

# **Assessment Report**

## **Scholarship, 2007**

### **Japanese**

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### **Commentary**

Candidates had the opportunity to demonstrate both an understanding of complex language and their ability to respond to ideas from the stimulus text. Candidates were required to extract information from given materials and use this to express and develop ideas in a coherent manner.

In response to the listening passage, candidates were challenged to express their opinions on Kanji, a topic they are familiar with as learners of Japanese. In response to the written text, candidates were not only asked to comment on the key ideas of the passage (how the Kyoto Protocol was signed, and what ベロタクシー is) but they also needed to express their own opinions on environmental issues. Some top candidates should be commended for being able to use words such as 地球温暖化、ゴミのリサイクル. They also showed a high level of understanding and knowledge of the environmental issues and the Kyoto Protocol in Japanese by explaining these matters in detail.

### **The best-performing candidates most commonly demonstrated the following skills and / or knowledge:**

- thorough understanding of language from Curriculum Levels 1 to 8 and above
- ability to interpret, summarise and elaborate on the information and ideas in the stimulus texts
- ability to use their own language, rephrasing and manipulating language that was given
- ability to structure responses in a logical and purposeful manner
- careful linking and organization of ideas
- confident, accurate and convincing delivery of language
- flair.

### **Candidates who did NOT achieve scholarship lacked some or all of the skills and knowledge above and in addition they:**

- did not strongly express their opinions to appeal to the reader or listener
- were not flexible language users
- failed to sustain a high level of language use across all questions, despite having some very good ideas
- lacked evidence of original thinking
- did not always provide evidence to the depth of thought required
- used the same or similar language as the stimulus texts
- lacked fluency in speaking
- did not answer all questions.