

### NOUN **TAI** ~TEいる ~TAも同然だ。 practically/basicly the same as...

• Although other grammar is possible, usage with **TAI** is by far the most common.

敵チームの**前衛**が我らの**罠**にまんまと**嵌**った。勝ったも同然だ！  
The enemy team's front guard **fell right into** our trap. We've practically won already!

### ~TE **損**する to regret/feel cheated about...

• Speaker feels they made a (minor) mistake or were let down by something.

ちえっ、このアイスコーヒーはほとんど氷だぜ。買って**損**した。  
Humph! This iced coffee is almost all ice. I feel cheated having bought it.

### いざ ~U と、/~TAら、 but when ~ actually happens...

• Also creates rallying/"take the plunge" exclamations: いざ東京へ！ ("To Tokyo!")

会社では**猫**を被ってるけど、いざ二人きりになるとしつこくナンパしてくるんです。  
At the office he **pretends to be so harmless**, but when we're alone together he won't stop **hitting on me**.

Set phrases: いざとなると・いざとなったら・いざというときに/は - "when push comes to shove"/"when it really matters"

### NOUN **と**言わずして何と...? there's no other way to put it

• Used with naming verbs like: 言(い)う、呼(よ)ぶ、称(しょう)する

食堂であーんしているぞ。それをバカッパルと**言**わずして何というのだ。  
They're feeding each other in the **cafeteria**. If that's not called "lovebirds" I don't know what is.

### 百歩譲って VERB **I-ADJ** としても even conceding 100 steps

• The speaker hypothetically acknowledges someone's unlikely or far-fetched claim.  
• Used to reinforce the speaker's position in an argument or debate.

百歩譲ってあなたは**未来**人だとしても、やはり車は貸さないよ。  
Even in the impossible scenario that you were a **time traveller from the future** like you claim, I still wouldn't lend you my car.

### よほど/よっぽど **NAI** と unless exceedingly... 余程

• Typically used to emphasize the difficulty/impossibility of something.

よっぽど**頭**が切れる人じゃないとこの暗号は解けまい。  
A person probably won't be able to solve this **cipher** unless they're exceedingly **smart**.

### ~TA 暁には on the dawn of... (after...)

• A very dramatic/stylized expression meaning "after". (= ~TA 後)

参戦した**暁**には、知っている情報を全て吐いてもらう。いいな？  
After I've participated in this match, you're going to tell me all the information you know. Got it?

### **I-ADJ**:~TE **なんぼ** the ~er, the better

• The quality/amount of ~ is paramount in determining something's worth/merit.

力士は単に身体が大きくて**なんぼ**、というわけではない。  
The value of a **sumo wrestler** isn't determined simply by how large their body is.

### NOUN **ありき** having ~ already determined/in place

• Typically used to criticize a lack of flexibility/substance.

結論ありきの議論は所詮、茶番でしかないのだ。  
A debate with a predetermined **conclusion** is, after all, nothing more than a **farce**.

### NOUN **たるもの** for anyone in the position of ~

• Used when describing the qualifications of a position/role.

紳士たる者、女性の居るところで**下ネタ**を言っはいけない。  
A gentleman must never tell **dirty jokes** in the presence of women.

### NOUN **たるや** Draws extra attention to something that the speaker feels is particularly noteworthy.

(=といつたら) この存在感たるや、まさに有名人！  
This powerful presence, they're truly like a celebrity!

### ~TE も尚、... even after...

• Set phrase: 今(いま)も尚 "even now"

死して尚戦うとは凄まじき男。  
What a fierce man to keep fighting even after death.

### Stock Phrases

|                  |                                                             |            |                                      |
|------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------|------------|--------------------------------------|
| まさか！             | You don't mean...! / Impossible!                            | まあいっか。     | Well, whatever. / So be it.          |
| お手柔らかに。          | Go easy on me.                                              | ざまあ見ろ。     | Serves you right.                    |
| 望むところだ。          | Bring it on.                                                | 解せぬ。       | I strongly disapprove.               |
| 前言撤回。            | I take back what I just said.                               | 愚問だな。      | That's a silly question.             |
| 考えとく。            | I'll consider it. 2                                         | 奇遇だね。      | What a coincidence.                  |
| 気が向いたらね。         | I'll do it if I feel like it.                               | 余計なお世話だ！   | Mind your own business!              |
| 遠慮します。           | I humbly decline. / I'll pass.                              | 閃いた！       | Eureka!                              |
| 言えてる。            | You can say that again.                                     | お安い御用。     | No problem. / Anytime.               |
| マジで?!            | Are you serious?! / No way!                                 | 達者でな。      | Take care. (parting for a long time) |
| 正気か?!            | Have you lost your mind?!                                   | さらばだ。/あばよ。 | Goodbye. (casual)                    |
| お見事！             | Excellent! Great job!                                       | 健闘を祈る。     | Do your best. / Good luck.           |
| いくらなんでもそれはない。    | There's absolutely no way that could be true.               |            |                                      |
| いったいどういう風の吹き回しだ？ | What in the world has gotten into you/him/her?              |            |                                      |
| 当たらずと言えども遠からずだ。  | You've almost got it right, but not quite.                  |            |                                      |
| 困ったときはお互い様。      | You'd do the same for me if I was in trouble.               |            |                                      |
| 煽ってたつても何も出ないよ。   | You'll gain nothing by flattering me.                       |            |                                      |
| お取り込み中、失礼します。    | Sorry to interrupt, but I need your attention for a moment. |            |                                      |
| 据え膳食わぬは男の恥。      | Shame on the man who turns down a woman's advances.         |            |                                      |
| フォースとともにあらんことを。  | May the force be with you.                                  |            |                                      |

