

# ELA Word List

English–Japanese Vocabulary for New York Grades 6–8

**Purpose.** This list supports Japanese-speaking students and families learning middle school English language arts vocabulary in Grades 6–8. It covers literary analysis, informational reading, academic language, text-based writing, and discussion.

**How to use it.** Begin with the **Core** terms for close reading, written responses, and class discussion, then add the Useful terms as students analyze author choices, build arguments, and evaluate sources.

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## Term count by area

Area	Terms
Reading Literature	25
Reading Informational Text	26
Language and Vocabulary	27
Writing	27
Speaking and Listening	23
<b>Total</b>	<b>128</b>

## Reading Literature

English	日本語	よみ	Grade	Priority	Student note / use
theme	主題	しゅだい	6-8	Core	big idea developed across a text
characterization	人物描写	じんぶつびようしゃ	6-8	Core	how an author develops a character
protagonist	主人公	しゅじんこう	6-8	Core	main character in a text
antagonist	敵対者	てきたいしゃ	6-8	Useful	character or force opposing the protagonist
motivation	動機	どうき	6-8	Core	reason a character acts
conflict	対立	たいりつ	6-8	Core	internal or external struggle
internal conflict	内面的対立	ないめんてきたいりつ	6-8	Useful	struggle within a character
external conflict	外的対立	がいてきたいりつ	6-8	Useful	struggle between character and outside force
trait	性格特徴	せいかくとかちょう	6-8	Core	quality that describes a character
development	変化と成長	へんかとせいちょう	6-8	Useful	how a character changes over time
relationship	関係	かんけい	6-8	Core	connection between characters
point of view	視点	してん	6-8	Core	perspective from which a story is told
first-person	一人称	いちにんしょう	6-8	Core	narration using I or we
third-person	三人称	さんにんしょう	6-8	Core	narration using he she they or names
narrator	語り手	かたりて	6-8	Core	voice telling the story
structure	構成	こうせい	6-8	Core	how a text is organized
flashback	回想	かいそう	6-8	Useful	scene that returns to an earlier time
foreshadowing	伏線	ふくせん	6-8	Useful	clue about what may happen later
symbolism	象徴表現	しょうちょうひょうげん	6-8	Useful	use of symbols to suggest ideas
tone	語調	ごちょう	6-8	Core	author attitude toward the subject
figurative language	比喩表現	ひゆひょうげん	6-8	Core	nonliteral language such as simile and metaphor
dynamic character	変化する人物	へんかするじんぶつ	6-8	Useful	character who changes in meaningful ways
static character	変化しない人物	へんかしないじんぶつ	6-8	Useful	character who stays mostly the same
suspense	緊張感	きんちょうかん	6-8	Useful	feeling of uncertainty that keeps readers interested
chapter	章	しょう	6-8	Core	major division of a longer literary text

## Reading Informational Text

English	日本語	よみ	Grade	Priority	Student note / use
central idea	中心的な考え	ちゅうしんてきなかんがえ	6-8	Core	main concept developed through a text

supporting detail	支持する詳細	しじするしょうさい	6-8	Core	detail that develops a central idea
evidence	根拠	こんぎょ	6-8	Core	specific proof from the text
inference	推論	すいろん	6-8	Core	idea formed from clues and reasoning
summary	要約	ようやく	6-8	Core	brief statement of key ideas
objective summary	客観的要約	きゃっかんてきようやく	6-8	Useful	summary without opinion
example	具体例	ぐたいれい	6-8	Core	specific instance used as support
relevant	関連がある	かんれんがある	6-8	Useful	closely connected to the topic
irrelevant	関係がない	かんけいがない	6-8	Useful	not connected to the main point
elaboration	詳しい説明	くわしいせつめい	6-8	Useful	added explanation that deepens an idea
claim	主張	しゅちょう	6-8	Core	main point an author tries to prove
argument	論証	ろんしょう	6-8	Core	claim supported by reasons and evidence
reason	理由	りゆう	6-8	Core	statement that supports a claim
counterclaim	反対意見	はんたいいけん	6-8	Useful	opposing claim addressed by a writer
bias	偏り	かたより	6-8	Useful	one-sided view or preference
source	資料	しりょう	6-8	Core	text or media used for information
primary source	一次資料	いちじしりょう	6-8	Useful	original firsthand source
secondary source	二次資料	にじしりょう	6-8	Useful	source that explains or interprets another source
citation	引用	いんよう	6-8	Useful	reference to a source or exact words
credible	信頼できる	しんらいできる	6-8	Useful	believable and dependable
text structure	文章構造	ぶんしょうこうぞう	6-8	Core	pattern used to organize ideas
chronological order	時系列順	じけいれつじゅん	6-8	Core	information arranged by time sequence
problem and solution	問題と解決	もんだいとかいけつ	6-8	Core	text structure showing an issue and how it is addressed
citation	引用表記	いんようひょうぎ	6-8	Useful	reference to where evidence comes from
reliable source	信頼できる情報源	しんらいできるじょうほうげん	6-8	Core	source that can be trusted for accurate information
bias	偏り	かたより	6-8	Useful	one-sided point of view that may affect a source

