

Japan Travel Dialogues and Reading Workbook

A new 8-page lesson: short readings, travel conversations, speaking practice, quiz, and answer key

How This Handout Is Different

This workbook follows a small travel story instead of listing only travel phrases. Students read short articles, notice useful language, then act out new dialogues.

Lesson Flow

Stage	Student task	Teacher focus
Before reading	Predict the place and choose useful words.	Activate travel background knowledge.
Reading	Read for main idea, details, and travel problems.	Guide students to scan for practical information.
Dialogue	Practice the scene with emotion and natural follow-up questions.	Build fluency, turn-taking, and repair strategies.
Final practice	Complete quiz items and check answers.	Review meaning, grammar, and speaking functions.

Preview Vocabulary

- neighborhood: a local area of a city
- reservation: a booking made before you arrive
- transfer: change from one train or bus to another
- crowded: full of people
- receipt: a paper or digital record after paying

Page 2 | Reading 1: A Slow Morning in Asakusa

Read for mood, place, and travel decisions.

Mina and Leo arrive in Tokyo on a clear spring morning. Instead of rushing to many famous places, they decide to spend their first morning in Asakusa. Their hotel is not ready for check-in, so they leave their luggage at the front desk and walk toward the old shopping street near Senso-ji Temple.

The street is already busy, but it does not feel stressful. A shop owner waves and says, 'Good morning.' Mina smiles and buys a small rice cracker. Leo wants to take photos, but he notices a sign that says, 'No photos inside.' He puts his phone away and thanks the staff.

At the temple, they see visitors washing their hands, taking pictures, and buying small souvenirs. Mina says, 'I like this pace. We can learn more when we walk slowly.' Leo agrees. Their first travel lesson is simple: a good trip is not only about seeing more places. It is also about noticing small details and respecting the place you visit.

Reading Check

Question	Student answer
Why do Mina and Leo leave their luggage at the hotel?	
What does Leo do when he sees the 'No photos inside' sign?	
What is the main travel lesson in the article?	

Talk About It

- Would you rather travel quickly or slowly? Give one reason.
- Name one rule tourists should respect when visiting temples or old streets.

Page 3 | Dialogue 1: Tourist Information Center

New conversation: asking for a calmer local plan.

Dialogue: Planning a Slow Afternoon

Speaker	Line	中文提示
Staff	Hello. How can I help you today?	服務人員開場
Mina	We have one free afternoon. We want something local, not too crowded.	說明需求
Staff	In that case, I recommend Yanaka. It has small shops and quiet streets.	推薦地點
Leo	That sounds nice. How long does it take from Asakusa?	詢問時間
Staff	About twenty-five minutes by train, including one transfer.	提供交通資訊
Mina	Could you mark the transfer station on this map?	請對方標記
Staff	Sure. Transfer at Ueno, then take the local train one stop.	給步驟
Leo	Great. Is there anything we should be careful about?	問注意事項
Staff	Some shops are very small, so please do not block the entrance.	旅遊禮儀
Mina	Thank you. We will walk slowly and be careful.	回應與承諾

Language Focus

Function	Useful line	Student variation
Describe preference	We want something local, not too crowded.	We want something __, not too __.
Ask for help	Could you mark the transfer station?	Could you write / show / explain __?
Check manners	Is there anything we should be careful about?	Is there anything we should not do?

- Pair practice: Replace Yanaka with another place and make a new recommendation.

Page 4 | Reading 2: A Day Trip from Osaka to Nara

Read for sequence and travel problem-solving.

On the third day, Mina and Leo take a day trip from Osaka to Nara. Their plan is simple: buy breakfast, take the train, visit the park, and return before dinner. At the station, Leo almost gets on an express train that does not stop at their station. Mina checks the sign again and says, 'Wait. I think we need the local train.'

They ask a station worker for help. The worker explains that the local train takes longer but stops closer to the park. Mina repeats the information: 'So we take the local train from platform four, and it takes about forty minutes?' The worker nods. This simple confirmation saves them from going the wrong way.

In Nara Park, they enjoy the open space, but they also read the signs carefully. The signs explain how to feed the deer safely and where not to stand. Leo says, 'Today I learned that asking one extra question can save a lot of time.' Mina laughs and says, 'And reading signs can save your snack.'

Sequence Check

Order	Event
1	They plan a day trip from Osaka to Nara.
2	
3	They ask a station worker for help.
4	
5	They read signs in Nara Park.

Useful Travel Skill

Confirmation sentence: So we take the local train from platform four, and it takes about forty minutes?

- Make a new confirmation sentence about a bus, platform, or meeting time.

Page 5 | Dialogue 2: A Small Inn in Kyoto

New conversation: check-in, house rules, and polite questions.

