

# ELA Word List

English–Japanese Vocabulary for New York Grades 9–12

**Purpose.** This list supports Japanese-speaking students and families learning high school English language arts vocabulary in Grades 9–12. It covers literary interpretation, informational reading, argument, research, analytical writing, and academic discussion.

**How to use it.** Begin with the **Core** terms for close reading, essay writing, and evidence-based discussion, then add the Useful terms as students analyze rhetoric, evaluate sources, and refine more complex interpretations.

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## Term count by area

Area	Terms
Reading Literature	25
Reading Informational Text	26
Language and Vocabulary	14
Writing	35
Speaking and Listening	28
<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	9-12	Core	central idea developed across a literary text
motif	モチーフ	もちーふ	9-12	Useful	recurring image or idea that supports a theme
complex character	複雑な人物	ふくざつなじんぶつ	9-12	Core	character with layered traits and motivations
character arc	人物の変化	じんぶつのへんか	9-12	Useful	how a character changes over the course of a text
interpretation	解釈	かいしゃく	9-12	Core	reasoned understanding of meaning in a text
ambiguity	あいまいさ	あいまいさ	9-12	Useful	meaning that can be understood in more than one way
paradox	逆説	ぎやくせつ	9-12	Useful	statement that seems contradictory but may reveal truth
irony	皮肉	ひにく	9-12	Core	contrast between expectation and reality
allusion	暗示的引用	あんじてきいんよう	9-12	Useful	reference to another text event or figure
symbolism	象徴表現	しょうちょうひょうげん	9-12	Core	use of symbols to suggest larger meaning
tone	語調	ごちょう	9-12	Core	attitude conveyed by a speaker or writer
point of view	視点	してん	9-12	Core	perspective from which a story is told
narrator reliability	語り手の信頼性	かたりてのしんらいせい	9-12	Useful	whether a narrator can be fully trusted
structure	構成	こうせい	9-12	Core	overall organization of a literary work
syntax	統語法	とうごほう	9-12	Useful	arrangement of words and phrases in sentences
diction	語法	ごほう	9-12	Useful	author choice of words
figurative language	比喩表現	ひゆひょうげん	9-12	Core	language used beyond literal meaning
metaphor	隠喩	いんゆ	9-12	Core	comparison without using like or as
imagery	情景描写	じょうけいびょうしゃ	9-12	Core	language appealing to the senses
juxtaposition	並置	へいち	9-12	Useful	placing things side by side for effect or contrast
foreshadowing	伏線	ふくせん	9-12	Useful	clue suggesting later events
archetype	典型的人物像	てんけいてきじんぶつぞう	9-12	Useful	recurring character type or pattern found across texts
tragic flaw	悲劇的欠点	ひげきてきけってん	9-12	Useful	character weakness that contributes to a downfall
fragmentation	断片化	だんぺんか	9-12	Useful	broken or noncontinuous structure used for effect
stream of consciousness	意識の流れ	いしきのながれ	9-12	Useful	style that presents the flow of a character's thoughts

## Reading Informational Text

English	日本語	よみ	Grade	Priority	Student note / use
authorial stance	筆者の立場	ひっしゃのたちば	9-12	Core	position or orientation a writer takes toward a subject or argument
author's purpose	筆者の目的	ひっしゃのもくてぎ	9-12	Core	reason an author wrote a text
conceptual development	概念の展開	がいねんのてんかい	9-12	Core	way a writer builds an abstract idea through examples distinctions and reasoning
synopsis	概要	がいよう	9-12	Core	brief high-level account of the major content of a text
critical precis	批評的要約	ひひょうてきようやく	9-12	Useful	compact summary capturing a text's argument purpose and rhetorical moves
evidence	根拠	こんきよ	9-12	Core	textual proof supporting a point
inference	推論	すいろん	9-12	Core	conclusion drawn from evidence and reasoning
implication	含意	がんに	9-12	Useful	meaning suggested rather than directly stated
nuance	ニュアンス	にゅあんす	9-12	Useful	small difference in meaning or tone
text structure	文章構造	ぶんしょうこうぞう	9-12	Core	organizational pattern of a text
claim	主張	しゅちよう	9-12	Core	assertion an author tries to support
qualification	限定条件	げんていじょうけん	9-12	Core	statement that narrows a claim to make it more precise or defensible
reasoning	論理	ろんり	9-12	Core	thinking that links evidence to a claim
rhetoric	修辞	しゅうじ	9-12	Useful	language choices used to persuade or affect an audience
rhetorical appeal	説得の訴え	せっとくのうったえ	9-12	Useful	method of persuasion such as logic emotion or credibility
logical fallacy	論理の誤り	ろんりのあやまり	9-12	Core	error in reasoning that weakens an argument
credibility	信頼性	しんらいせい	9-12	Core	quality of being believable and trustworthy
source	資料	しりょう	9-12	Core	text media or evidence used in research
scholarly source	学術資料	がくじゅつしりょう	9-12	Useful	source produced for an academic audience using disciplinary methods and evidence
peer review	査読	さどく	9-12	Useful	process in which experts evaluate work before publication
synthesis	統合	とうごう	9-12	Useful	combining ideas from multiple sources