## Language and Vocabulary

English	日本語	よみ	Grade	Priority	Student note / use
sentence	文	ぶん	6-8	Core	complete unit of meaning
clause	節	せつ	6-8	Core	group of words with a subject and verb

phrase	句	く	6-8	Core	group of words without a full clause
independent clause	独立節	どくりつせつ	6-8	Useful	clause that can stand alone
dependent clause	従属節	じゅうぞくせつ	6-8	Useful	clause that depends on another clause
complex sentence	複文	ふくぶん	6-8	Core	sentence with an independent and dependent clause
compound sentence	重文	じゅうぶん	6-8	Core	sentence with two independent clauses
parallel structure	並列構造	へいれつこうぞう	6-8	Useful	using the same pattern for balance
verb tense	時制	じせい	6-8	Core	time shown by a verb
pronoun reference	代名詞の指示	だいめいしのみしじ	6-8	Useful	what a pronoun refers to
punctuation	句読法	くとうぼう	6-8	Core	system of marks in writing
academic vocabulary	学習語彙	がくしゅうごい	6-8	Core	formal words used across subjects
domain-specific word	分野特有の語	ぶんやとくゆうのご	6-8	Core	word mainly used in one subject area
connotation	含意	がんい	6-8	Useful	feeling or association a word carries
denotation	字義	じぎ	6-8	Useful	literal dictionary meaning
nuance	ニュアンス	にゅあんす	6-8	Useful	small shade of meaning
synonym	同義語	どうぎご	6-8	Core	word with a similar meaning
antonym	反意語	はんいご	6-8	Core	word with an opposite meaning
analogy	類推	るいすい	6-8	Useful	comparison showing a relationship
root	語根	ごこん	6-8	Useful	base part carrying word meaning
prefix	接頭辞	せつとうじ	6-8	Useful	word part at the beginning
suffix	接尾辞	せつびじ	6-8	Useful	word part at the end
complex sentence	複文	ふくぶん	6-8	Core	sentence with an independent clause and one or more dependent clauses
comma	コンマ	こんま	6-8	Core	punctuation mark used to separate parts of a sentence
colon	コロソ	ころん	6-8	Useful	punctuation mark used before a list or explanation
connotation	含み	ふくみ	6-8	Useful	feeling or idea a word suggests beyond its definition
denotation	字義	じぎ	6-8	Useful	literal dictionary meaning of a word

## Writing

English	日本語	よみ	Grade	Priority	Student note / use
thesis	主論点	しゅろんてん	6-8	Core	main controlling idea of a piece
outline	構成表	こうせいひょう	6-8	Useful	plan showing writing structure

