jlptpracticetest.com

COMPREHENSIVE STUDY GUIDE: FREE SAMPLE

JLPT N3

Vocabulary Cheat Sheet

10 Most Frequent JLPT N3 Words

Free Sample: preview the format of the full 500-word study guide with frequency rankings, examples, and study notes

Updated June 2026

jlptpracticetest.com

Quick Reference

Top 10 words sorted by frequency, sampled from the 500-word guide

#	WORD	READING	ROMAJI	ENGLISH	FREQ
1	必ず (かなら)	かならず	*kanarazu*	Certainly, without fail, definitely	12/28
2	うっかり	うっかり	*ukkari*	Carelessly, inadvertently, by mistake	10/28
3	受付 (うけつけ)	うけつけ	*uketsuke*	Reception, information desk, front desk	9/28
4	規則 (きそく)	きそく	*kisoku*	Rule, regulation, code	9/28
5	経験 (けいけん)	けいけん	*keiken*	Experience, skill, knowledge gained through practice	8/28
6	締め切り (しめきり)	しめきり	*shimekiri*	Deadline, closing date, due date	8/28
7	そっくり	そっくり	*sokkuri*	Exactly like, just like, identical	8/28
8	落ち着く (おちつく)	おちつく	*ochitsuku*	To calm down, settle down, become composed	7/28
9	混雑 (こんざつ)	こんざつ	*konzatsu*	Congestion, crowding, traffic jam	7/28
10	特に (とく)	とくに	*tokuni*	Especially, particularly, in particular	7/28

Deep Dive

Detailed breakdown with examples, collocations, and usage notes

#1

必ず

12/28
FREQ

かならず

kanarazu

adverb

Certainly, without fail, definitely

しゅくだい　かなら　てい
宿題は必ず提出してください。

Please submit your homework without fail.

COMMON PATTERNS:

必ず行く　必ず見る　必ずやる

Used to express certainty or a strong expectation; often used to give instructions or advice.

#2

うっかり

10/28
FREQ

うっかり

ukkari

adverb

Carelessly, inadvertently, by mistake

さいふ　わす
うっかり財布を忘れた。

I carelessly forgot my wallet.

COMMON PATTERNS:

うっかり忘れる　うっかりする　うっかり言う

Often used when someone makes a mistake due to inattention; informal and common in spoken language.

#3

受付

9/28
FREQ

うけつけ

uketsuke

noun

Reception, information desk, front desk

> 受付(うけつけ)で名前(なまえ)を言(い)ってください。
>
> *Please say your name at the reception.*

COMMON PATTERNS:

受付時間 受付係 受付番号

Common in office and event settings; refers to the place or person handling initial inquiries.

#4

規則

9/28
FREQ

きそく

kisoku

noun

Rule, regulation, code

> 規則(きそく)を守(まも)ることは大切(たいせつ)です。
>
> *It is important to follow the rules.*

COMMON PATTERNS:

規則を守る 規則を破る 規則正しい

Used in formal contexts; often refers to established guidelines or procedures.

#5

経験

8/28
FREQ

けいけん

keiken

noun

Experience, skill, knowledge gained through practice

> 彼(かれ)は多(おお)くの経験(けいけん)を持(も)っています。
>
> *He has a lot of experience.*

COMMON PATTERNS:

経験を積む　経験豊富　経験不足

Can refer to both personal and professional experiences; often used to discuss qualifications.

#6

締め切り

8/28
FREQ

しめきり

shimekiri

noun

Deadline, closing date, due date

> レポートの締(し)め切(き)りは明日(あした)です。
>
> *The deadline for the report is tomorrow.*

COMMON PATTERNS:

締め切りを守る　締め切りを過ぎる　締め切りが近い

Often used in academic and work contexts; important to adhere to avoid penalties.

#7

そっくり

8/28
FREQ

そっくり

sokkuri

adverb

Exactly like, just like, identical

> 彼(かれ)は父親(ちちおや)にそっくりです。
>
> *He looks exactly like his father.*

COMMON PATTERNS:

そっくりさん　そっくりな顔　そっくりな声

Used to describe strong resemblance; often used in casual conversations.

#8

落ち着く

7/28
FREQ

おちつく

ochitsuku

verb (godan)

To calm down, settle down, become composed

> 深呼吸(しんこきゅう)して落(お)ち着(つ)いてください。
>
> *Take a deep breath and calm down.*

COMMON PATTERNS:

気持ちが落ち着く　心が落ち着く　落ち着いた生活

Can refer to emotional calmness or stability; used in both personal and professional contexts.

#9

混雑

こんざつ

konzatsu

noun

7/28
FREQ

Congestion, crowding, traffic jam

あさ　でんしゃ　こんざつ
朝の電車は混雑しています。

The morning train is crowded.

COMMON PATTERNS:

混雑した電車　混雑を避ける　混雑時間

Commonly used to describe crowded public transport or busy areas; often seen in traffic reports.

#10

特に

とくに

tokuni

adverb

7/28
FREQ

Especially, particularly, in particular

かのじょ　とく　すう　くがとくい
彼女は特に数学が得意です。

She is especially good at math.

COMMON PATTERNS:

特に重要　特に好き　特に注意

Used to highlight something specific; adds emphasis to a particular aspect or detail.



Want all 500 words?

Get the complete N3 Vocabulary Cheat Sheet with 500 frequency-ranked words, example sentences with furigana, collocations, and study notes.

jlptpracticetest.com/study-materials