subclaim	補助的主張	ほじよてきしゅちょう	9-12	Core	smaller claim that supports a larger argument
qualifier	限定語	げんていご	9-12	Useful	word or phrase that limits the strength or scope of a claim
annotation	注釈	ちゅうしゃく	9-12	Useful	note added to a text to mark ideas questions or evidence
corroboration	裏づけ	うらづけ	9-12	Useful	confirmation of an idea by comparing multiple sources
source credibility	情報源の信頼性	じょうほうげんのしんらいせい	9-12	Core	worthiness of trust in a source based on evidence and authorship

## Language and Vocabulary

English	日本語	よみ	Grade	Priority	Student note / use
disciplinary discourse	学問分野の言説	がくもんぶんやのげんせつ	9-12	Core	language patterns and conventions used in a particular field of study
domain-specific vocabulary	分野特有の語彙	ぶんやとくゆうのごい	9-12	Core	words specialized to one subject area
register	言語使用域	げんごしよういき	9-12	Core	level of formality and style appropriate to a situation or audience
semantic shift	意味変化	いみへんか	9-12	Useful	change in the meaning or use of a word across context or time
tone word	語調を表す語	ごちょうをあらわすご	9-12	Useful	word used to describe an author's tone
precise language	的確な言葉	てきかくなことば	9-12	Core	carefully chosen exact wording
syntactic complexity	統語的複雑さ	とうごてきふくざつさ	9-12	Useful	degree to which sentence structures are layered varied and sophisticated
subordinate clause	従属節	じゅうぞくせつ	9-12	Useful	clause that depends on another clause
rhetorical syntax	修辭的構文	しゅうじてきこうぶん	9-12	Useful	sentence structure used deliberately to create emphasis rhythm or persuasion
text cohesion	文章の結束性	ぶんしょうのけっそくせい	9-12	Core	way language features tie parts of a text together into a unified whole
cohesive device	結束表現	けっそくひょうげん	9-12	Core	word phrase or structure that links sentences ideas or sections clearly
parallel structure	並列構造	へいれつこうぞう	9-12	Useful	repetition of a grammatical pattern for clarity or emphasis
subordinate clause	従属節	じゅうぞくせつ	9-12	Useful	clause that cannot stand alone as a complete sentence
euphemism	婉曲表現	えんぎよくひょうげん	9-12	Useful	mild expression used in place of a harsher or more direct one