draft	下書き	したがり	6-8	Core	working version before revision
revise	推敲する	すいこうする	6-8	Core	improve ideas structure and clarity
edit	校正する	こうせいする	6-8	Core	correct errors in conventions
coherence	一貫性	いっかんせい	6-8	Useful	logical flow of ideas
organization	構成	こうせい	6-8	Core	overall arrangement of writing
introduction	導入	どうにゅう	6-8	Core	opening section of a piece
conclusion	結び	むすび	6-8	Core	ending that closes the piece
transition	接続表現	せつぞくひょうげん	6-8	Core	word or phrase linking ideas
precise language	的確な言葉	てきかくなことば	6-8	Useful	carefully chosen exact wording
textual evidence	本文の根拠	ほんぶんのこんきよ	6-8	Core	quoted or paraphrased support from a text
analysis	分析	ぶんせき	6-8	Core	close explanation of how evidence supports an idea
commentary	考察	こうさつ	6-8	Useful	writer explanation following evidence
argumentative writing	論証文	ろんしょうぶん	6-8	Core	writing that defends a claim
informative writing	説明的文章	せつめいてきぶんしょう	6-8	Core	writing that explains a topic clearly
narrative writing	物語文	ものがたりぶん	6-8	Core	writing that tells a sequence of events
claim and evidence	主張と根拠	しゅちょうとこんきよ	6-8	Core	pairing a claim with supporting proof
reasoning	論理的説明	ろんりてきせつめい	6-8	Useful	thinking that connects evidence to a claim
formal style	形式的な文体	けいしきてきなぶんたい	6-8	Useful	appropriate academic tone for school writing
paraphrase	言い換え	いいかえ	6-8	Useful	restate information in new words
graphic organizer	思考整理図	しこうせいりず	6-8	Useful	visual tool for planning ideas and relationships before drafting
peer review	相互評価	そうごひょうか	6-8	Useful	feedback from another student on a draft
revision strategy	推敲の方法	すいこうのほうほう	6-8	Useful	deliberate way to improve a draft
counterclaim	反対意見	はんたいいけん	6-8	Useful	opposing claim considered in an argument
elaboration	詳しい説明	くわしいせつめい	6-8	Core	added explanation that develops an idea or evidence
concluding statement	結びの文	むすびのぶん	6-8	Core	sentence or sentences that bring writing to a close

## Speaking and Listening

English	日本語	よみ	Grade	Priority	Student note / use
discussion	討論	とうろん	6-8	Core	shared talk about ideas or texts
collaborate	協力する	きょうりょくする	6-8	Core	work with others productively
build on	発言を発展させる	はつげんをはってんさせる	6-8	Useful	add to another speaker idea
clarify	明確にする	めいかくにする	6-8	Core	make an idea easier to understand
probe	深くたずねる	ふかくたずねる	6-8	Useful	ask follow-up questions for deeper thinking
respond	応答する	おうとうする	6-8	Core	answer or react to an idea
acknowledge	認める	みとめる	6-8	Useful	show that another point was heard
interpretation	解釈	かいしゃく	6-8	Core	understanding of a text or idea
perspective	見方	みかた	6-8	Core	particular way of viewing something
seminar	セミナー形式討論	せみなーけいしきとうろん	6-8	Useful	structured academic discussion
turn and talk	ペアで話し合う	ペアではなしあう	6-8	Useful	brief partner discussion during a lesson
presentation	発表	はっぴょう	6-8	Core	planned oral communication for an audience
audience	聞き手	ききて	6-8	Core	people receiving the message
claim	主張	しゅちょう	6-8	Core	main point stated in a presentation
multimedia	マルチメディア	まるちめでいあ	6-8	Useful	mix of text images sound or video
visual aid	視覚資料	しかくしりょう	6-8	Core	image chart or slide that supports speaking
medium	媒体	ばいたい	6-8	Useful	channel used to communicate information
evaluate	評価する	ひょうかする	6-8	Core	judge quality or effectiveness
relevance	関連性	かんれんせい	6-8	Useful	importance to the purpose or topic
persuasive technique	説得の技法	せっとくのぎほう	6-8	Useful	method used to influence an audience
tone of voice	声の調子	こえのちょうし	6-8	Core	how voice helps communicate meaning
discussion norm	話し合いのルール	はなしあいのるーる	6-8	Useful	agreed expectation for productive academic talk
credibility	信頼性	しんらいせい	6-8	Useful	quality of being believable and trustworthy