1: あーんする - to open one's mouth for food. バカッパル - combination of ばか (idiot) and カップル (couple)  
2: Usually understood to be an indirect way to turn down a suggestion. 3: Alternate kanji: 翠/碧 4: Also: 常盤色

### A Bunch of Random Adjectives

|         |                                  |                               |
|---------|----------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| うまい     | skillful 上手い                     | delicious 旨い/美味い              |
| まずい     | unskillful 拙い                    | awful tasting 不味い             |
| やばい     |                                  | awful, dangerous              |
| すごい     |                                  | incredible 凄い                 |
| ぼろい     | shoddy, run-down                 | easy (money)                  |
| しょぼい    |                                  | drab, dull                    |
| ださい     |                                  | unstylish, lame               |
| だるい     |                                  | languid, sluggish             |
| うざい     |                                  | annoying, naggy               |
| うるさい    | loud, noisy                      | 五月蠹い                          |
| しつこい    | (annoyingly) persistent          |                               |
| くどい     | verbose, overly wordy            |                               |
| まわりくどい  |                                  | overly indirect               |
| けちな     |                                  | stingy, cheapskate            |
| ずい      |                                  | unfair, overhanded            |
| くだらない   | petty, rubbish                   | 下らない                          |
| しがいない   |                                  | insignificant, trifling       |
| やんちゃな   |                                  | rowdy, trouble-making         |
| チャライ    |                                  | sleazy, gaudy, flirty         |
| せこい     |                                  | nitpicky, stingy              |
| かつたるい   | uninspiring/boring (thing to do) |                               |
| でかい     |                                  | large                         |
| へばい     |                                  | clumsy, unskillful            |
| えぐい     | disgusting, creepy               | - vile, depraved              |
| せっかちな   | impatient/rash (person)          |                               |
| しぶとい    | unyielding, tough                | 渋い                            |
| ちっけな    |                                  | tiny, measly                  |
| エロい     |                                  | erotic, sexy - lecherous      |
| はしたない   | lacking in decency/modesty       |                               |
| だらしない   | untidy, sloppy, not presentable  |                               |
| しんどい    |                                  | tiring, exhausting            |
| じれったい   |                                  | frustrating, tantalizing      |
| みっともない  |                                  | disgraceful, embarrassing     |
| 小さい     |                                  | small (in size)               |
| すく      |                                  | few (in number)               |
| くさい     |                                  | stinky, having a bad odor     |
| 渋い      | bitter/astringent                | - refined (taste)             |
| 汚い      | dirty                            | - raunchy - unethical         |
| 賢い      |                                  | clever, smart                 |
| 面倒くさい   | bothersome (thing to do)         |                               |
| 鬱陶しい    | depressing                       | - annoying, pesky             |
| 辛気くさい   | irritated (feeling)              | - tedious                     |
| 胡散臭い    |                                  | shady, dubious                |
| 水くさい    |                                  | distant, reserved             |
| 照れくさい   | embarrassed (but not ashamed)    |                               |
| 情けない    |                                  | pitiful, contemptible         |
| 微妙な     |                                  | subtle, touchy - questionable |
| 不甲斐無い   |                                  | disspirited, pitiable         |
| 差し出がましい |                                  | intrusive, uncalled-for       |
| 嫌らしい    |                                  | obscene, trashy - lascivious  |
| 怪しい     |                                  | dubious, shady, suspicious    |
| けしからぬ   | illicit, lewd                    | 怪しからん                         |

### Major ヤンキー Ateji

|      |                              |
|------|------------------------------|
| 夜露死苦 | "Pleased to meet you"        |
| 愛死天流 | "I love you"                 |
| 仏恥義理 | far ahead of the competition |
| 鬼魔愚零 | whimsical                    |

