



PLAZA NEWS



Miyazaki International Foundation B1 Carino Miyazaki, Tachibanadori Higashi 4-8-1, Miyazaki City 880-0805

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Open: Tuesday to Saturdays, 10:00 am to 7:00 pm Closed: Sundays, Mondays, National Holidays and December 29 to January 3

Hinata Japanese Classes Online (Summer 2025 course) Starter • Elementary 1 • 2 *Application required

Hinata Japanese Classes Online (Summer 2025 course)
Come learn Japanese on Zoom!

Sign up to learn useful Japanese for your everyday life in Miyazaki!
Anyone who is living in Miyazaki Prefecture and able to use Zoom
can take part. All you need is an internet connection at home and a
PC, tablet, or smartphone! A qualified Japanese language teacher
will teach you.
※Free

【Starter / Nyumon】

This course is for people who are learning Japanese for the first time,
and who can read and write hiragana and katakana to some extent.

- **Dates:** June 11-September 26 (The course consists of 30 lessons.)
- **Days:** Wednesday & Friday
- **Time:** 1:30pm-3:30pm
- **Class size:** 7 people



【Elementary 1 / Shokyu 1】

This course is aimed at people who have studied a bit of Japanese,
and who can already read and write hiragana and katakana.

- **Dates:** June 10-September 30 (The course consists of 30 lessons.)
- **Days:** Tuesday & Thursday
- **Time:** 10:00am-12:00pm
- **Class size:** 7 people

【Elementary 2 / Shokyu 2】

This course is aimed at people who can already read and write
hiragana and katakana and make simple conversation in Japanese.

- **Dates:** June 11-September 26 (The course consists of 30 lessons.)
- **Days:** Wednesday & Friday
- **Time:** 10:00am-12:00pm
- **Class size:** 7 people

Please see the following URL for class details and how to apply.

<https://hinatanihongo.mif.or.jp/english/news/japanese/1081/>



◇Inquiries : Miyazaki International Foundation

If you are inquiring by email, please include "About Hinata Japanese Class" in the subject line.

TEL:0985-32-8457 E-mail:miyainfo@mif.or.jp

Introduction of Japanese language volunteers *Free, Registration Required



Foreigners or Japanese returnees in Miyazaki who wish to study
Japanese language will be introduced to registered Japanese
language volunteers upon request. Study location, hours, and
contents will be decided by the learner and the tutor themselves.

◇Target: Foreign residents of Miyazaki Prefecture

◇Inquiries & Application: Miyazaki International Foundation

Talk with the CIRs! *Free, Registration Required

How about having a chat with the Coordinators for International
Relations from the Prefectural Government?

★A chat with Katherine from England (Japanese & English)

◇Date & Time: ①June 20 (Fri) 6:00pm - 7:00pm

②June 27 (Fri) 3:00pm - 4:00pm

◇Registration Deadline: ①June 13 (Fri) ②June 20 (Fri)



★A chat with Yu Ding from Singapore (Japanese & Chinese)

◇Date & Time: June 17 (Tue) 4:00pm - 5:00pm

◇Registration Deadline: June 10 (Tue)



★A chat with Haejeong from South Korea (Japanese & Korean)

◇Date & Time: June 26 (Thu) 3:00pm - 4:00pm

◇Registration Deadline: June 19 (Thu)



◇Venue: CARINO Miyazaki B1 Miyazaki International Plaza

◇Spaces Available: 4 (Priority will be given to people who have
participated less frequently)

*We accept applications by phone, email or in person.

◇Inquiries/Registration: Miyazaki International Foundation

Establishment of a donations box for Myanmar Earthquake Relief Fund

On 28 March 2025, a 7.7. magnitude earthquake occurred in central
Myanmar, and many deaths and injuries have already been
confirmed. Tireless relief efforts and further assessment of the
damage are ongoing in Myanmar and neighbouring countries.

In response to the situation, we are setting up a donations box for
the Myanmar Earthquake Relief Fund to support rescue operations.
All donations to the relief fund are handled by the Japan Red Cross,
going towards Myanmar and Thailand Red Cross operations, as well
as relief/reconstruction efforts and disaster prevention/mitigation
activities run by the International Red Cross and Red Crescent
Societies, the International Committee of the Red Cross, and the
Japan Red Cross.

We greatly appreciate your support and cooperation.

• Donations period

10 April 2025 (Thu)-27 June 2025 (Fri)

Open from 10am to 5:30pm (excluding Sundays, Mondays
and national holidays)

• Location

Carino Miyazaki Basement

(Miyazaki International Plaza/Miyazaki Support Center for Foreign
Residents)



We are recruiting patrons!

Annual membership fee

Individual:2,000yen Group:10,000yen



If you become our patron...

- You will receive "International Plaza News," our monthly newsletter
- You will receive "South Wind," our semiannual magazine
- You will be given discounts for our lectures and workshops
- (Only available for Groups) Website will be linked to our homepage

◇Inquiries : Miyazaki International Foundation

A Guide to Studying Japanese Online

There are plenty of websites and online platforms designed for you to study Japanese to a schedule that suits you. Here are a few that you can use for free.