## Writing

English	日本語	よみ	Grade	Priority	Student note / use
thesis	論題	ろんだい	9-12	Core	main argument or controlling idea of an essay
topic sentence	主題文	しゅだいぶん	9-12	Core	sentence stating the main point of a paragraph
textual evidence	本文の根拠	ほんぶんのこんきょ	9-12	Core	quoted or paraphrased proof from a text
commentary	考察	こうさつ	9-12	Core	writer explanation of how evidence supports a point
literary criticism	文学批評	ぶんがくひひょう	9-12	Core	formal interpretation and evaluation of a literary work using analytical concepts
interpretive claim	解釈にもとづく主張	かいしゃくにもとづくしゅちょう	9-12	Useful	claim about what a text means
line of reasoning	論の流れ	ろんのながれ	9-12	Useful	logical sequence of connected ideas
formal style	形式的な文体	けいしきてきなぶんたい	9-12	Core	appropriate academic tone for school writing
conclusion	結論	けつろん	9-12	Core	ending that follows from the analysis
research-based argument	調査にもとづく論証	ちようさにもとづくろんしょう	9-12	Core	argument developed through investigation synthesis and documented evidence
claim and counterclaim	主張と反対意見	しゅちょうとはんたいいけん	9-12	Core	pair of supporting and opposing positions
rebuttal	反論	はんろん	9-12	Useful	response that challenges a counterclaim
research question	研究課題	けんきゅうかだい	9-12	Core	question guiding investigation and evidence gathering
source evaluation	資料評価	しりょうひようか	9-12	Useful	judging quality and usefulness of sources
attribution	出典明示	しゅってんめいじ	9-12	Core	clear acknowledgment of where ideas quotations or evidence originated
quote	引用文	いんようぶん	9-12	Core	exact words from a source
synthesis paragraph	統合段落	とうごうだんらく	9-12	Core	paragraph that combines evidence from multiple sources into one analytical point
plagiarism	盗用	とうよう	9-12	Useful	using another's work without proper credit
works cited	引用文献一覧	いんようぶんけんいちらん	9-12	Useful	list of sources used in a paper
substantive revision	内容面の推敲	ないようめんのすいこう	9-12	Core	reworking ideas evidence and organization rather than only correcting surface errors
line edit	文レベルの校正	ぶんれべるのこうせい	9-12	Core	careful editing of sentence-level wording clarity and correctness

revision memo	推敲メモ	すいこうめも	9-12	Core	writer reflection explaining major changes made during revision
organization	構成	こうせい	9-12	Core	arrangement of ideas in a piece of writing
revision strategy	推敲の方法	すいこうのほうほう	9-12	Useful	planned way to improve a draft
peer review	相互評価	そうごひょうか	9-12	Useful	feedback from another student on a draft
clarity	明確さ	めいかくさ	9-12	Core	ease with which ideas can be understood
concise	簡潔な	かんけつな	9-12	Useful	clear and brief without extra words
analytical depth	分析の深さ	ぶんせきのふかさ	9-12	Useful	extent to which writing moves beyond summary into precise interpretation and insight
lens	分析の視点	ぶんせきのしてん	9-12	Useful	particular perspective through which a writer interprets a text or issue
methodology	調査方法	ちょうさほうほう	9-12	Useful	systematic approach used to gather or analyze information
signal phrase	引用導入句	いんようどうにゅうく	9-12	Useful	phrase that introduces quoted or paraphrased material
in-text citation	本文中の引用表記	ほんぶんちゅうのいんようひょうき	9-12	Core	source reference included within the writing itself
coherence	一貫性	いっかんせい	9-12	Core	quality of ideas fitting together clearly and logically
stylistic choice	文体上の選択	ぶんたいじょうのせんたく	9-12	Useful	deliberate decision about language or structure to shape meaning
precision	正確さ	せいかくさ	9-12	Core	careful exact use of language and evidence

## Speaking and Listening

English	日本語	よみ	Grade	Priority	Student note / use
socratic dialogue	ソクラテス式対話	そくらてすしきたいわ	9-12	Core	discussion driven by questioning interpretation and evidence-based response
seminar	セミナー討論	せみなーとうろん	9-12	Useful	academic discussion built around a text or question
collaborate	協力する	きょうりょくする	9-12	Core	work with others productively in discussion
build on an idea	意見を発展させる	いけんをはってんさせる	9-12	Core	extend what another speaker has said
clarify	明確にする	めいかくにする	9-12	Core	make an idea easier to understand
respond thoughtfully	考えて応答する	かんがえておうとうする	9-12	Core	answer in a reasoned and relevant way
perspective	観点	かんてん	9-12	Core	particular viewpoint in discussion or analysis

