

LESSON NOTES

Yojijukugo #22

Japanese You've Been Waiting to Learn

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2 Grammar

22

GRAMMAR

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| Today's Yojijukugo (四字熟語)(1) | 自暴自棄 |
| Kana | じぼうじき |
| Romaji | jibōjiki |
| Meaning | abandon, desperation |

| | 1st Kanji | 2nd Kanji | 3rd Kanji | 4th Kanji |
|---------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| 四字熟語 | 自 | 暴 | 自 | 棄 |
| Kana | じ | ぼう | じ | き |
| Rōmaji | ji | bō | ji | ki |
| Meaning | Oneself | Violence | Oneself | Abandon |

History, Definition, Similar Expressions, etc.

「自暴」: It means "to harm oneself."

「自棄」: It means "to abandon oneself."

「自暴自棄」: It means "to lose one's reason and give in to despair," usually caused by a serious failure or a series of failures.

A similar expression is *yakekuso ni naru* (やけくそになる). *Yake* (やけ) means "desperation" and *kuso* (くそ) is a word emphasizing the preceding word.

Usage

Jibōjiki ni naru (自暴自棄になる) is often used as a set phrase to mean "to give in to despair."

Sample Sentences

僕は、大学受験の失敗して、自暴自棄になった。

Boku wa, daigaku juken ni shippai shite, jibōjiki ni natta.

I gave in to despair because I failed to pass the college entrance exam.

僕は、彼女に振られて、自暴自棄になっている。
Boku wa, kanojo ni furarete, jibōjiki ni natte iru.
 I'm feeling desperate because I was dumped by my girlfriend.

彼は、自暴自棄になって、会社を辞めた。
Kare wa, jibōjiki ni natte, kaisha o yameta.
 He quit the company in desperation.

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|-----------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Today's Yojjukugo (四字熟語)(2) | 一日千秋 |
| Kana | いちじつせんしゅう / いちにちせんしゅう |
| Romaji | ichijitsusenshū / ichinichisenshū |
| Meaning | really looking forward to |

| | 1st Kanji | 2nd Kanji | 3rd Kanji | 4th Kanji |
|---------|-----------|-------------|-----------|-----------|
| 四字熟語 | 一 | 日 | 千 | 秋 |
| Kana | いち | じつ/にち | せん | しゅう |
| Rōmaji | ichi | jitsu/nichi | sen | shū |
| Meaning | One | Day | Thousand | Autumn |

History, Definition, Similar Expressions, etc.

「一日」: It literally means "one day."

「千秋」: It means "a thousand years."

「一日千秋」: It originally meant "to feel like you haven't seen a person you love for a long time, even if you haven't seen him/her for only one day," and has come to mean "really looking forward to" or "can't wait."

Usage

It is often used as a set phrase such as *ichijitsusenshū no omoi de matsu* (一日千秋の思いで待つ) to express how eagerly you look forward to something. *Omoi* (思い) is a noun

which comes from *omou* (思う), meaning "to think" or "to feel."

Sample Sentences

僕は、一日千秋の思いで、静香ちゃんからの返事を待った。

Boku wa, ichijitsusenshū no omoi de, Shizuka-chan kara no henji o matta.

I really look forward to a response from Shizuka.

僕は、合格発表の電話を、一日千秋の思いで待った。

Boku wa, gōkaku happyō no denwa o, ichijitsusenshū no omoi de matta.

I couldn't wait for a telephone call announcing the test results.

母は、息子の帰りを一日千秋の思いで待った。

Haha wa, musuko no kaeri o ichijitsusenshū no omoi de matta.

Our mother really looked forward to her son's return.