○Connect and Enhance Your Life in Japanese

<<https://tsunagar.jp/bunka.go.jp/>>

You can learn basic Japanese expressions and words from everyday situations experienced by foreigners living in Japan.

○Irodori Japanese for everyday life

(The Japan Foundation Japanese Language Institute, Urawa Urawa)

<<https://www.irodori.jpf.go.jp/>>

This is a teaching material for foreigners to acquire basic Japanese communication skills necessary for living and working in Japan.

○Marugoto

(The Japan Foundation Japanese Language Institute, Urawa Urawa)

(<https://marugoto.jpf.go.jp/jp/>)

You can study the Japanese language and culture using the Japanese teaching material Marugoto ”.



Local Announcements

Information on consultation services available within Miyazaki Prefecture

【Miyazaki City】

M HUB(エムハブ) Miyazaki City One-Stop Information Center for Foreign Residents

Location: Miyazaki Municipal University, Kouryu Center

1-58 Funatsuka, Miyazaki City

TEL: 0985-42-2001



▲MAP

【Miyakonojo City】

Miyakonojo City International Exchange Center

Location: Miyakonojo City Hall North Annex, Miyakonojo City

International Exchange Center, 4-1 Himegi-cho, Miyakonojo-shi

TEL: 0986-23-2295

Email: mia@btvm.ne.jp



▲MAP

(June Event)

Event	Date & Time	Venue	Contact/Information
Miyakonojo and Miyakonojo Shimazu Residence	Until June 22nd (Sun)	Miyakonojo City Miyakonojo Shimazu Folklore Center Exhibition Room (inside the Miyakonojo Shimazu Residence)	Miyakonojo Shimazu Residence 0986-23-2116
Best time to see the Hydrangeas (ajisai)	Early June – Mid-June	Awakigahara, Miyazaki City Shimin-no-mori	Shimin-no-mori Administration Office (Shimin no mori kanri jimusho) 0985-39-7308

Confessions of a scaredy - cat

“Diagnosing my Driving Personality”



Miyazaki Prefecture CIR
Katherine Kessler

In an unusual display of commitment for me, I have made good on my promise to learn to drive, and am now enrolled at Miyazaki Driving School – which means I’m doing the whole thing in Japanese. For the most part, this has not been that much of a barrier. But I’d like to share with you one experience of mine, as most foreigners are probably unaware of what a full driving education in Japan involves, and this includes the Driving Safety Aptitude Test.

They sprang it on me on day one, calling it a “Safety awareness listening test”, which I reacted to with silent horror, seeing it as essentially an impromptu Japanese listening exam, and mistakenly thinking I could fail it and be disqualified from entering the school. Question 1 stumped me with a sequence of spirals, accompanied by confusingly worded instructions about what to do with them on the answer sheet. I was still parsing these instructions when the audio track cheerfully told us that time was up, turn to Question 2.

In a state of transcendent exam-panic, I sweated my way through the most surreal series of questions I’ve ever encountered, presumably scientifically devised to find out what kind of driver you are. These ranged from logical pattern completion problems, to handwriting precision, to Rorschach ink blot tests, finishing with an Extended rapid-fire personality quiz(again,in Japanese!) I completed maybe 1/3 of the questions.



WOW!



At the end of all of it, I was given an automatically generated driving safety profile that pronounced me an anxiety-riddled egocentric who “gets worked up over small things” and “ought to consider other people’s point of view”. Considering my state of mind during the test, they may have a point. Let’s hope I make it out the other side with a license!

A Message from the Miyazaki Support Center for Foreign Residents

Group Discussion: Preparing for the Driving Test *Free, Registration Required

Let’s put our heads together to help pass the driving test!

- People who are having trouble passing their driving tests
- People who intend to take a driving test in the future

This discussion does not cover the written test.



Date&Time: 2025/6/28(Sat) 1:00pm-2:00pm

Location: Miyazaki Support Center for Foreign Residents

CARINO Miyazaki B1F

Space Available:15

Inquiries/Application: TEL: 0985-41-5901 E-mail: support@mif.or.jp



Staff’s Tweet

My New Year Sale purchase was a device previously unknown to me: “Smart Glasses”. I was vaguely aware that they can project videos or your desktop screen, but I went ahead and bought them without really having an idea of what they do specifically.

Knowing nothing about the product, I first opened what seemed to be the enclosed instructions manual, with explanations written out in Japanese, English, Chinese, Korean, and many other languages. I was pleased to see the multilingual support, but as I read on, I couldn’t find the crucial information on how to use the item.

I then tried checking out the website scanning a QR code took me to, but still no luck. It only took me to a program to connect the device to my smartphone or computer, and I couldn’t find an instruction manual there either.

In the end, I looked online and learned how to use it from some videos. But even now I’m still not quite sure if those instructions were correct or not...

(Staff: A)