qualify a claim	主張を限定する	しゅちょうをげんていする	9-12	Useful	adjust a statement to reflect exceptions limits or stronger precision
concede	譲歩する	じょうほする	9-12	Useful	admit part of an opposing point
refute	論破する	ろんぱする	9-12	Useful	show why an opposing argument is weak or false
evidence-based discussion	根拠にもとづく討論	こんきょにもとづくとうろん	9-12	Core	talk grounded in textual support
presentation	発表	はっぴょう	9-12	Core	planned spoken communication to an audience
rhetorical situation	修辭的状況	しゅうじてきじょうきょう	9-12	Core	relationship among speaker audience purpose context and message
warrant	論拠	ろんきょ	9-12	Core	underlying assumption or principle that connects evidence to a claim
multimedia	マルチメディア	まるちめでいあ	9-12	Useful	combination of text sound images or video
visual aid	視覚資料	しかくしりょう	9-12	Core	image chart or slide that supports a presentation
platform	発信媒体	はっしんばいたい	9-12	Useful	specific channel or environment through which a message reaches an audience
digital source	デジタル資料	でじたるしりょう	9-12	Useful	online or electronic source of information
media literacy	メディアリテラシー	めでいありてらしー	9-12	Useful	ability to analyze and evaluate media messages
critique	批評する	ひひょうする	9-12	Core	evaluate strengths weaknesses and effectiveness using explicit criteria
salience	顕著さ	けんちよさ	9-12	Core	degree to which information stands out as important for an audience or purpose
rhetorical strategy	修辭的方略	しゅうじてきほうりやく	9-12	Useful	planned method for shaping audience response through structure tone and evidence
delivery	話し方	はなしかた	9-12	Useful	way a speaker uses voice pace and emphasis
formal presentation	正式な発表	せいしきなはっぴょう	9-12	Core	organized academic presentation for an audience
discussion question	討論の問い	とうろんのとい	9-12	Core	question used to open or guide academic conversation
discussion norm	討論のルール	とうろんのるーる	9-12	Useful	shared expectation for productive and respectful academic discussion
synthesize ideas	考えを統合する	かんがえをとうごうする	9-12	Useful	combine multiple perspectives or pieces of evidence into a stronger understanding

source attribution	出典明示	しゅってんめいじ	9-12	<b>Useful</b>	clear identification of where quoted or referenced material comes from
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## Language and Vocabulary (sorted)

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cohesive device	結束表現	けっそくひょうげん	9-12	Core	word phrase or structure that links sentences ideas or sections clearly
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subordinate clause	従属節	じゅうぞくせつ	9-12	Useful	clause that depends on another clause
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## Reading Informational Text (sorted)

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claim	主張	しゅちょう	9-12	Core	assertion an author tries to support
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rhetorical appeal	説得の訴え	せっとくのうったえ	9-12	Useful	method of persuasion such as logic emotion or credibility
scholarly source	学術資料	がくじゅつしりょう	9-12	Useful	source produced for an academic audience using disciplinary methods and evidence
source	資料	しりょう	9-12	Core	text media or evidence used in research
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## Speaking and Listening (sorted)

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collaborate	協力する	きょうりょくする	9-12	Core	work with others productively in discussion
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socratic dialogue	ソクラテス式対話	そくらてすしきたいわ	9-12	Core	discussion driven by questioning interpretation and evidence-based response
synthesize ideas	考えを統合する	かんがえをとうごうする	9-12	Useful	combine multiple perspectives or pieces of evidence into a stronger understanding
critique	批評する	ひひょうする	9-12	Core	evaluate strengths weaknesses and effectiveness using explicit criteria
delivery	話し方	はなしかた	9-12	Useful	way a speaker uses voice pace and emphasis
digital source	デジタル資料	でじたるしりょう	9-12	Useful	online or electronic source of information
discussion question	討論の問い	とうろんのとい	9-12	Core	question used to open or guide academic conversation
formal presentation	正式な発表	せいしきなはっぴょう	9-12	Core	organized academic presentation for an audience
media literacy	メディアリテラシー	めでいありてらしー	9-12	Useful	ability to analyze and evaluate media messages
multimedia	マルチメディア	まるちめでいあ	9-12	Useful	combination of text sound images or video
platform	発信媒体	はっしんばいたい	9-12	Useful	specific channel or environment through which a message reaches an audience

presentation	発表	はっぴょう	9-12	Core	planned spoken communication to an audience
rhetorical situation	修辭的状况	しゅうじてぎじょうぎょう	9-12	Core	relationship among speaker audience purpose context and message
rhetorical strategy	修辭的方略	しゅうじてぎほうりやく	9-12	Useful	planned method for shaping audience response through structure tone and evidence
salience	顯著さ	けんちよさ	9-12	Core	degree to which information stands out as important for an audience or purpose
source attribution	出典明示	しゅってんめいじ	9-12	Useful	clear identification of where quoted or referenced material comes from
visual aid	視覚資料	しかくしりょう	9-12	Core	image chart or slide that supports a presentation
warrant	論拠	ろんぎよ	9-12	Core	underlying assumption or principle that connects evidence to a claim

