system effectively. "We noticed a significant litter problem, especially in common areas like the cafeteria," said Tanaka. "By introducing a recycling program, we aim to reduce waste and promote a cleaner environment for our students."

The program includes regular workshops and presentations by the Environmental Club, teaching students about the environmental impact of littering and the benefits of recycling. Additionally, the club organizes monthly clean-up events to keep the school grounds litter-free.

"The response from students and teachers has been overwhelmingly positive," Tanaka added. "Everyone is eager to keep our school clean. The common reaction was, 'Why didn't we start this earlier?'" Initial results are promising, with a noticeable decrease in litter and increasing recycling rates.

"When students develop good habits at school, they are likely to continue them at home," said Tanaka. "This initiative benefits our school and fosters a culture of environmental responsibility in our community."

1. What specific areas of the school were identified as having a significant litter problem?
 - a. the cafeteria and common areas
 - b. classrooms
 - c. hallways
 - d. the library and gym
2. How did East Nakano High School ensure the effectiveness of the new recycling program?
 - a. by hiring additional janitorial staff
 - b. by partnering with local environmental organizations
 - c. by installing security cameras
 - d. by launching an educational campaign and workshops

3. What type of materials are the new recycling bins at East Nakano High School designed to collect?
 - a. organic waste
 - b. electronic waste
 - c. paper, plastic, and metal
 - d. glass and textiles
4. Which of the following best describes the initial reaction of the students and teachers to the recycling program?
 - a. skeptical but compliant
 - b. enthusiastic and supportive
 - c. indifferent and uninterested
 - d. opposed and resistant
5. What is the primary goal of East Nakano High School's new initiative described in the article?
 - a. to educate students about the financial benefits of recycling
 - b. to reduce littering by implementing a comprehensive recycling program
 - c. to decrease student involvement in the city's recycling efforts
 - d. to promote the use of recyclable materials in school projects

Writing

The purpose of this essay is to test your ability to write in English.

Instructions:

Answer the following prompt in English (100-150 words):

Do you agree or disagree with the following statement?

Schools should require students to do volunteer work for the community.

Present your ideas clearly and logically, with an introduction, main body, and conclusion. Give at least 2 reasons to support your answer. Your essay should be three paragraphs.

You may use the space below to plan your essay.