## Language and Vocabulary (sorted)

English	日本語	よみ	Grade	Priority	Student note / use
connotation	含み	ふくみ	6-8	Useful	feeling or idea a word suggests beyond its definition
denotation	字義	じぎ	6-8	Useful	literal dictionary meaning of a word
academic vocabulary	学習語彙	がくしゅうごい	6-8	Core	formal words used across subjects
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root	語根	ごこん	6-8	Useful	base part carrying word meaning
suffix	接尾辞	せつびじ	6-8	Useful	word part at the end
synonym	同義語	どうぎご	6-8	Core	word with a similar meaning
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comma	コンマ	こんま	6-8	Core	punctuation mark used to separate parts of a sentence
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clause	節	せつ	6-8	Core	group of words with a subject and verb
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phrase	句	く	6-8	Core	group of words without a full clause
pronoun reference	代名詞の指示	だimeiしおのしじ	6-8	Useful	what a pronoun refers to
punctuation	句読法	くとうほう	6-8	Core	system of marks in writing
sentence	文	ぶん	6-8	Core	complete unit of meaning
verb tense	時制	じせい	6-8	Core	time shown by a verb

## Reading Informational Text (sorted)

English	日本語	よみ	Grade	Priority	Student note / use
argument	論証	ろんしょう	6-8	Core	claim supported by reasons and evidence
bias	偏り	かたより	6-8	Useful	one-sided view or preference
citation	引用	いんよう	6-8	Useful	reference to a source or exact words
claim	主張	しゅちょう	6-8	Core	main point an author tries to prove
counterclaim	反対意見	はんたいいけん	6-8	Useful	opposing claim addressed by a writer
credible	信頼できる	しんらいできる	6-8	Useful	believable and dependable
primary source	一次資料	いちじしりょう	6-8	Useful	original firsthand source
reason	理由	りゆう	6-8	Core	statement that supports a claim
secondary source	二次資料	にじしりょう	6-8	Useful	source that explains or interprets another source
source	資料	しりょう	6-8	Core	text or media used for information
text structure	文章構造	ぶんしょうこうぞう	6-8	Core	pattern used to organize ideas
central idea	中心的な考え	ちゅうしんてきなかんがえ	6-8	Core	main concept developed through a text
elaboration	詳しい説明	くわしいせつめい	6-8	Useful	added explanation that deepens an idea
evidence	根拠	こんきよ	6-8	Core	specific proof from the text
example	具体例	ぐたいれい	6-8	Core	specific instance used as support
inference	推論	すいろん	6-8	Core	idea formed from clues and reasoning
irrelevant	関係がない	かんけいがない	6-8	Useful	not connected to the main point
objective summary	客観的要約	きゃっかんてきようやく	6-8	Useful	summary without opinion
relevant	関連がある	かんれんがある	6-8	Useful	closely connected to the topic
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reliable source	信頼できる情報源	しんらいできるじょうほうげん	6-8	Core	source that can be trusted for accurate information
chronological order	時系列順	じけいれつじゅん	6-8	Core	information arranged by time sequence
problem and solution	問題と解決	もんだいとかいけつ	6-8	Core	text structure showing an issue and how it is addressed

## Reading Literature (sorted)

English	日本語	よみ	Grade	Priority	Student note / use
chapter	章	しょう	6-8	Core	major division of a longer literary text
figurative language	比喩表現	ひゆひょうげん	6-8	Core	nonliteral language such as simile and metaphor
first-person	一人称	いちにんしょう	6-8	Core	narration using I or we
flashback	回想	かいそう	6-8	Useful	scene that returns to an earlier time
foreshadowing	伏線	ふくせん	6-8	Useful	clue about what may happen later
narrator	語り手	かたりて	6-8	Core	voice telling the story
point of view	視点	してん	6-8	Core	perspective from which a story is told
structure	構成	こうせい	6-8	Core	how a text is organized
suspense	緊張感	きんちょうかん	6-8	Useful	feeling of uncertainty that keeps readers interested
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motivation	動機	どうき	6-8	Core	reason a character acts
protagonist	主人公	しゅじんこう	6-8	Core	main character in a text
relationship	関係	かんけい	6-8	Core	connection between characters
static character	変化しない人物	へんかしないじんぶつ	6-8	Useful	character who stays mostly the same
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trait	性格特徴	せいかくとかちょう	6-8	Core	quality that describes a character