## Writing (sorted)

English	日本語	よみ	Grade	Priority	Student note / use
commentary	考察	こうさつ	9-12	Core	writer explanation of how evidence supports a point
conclusion	結論	けつろん	9-12	Core	ending that follows from the analysis
formal style	形式的な文体	けいしきてきなぶんたい	9-12	Core	appropriate academic tone for school writing
interpretive claim	解釈にもとづく主張	かいしゃくにもとづくしゅちよう	9-12	Useful	claim about what a text means
line of reasoning	論の流れ	ろんのながれ	9-12	Useful	logical sequence of connected ideas
literary criticism	文学批評	ぶんがくひひょう	9-12	Core	formal interpretation and evaluation of a literary work using analytical concepts
textual evidence	本文の根拠	ほんぶんのこんぎよ	9-12	Core	quoted or paraphrased proof from a text
thesis	論題	ろんだい	9-12	Core	main argument or controlling idea of an essay
topic sentence	主題文	しゅだいぶん	9-12	Core	sentence stating the main point of a paragraph
attribution	出典明示	しゅってんめいじ	9-12	Core	clear acknowledgment of where ideas quotations or evidence originated
claim and counterclaim	主張と反対意見	しゅちょうとはんたいいけん	9-12	Core	pair of supporting and opposing positions
in-text citation	本文中の引用表記	ほんぶんちゅうのいんようひようぎ	9-12	Core	source reference included within the writing itself

lens	分析の視点	ぶんせきのしてん	9-12	Useful	particular perspective through which a writer interprets a text or issue
methodology	調査方法	ちょうさほうほう	9-12	Useful	systematic approach used to gather or analyze information
plagiarism	盗用	とうよう	9-12	Useful	using another's work without proper credit
quote	引用文	いんようぶん	9-12	Core	exact words from a source
rebuttal	反論	はんろん	9-12	Useful	response that challenges a counterclaim
research question	研究課題	けんきゅうかだい	9-12	Core	question guiding investigation and evidence gathering
research-based argument	調査にもとづく論証	ちょうさにもとづくるんしょう	9-12	Core	argument developed through investigation synthesis and documented evidence
signal phrase	引用導入句	いんようどうにゅうく	9-12	Useful	phrase that introduces quoted or paraphrased material
source evaluation	資料評価	しりょうひょうか	9-12	Useful	judging quality and usefulness of sources
synthesis paragraph	統合段落	とうごうだんらく	9-12	Core	paragraph that combines evidence from multiple sources into one analytical point
works cited	引用文献一覧	いんようぶんけんいちらん	9-12	Useful	list of sources used in a paper
analytical depth	分析の深さ	ぶんせきのふかさ	9-12	Useful	extent to which writing moves beyond summary into precise interpretation and insight
clarity	明確さ	めいかくさ	9-12	Core	ease with which ideas can be understood
coherence	一貫性	いっかんせい	9-12	Core	quality of ideas fitting together clearly and logically
concise	簡潔な	かんけつな	9-12	Useful	clear and brief without extra words
line edit	文レベルの校正	ぶんれべるのこうせい	9-12	Core	careful editing of sentence-level wording clarity and correctness
organization	構成	こうせい	9-12	Core	arrangement of ideas in a piece of writing
peer review	相互評価	そうごひょうか	9-12	Useful	feedback from another student on a draft
precision	正確さ	せいかくさ	9-12	Core	careful exact use of language and evidence
revision memo	推敲メモ	すいこうめも	9-12	Core	writer reflection explaining major changes made during revision
revision strategy	推敲の方法	すいこうのほうほう	9-12	Useful	planned way to improve a draft
stylistic choice	文体上の選択	ぶんたいじょうのせんたく	9-12	Useful	deliberate decision about language or structure to shape meaning

substantive revision

内容面の推敲

ないようめんのすいこう

9-12

**Core**

reworking ideas evidence  
and organization rather  
than only correcting  
surface errors