

A Proposal to Simplify and Clarify the Japanese Language of the National Examination for Care Workers

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The National Examination for Care Workers is considered very difficult for foreign candidates. This study attempts to clarify the difficult linguistic problems that foreign candidates face. The following items in particular are improvements that would help foreign candidates significantly: attaching “furigana” to all kanji, adding English translations for not only the names of illnesses but also for other foreign words, and simplifying and clarifying the structure of sentences. The purpose of the examination should be to confirm whether candidates are capable of becoming care workers. In 2012, the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare actually started to consider simplifying the Japanese of the examination.