## Speaking and Listening (sorted)

English	日本語	よみ	Grade	Priority	Student note / use
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build on	発言を発展させる	はつげんをはってんさせる	6-8	Useful	add to another speaker idea

clarify	明確にする	めいかくにする	6-8	Core	make an idea easier to understand
collaborate	協力する	きょうりょくする	6-8	Core	work with others productively
discussion	討論	とうろん	6-8	Core	shared talk about ideas or texts
discussion norm	話し合いのルール	はなしあいのるーる	6-8	Useful	agreed expectation for productive academic talk
interpretation	解釈	かいしゃく	6-8	Core	understanding of a text or idea
perspective	見方	みかた	6-8	Core	particular way of viewing something
probe	深くたずねる	ふかくたずねる	6-8	Useful	ask follow-up questions for deeper thinking
respond	応答する	おうとうする	6-8	Core	answer or react to an idea
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audience	聞き手	ききて	6-8	Core	people receiving the message
claim	主張	しゅちょう	6-8	Core	main point stated in a presentation
credibility	信頼性	しんらいせい	6-8	Useful	quality of being believable and trustworthy
evaluate	評価する	ひょうかする	6-8	Core	judge quality or effectiveness
medium	媒体	ばいたい	6-8	Useful	channel used to communicate information
multimedia	マルチメディア	まるちめでいあ	6-8	Useful	mix of text images sound or video
persuasive technique	説得の技法	せっとくのぎほう	6-8	Useful	method used to influence an audience
presentation	発表	はっぴょう	6-8	Core	planned oral communication for an audience
relevance	関連性	かんれんせい	6-8	Useful	importance to the purpose or topic
tone of voice	声の調子	こえのちょうし	6-8	Core	how voice helps communicate meaning
visual aid	視覚資料	しかくしりょう	6-8	Core	image chart or slide that supports speaking

## Writing (sorted)

English	日本語	よみ	Grade	Priority	Student note / use
analysis	分析	ぶんせき	6-8	Core	close explanation of how evidence supports an idea
argumentative writing	論証文	ろんしょうぶん	6-8	Core	writing that defends a claim
claim and evidence	主張と根拠	しゅちょうとこんぎよ	6-8	Core	pairing a claim with supporting proof
commentary	考察	こうさつ	6-8	Useful	writer explanation following evidence
concluding statement	結びの文	むすびのぶん	6-8	Core	sentence or sentences that bring writing to a close

counterclaim	反対意見	はんたいいけん	6-8	Useful	opposing claim considered in an argument
elaboration	詳しい説明	くわしいせつめい	6-8	Core	added explanation that develops an idea or evidence
formal style	形式的な文体	けいしきてきなぶんたい	6-8	Useful	appropriate academic tone for school writing
informative writing	説明的文章	せつめいてきぶんしょう	6-8	Core	writing that explains a topic clearly
narrative writing	物語文	ものがたりぶん	6-8	Core	writing that tells a sequence of events
paraphrase	言い換え	いいかえ	6-8	Useful	restate information in new words
reasoning	論理的説明	ろんりてきせつめい	6-8	Useful	thinking that connects evidence to a claim
textual evidence	本文の根拠	ほんぶんのこんきよ	6-8	Core	quoted or paraphrased support from a text
coherence	一貫性	いっかんせい	6-8	Useful	logical flow of ideas
conclusion	結び	むすび	6-8	Core	ending that closes the piece
draft	下書き	したがき	6-8	Core	working version before revision
edit	校正する	こうせいする	6-8	Core	correct errors in conventions
graphic organizer	思考整理図	しこうせいりず	6-8	Useful	visual tool for planning ideas and relationships before drafting
introduction	導入	どうにゅう	6-8	Core	opening section of a piece
organization	構成	こうせい	6-8	Core	overall arrangement of writing
outline	構成表	こうせいひょう	6-8	Useful	plan showing writing structure
peer review	相互評価	そうごひょうか	6-8	Useful	feedback from another student on a draft
precise language	的確な言葉	てきかくなことば	6-8	Useful	carefully chosen exact wording
revise	推敲する	すいこうする	6-8	Core	improve ideas structure and clarity
revision strategy	推敲の方法	すいこうのほうほう	6-8	Useful	deliberate way to improve a draft
thesis	主論点	しゅろんてん	6-8	Core	main controlling idea of a piece
transition	接続表現	せつぞくひょうげん	6-8	Core	word or phrase linking ideas