Table 1

Participants' Productive Vocabulary Size

Vocabulary Test	Mean	*SD*	Minimum	Maximum	Range	α
Aural Vocabulary	1,704.65	437.50	700	2,400	1,700	.76
Written Vocabulary	1,695.00	410.63	692	2,462	1,770	.90
Total	1,697.74	400.81	694	2,417	1,723	.92

Note. Productive vocabulary size estimates (lemma count) were derived using the following formulae: ([number of correct items]/30) × 3,000 for aural vocabulary; ([number of correct items]/78) × 3,000 for written vocabulary. The vocabulary items on both tests were within the most frequent 3000 words of the JACET List of 8000 Basic Words (JACET8000).[1]

Table 2

Characteristics of Four Passages

Name of the Story	Story 1 Kenji	Story 2 Bob	Story 3 Taro	Story 4 Julie
Length (Number of words)	Short (98 words)	Long (153 words)	Short (94 words)	Long (153 words)
Letters per word	4.0	4.2	4.0	4.1
Words per sentence	8.9	9.0	10.4	9.0
Passive forms	0	0	0	0
Flesch–Kincaid Grade Level (Reading Ease)	4.1 (81.2)	4.5 (78.8)	4.6 (80.1)	5.3 (72.7)
The most frequent 1000 words in JACET8000	89.80%	82.35%	92.55%	83.66%
Source	Interview in Grade 3, 1987[a]	Reading in Grade 4, 2001[b]	Interview in Grade 3, 1988[c]	Reading in Grade 4, 2001[d]

Note. [a] English Educational Foundation of Japan (1992, p. 170)（See Appendix. Copyright 1987 by STEP. Printed with permission.）; [b] Zen mondai & kaito 2001, 2 (2001, p. 59); [c] English Educational Foundation of Japan (1992, p. 153); [d] Zen mondai & kaito 2001, 3 (2002, pp. 58–59).

Table 3

Descriptive Statistics of Questionnaire

Reading a text and answering the questions orally:	Mean	*SD*
Q2-1. Do you think you did well on this task?	3.33	1.30
Q2-2. Do you think this task measured your reading ability?	3.56	1.26
Q2-3. Do you think this task measured your speaking ability?	3.58	1.18
Q2-4. Do you think the time allocated to read the story was too long?	2.74	0.98
Q2-5. Do you think the time allocated to answer the questions was too long?	4.35	0.92
Retelling the story:		
Q2-6. Do you think you did well on this task?	1.84	1.00
Q2-7. Do you think this task measured your reading ability?	2.67	1.21
Q2-8. Do you think this task measured your speaking ability?	4.51	0.86
Q2-9. Did you need time to think before you started to speak?	3.56	1.16
Q2-10. Was it difficult to remember the content of the story?	3.56	1.26
Q2-11. Did you look at the keywords while you were speaking?	3.42	1.37
Q2-12. Did the keywords help you speak?	3.33	1.38
Q2-13. Was the speaking time sufficient?	2.84	1.34
General questions for the entire test:		
Q2-14. Did you hear the tape-recorded directions clearly?	4.53	0.67
Q2-15. Did you understand the procedure of the test?	4.30	1.01
Q2-16. Was it easy to record your voice?	4.30	1.06
Q2-17. Were you nervous or anxious during the test?	3.58	1.31
Q2-18. Were you disturbed by the surrounding noise or people?	3.26	1.50
Q2-19. Did you try to speak a lot during the test?	3.95	1.02
Q2-20. Was the test beneficial to your English study?	3.51	1.20
Q2-21. Were you motivated to study English after taking the test?	3.53	1.10
Q2-22. Do you think you could improve your English if you frequently had these types of speaking activities?	3.77	1.21
If yes, what skills do you think you can improve with this test?	NA	NA
Q2-23. Have you ever read any of the stories before?	1.00	0.00
Open-ended questions:		
Q3-1. Choose the stories you felt were easier to reproduce. Why did you find it easier?	NA	NA
Q3-2. Were there any problems with regard to the procedure of the test?	NA	NA
Q3-3. What difficulties were faced with relation to the test tasks?	NA	NA
Q3-4. Have you ever taken a speaking test? If yes, what do you think of this test in comparison to the test you had taken earlier?	NA	NA
Q3-5. Are there any other comments?	NA	NA

Note. NA = Not applicable.

Table 4

Participants' Responses in Q3-1: Which Passage was Easier to Talk About and Why?

Story [length]	n (%)	Reason for their choice				
		Length	Content	Keywords	Order	Other reasons
S1: Kenji [short]	16 (37.21)	4	12	0	2	・Simple story ・Easy to follow
S2: Bob [long]	6 (13.95)	0	3	0	0	・Many adjectives made the text easy to read ・Familiar topic
S3: Taro [short]	14 (32.56)	5	9	0	1	・Simple story ・Easy to follow
S4: Julie [long]	5 (11.63)	1	2	0	0	・Familiar topic
No difference	7 (16.28)	0	0	0	0	
Total	[a]48	10	26	0	3	7

Note. The percentage is the number of examinees selected divided by the total number of examinees. [a]Out of 43 examinees, five chose more than one text and reason.