

LESSON NOTES

Yojijukugo #1

Introduction to 4 Kanji Words!

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GRAMMAR

Today's Yojijukugo (四字熟語) (1)

悪戦苦闘

Kana	あくせんくとう
Romaji	akusen kutou
Meaning	hard fight, hard-fought battle, uphill struggle

	1st Kanji	2nd Kanji	3rd Kanji	4th Kanji
四字熟語	悪	戦	苦	闘
Kana	あく	せん	く	とう
Rōmaji	aku	sen	ku	tō
Meaning	bad	battle	suffering	fight

Usage

It can be used to mean struggling with mental challenges or physical challenges.

It's usually used as a compound verb with *suru*, "*akusen kutō suru* (悪戦苦闘する)." It can be also used as a noun, as in "*akusen kutō no sue* (悪戦苦闘の末 ; as a result of an uphill struggle)."

Sample Sentences

日本チームは、中国を相手に悪戦苦闘した。

Nihon chīmu wa, Chūgoku o aite ni akusenkutō shita.

The Japanese team had a tough game against the Chinese team.

昨日の試験で、私は数学の問題に悪戦苦闘した。

Kinō no shiken de, watashi wa sūgaku no mondai ni akusenkutō shita.

I had a hard time with the math exam yesterday.

私は、悪戦苦闘の末、自分でパソコンを作ることに成功した。

Watashi wa, akusenkutō no sue, jibun de pasokon o tsukuru koto ni seikō shita.

After a lot of problems, I finally succeeded in building a PC by myself.

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Today's Yojijukugo(四字熟語)(2)	以心伝心
Kana	いしんでんしん
Romaji	ishindenshin
Meaning	heart-to-heart communication, thought transference, communicating without words, "telepathy"

	1st Kanji	2nd Kanji	3rd Kanji	4th Kanji
四字熟語	以	心	伝	心
Kana	い	しん	でん	しん
Rōmaji	i	shin	den	shin
Meaning	by means of	heart/mind	transmit	heart/mind

History, definition, similar expression, etc.

It literally means "by means of mind, transmit the mind" and it expresses the idea of "to convey what you are thinking without saying anything."

Usage

It is often used with the copula, as in "ishindenshin da", "ishindenshin no [noun]" or "ishindenshin de ---."

- * [someone] to [someone] wa ishindenshin da.
- * [someone] to [someone] wa ishindenshin no [noun] da.
- * ishindenshin de [verb]

Sample Sentences

私は、双子の兄とは、以心伝心だ。

Watashi wa, futago no ani to wa, ishindenshin da.

My twin brother and I have a near-telepathic understanding of each other.

親友のタケシとは、以心伝心の仲だ。

Shinyū no Takeshi to wa, ishindenshin no naka da.

My close friend, Takeshi, and I can understand each other without saying anything.

夫婦でも、以心伝心で分かるのはむずかしい。

Fūfu demo, ishindenshin de wakaru no wa muzukashii.

It is hard even for husband and wife to understand each other without saying anything.