Dialogue: Checking In at a Small Inn

Speaker	Line	中文提示
Owner	Welcome. You must be Mina and Leo.	確認客人
Mina	Yes, we have a reservation for two nights.	確認訂房
Owner	Great. Before I show you the room, may I explain a few house rules?	說明規定
Leo	Of course. We want to follow the rules.	禮貌回應
Owner	Please take off your shoes here, and please keep your voice down after ten.	住宿禮儀
Mina	No problem. Is breakfast included?	詢問細節
Owner	Yes. Breakfast is from seven to nine in the dining room.	提供時間
Leo	Could we leave early tomorrow morning around six thirty?	提出需求
Owner	Yes. I can prepare a small breakfast box for you.	提供協助
Mina	That would be wonderful. Thank you very much.	感謝

Polite Guest Language

Situation	Natural English	Why it works
Hear rules	Of course. We want to follow the rules.	Shows respect.
Ask about service	Is breakfast included?	Short and clear.
Special request	Could we leave early tomorrow morning?	Polite and specific.
Accept help	That would be wonderful.	Warmer than just 'OK.'

- Speaking task: Change the special request. Ask about laundry, luggage, or a taxi.

Page 6 | Reading 3: Travel Manners That Help You Communicate

Read for advice and practical behavior.

Many travel problems are not caused by difficult English. They are caused by unclear behavior. When tourists speak simply, point politely, and check information, communication becomes easier. In Japan, small actions can also make a conversation smoother.

For example, on trains, people usually speak quietly and keep bags close to their bodies. In restaurants, it is helpful to wait near the entrance until staff show you a seat. At small shops, it is polite to avoid touching many items if you do not plan to buy them. These actions show that you are paying attention.

English can help when you do not know Japanese, but attitude is just as important. A calm voice, a short sentence, and a friendly thank-you can solve many small problems. Good travelers do not need perfect English. They need clear English, careful eyes, and respectful behavior.

Advice Match

Place	Good behavior	Useful English
Train	Speak quietly and keep your bag close.	Is this seat taken?
Restaurant	Wait to be seated.	Table for two, please.
Small shop	Ask before touching special items.	May I look at this?
Street	Do not block people walking.	Sorry. Please go ahead.

Reflection

- Which travel manner is easiest for you? Which one is hardest?
- Make one sentence: Good travelers should __ because __.

Page 7 | Dialogue 3: When Plans Change

New conversation: rainy day, backup plans, and agreement.

Dialogue: A Rainy Day in Kyoto

Speaker	Line	中文提示
Leo	It is raining harder now. Should we still go to the bamboo forest?	提出問題
Mina	Maybe not. It might be too crowded and slippery.	說明原因
Leo	What is our backup plan?	問備案
Mina	There is a craft museum nearby. It opens at ten.	提出替代方案
Leo	That sounds better. How do we get there?	詢問交通
Mina	The bus stop is across the street, but we need exact change.	說明細節
Leo	I only have large bills. Could we buy something small first?	提出解法
Mina	Good idea. Let's buy an umbrella and ask for coins.	達成共識
Leo	So, museum first, bamboo forest later if the rain stops?	確認計畫
Mina	Exactly. Flexible travelers have better days.	總結

Speaking Strategy: Agree, Add, Confirm

Step	Sentence starter	Example
Agree	That sounds better.	That sounds better than waiting outside.
Add	We could also ...	We could also buy an umbrella first.
Confirm	So, we will ...?	So, museum first and forest later?

Group Role Play

- Three students plan a rainy-day route: one wants shopping, one wants culture, one wants food.
- Use at least two confirmation questions and one backup plan.

Page 8 | Practice Questions and Answer Key

Use this page for review, homework, or a short quiz.

Part A: Reading and Vocabulary

No.	Question	Student answer
1	In Reading 1, why do Mina and Leo choose a slow morning?	
2	What does 'transfer' mean in a travel situation?	
3	In Reading 2, what mistake does Leo almost make?	
4	Write one good behavior for a train in Japan.	

Part B: Dialogue Completion

No.	Prompt	Complete the line
5	Ask for a less crowded place.	We want something __, not too __.
6	Ask someone to mark a map.	Could you __ on this map?
7	Confirm a changed plan.	So, we will __ first and __ later?
8	Make a polite special request at an inn.	Could we __ tomorrow morning?

Answer Key

No.	Suggested answer
1	They want to notice small details and enjoy the place without rushing.
2	It means to change from one train, bus, or line to another.
3	He almost gets on an express train that does not stop near their destination.
4	Speak quietly / keep your bag close / do not block others.
5	local; crowded
6	mark the transfer station
7	go to the museum; visit the bamboo forest
8	leave early / have breakfast early / call a taxi

Teacher note: Accept any answer that is clear, polite, and matches the travel situation.