### Color Terms

|                    |                      |                   |                |
|--------------------|----------------------|-------------------|----------------|
| 紺                  | 瑠璃色                  | 藍色                | 群青色            |
| navy               | royal/cobalt blue    | Japanese indigo   | ultramarine    |
| 青                  | 浅葱色                  | 空色                | 水色             |
| blue               | dark cyan            | sky/baby blue     | aqua           |
| 納戸色                | グリーン                 | 緑                 | 翡翠色            |
| aquamarine         | green                | Japanese "green"  | jade green     |
| 深緑                 | 千歳緑                  | 鴨の羽色              | 青磁色            |
| dark green         | evergreen            | teal              | celadon        |
| 萌黄色                | 苔色                   | 鶯色                | 柳色             |
| spring green       | moss green           | olive green       | fern/pea green |
| 黄色                 | 藁色                   | 琥珀色               | 黄壁色            |
| yellow             | straw/flux           | amber/topaz       | maize          |
| 橙色                 | 煉瓦色                  | 鶯色                | ベージュ           |
| orange             | brick red/terracotta | auburn            | beige          |
| 緋色                 | 朱色                   | 茶色                | カーキ            |
| Japanese "scarlet" | vermillion           | brown             | khaki          |
| スカレット              | 栗色                   | 杏色                | 肌色             |
| scarlet            | chestnut             | apricot/champagne | flesh/peach    |
| 赤                  | 茜色                   | 躑躅色               | 桃色             |
| red                | madder               | azalea/hot pink   | pink           |
| 葡萄酒                | 紅色                   | フクシヤマゼンタ          | 桜色             |
| dark purple        | crimson              | fuchsia/magenta   | light pink     |
| 深紫                 | 紫                    | 堇色                | 藤色             |
| dark purple        | purple               | violet            | periwinkle     |
| 黒                  | 墨                    | 灰色                | 鼠色             |
| black              | dark gray            | gray              | light gray     |

### Adverbs of Degree

|                 |          |     |
|-----------------|----------|-----|
| all             | ちっとも ... | NAI |
| not at all      | まったく ... | NAI |
| not at all      | 全然 ...   | NAI |
| not very        | あまり ...  | NAI |
| not very        | ほとんど ... | NAI |
| not really      | いまいち ... | NAI |
| not really      | 特に ...   | NAI |
| not really      | 大して ...  | NAI |
| slightly        | ほんの少し    |     |
| slightly        | ほんのちよっと  |     |
| a little bit    | やや       |     |
| a little bit    | 少し       |     |
| a little bit    | ちよっと     |     |
| a little bit    | 些か       |     |
| somewhat        | 若干       |     |
| somewhat        | 多少       |     |
| somewhat        | ある程度     |     |
| somewhat        | そこそこ     |     |
| considerably    | それなりに    |     |
| considerably    | 割と       |     |
| considerably    | わり       |     |
| considerably    | 割かし      |     |
| quite           | だいぶ      |     |
| quite           | 結構       |     |
| quite           | 随分       |     |
| very            | とても      |     |
| very            | かなり      |     |
| very            | 相当       |     |
| very            | 一際       |     |
| remarkably      | とつても     |     |
| remarkably      | たいへん     |     |
| remarkably      | 大変       |     |
| extremely       | やたら      |     |
| extremely       | 凄く       |     |
| extremely       | 非常に      |     |
| super           | 極        |     |
| super           | 超        |     |
| extraordinarily | めっちゃ     |     |
| extraordinarily | めちゃくちゃ   |     |
| extraordinarily | 甚だしく     |     |
| extraordinarily | 極めて      |     |
| extraordinarily | 酷く       |     |
| extraordinarily | 思いっきり    |     |
| extraordinarily | ものすごく    |     |
| extraordinarily | あまりにも    |     |
| extraordinarily | とつともなく   |     |

### ~やか(な) Adjectives

|      |                              |
|------|------------------------------|
| 鮮やか  | vivid, brilliant             |
| 穏やか  | calm, tranquil               |
| さわやか | refreshing                   |
| 和やか  | calm, harmonious             |
| 賑やか  | lively, bustling             |
| 淑やか  | graceful, refined            |
| 艶やか  | glamorous                    |
| 健やか  | healthy                      |
| 速やか  | prompt, speedy               |
| ささやか | modest (amount), meager      |
| しなやか | supple                       |
| まろやか | mild (taste), mellow (voice) |
| たおやか | graceful, gentle             |

### Kanken 1級 verbs that you might actually come across someday

|      |             |    |
|------|-------------|----|
| 躊躇う  | to hesitate | 躊躇 |
| 狼狽える | to anguish  | 狼狽 |
| 踌躇めく | to stagger  | 踌躇 |
| 彷徨う  | to wander   | 彷徨 |
| 揶揄う  | to tease    | 揶揄 |
| 微睡む  | to doze     | 微睡 |

### "I love..." in Various Dialects

|           |                   |
|-----------|-------------------|
| すごく好きだよ   | Standard Japanese |
| なまら好きだべさ  | Hokkaido          |
| たげ好きだはんで  | Tsugaru           |
| しったげ好きだよ  | Akita             |
| でら好きだがや   | Nagoya            |
| しゃら好きだに   | Nagano            |
| でれえ好きやお   | Gifu              |
| むっちゃ好きやに  | Mie               |
| まんで好きやし   | Ishikawa          |
| ひっで好きなんや  | Fukui             |
| まんで好きなが   | Toyama            |
| えろ一好きどすえ  | Kyoto             |
| めっちゃ好きやで  | Osaka             |
| めっちゃ好きやねん | Hyogo             |
| ぶち好きじゃけん  | Hiroshima         |
| ぼっけ好きじゃけえ | Okayama           |
| ぶち好きっちゃ   | Yamaguchi         |
| めっちゃ好きだに  | Tottori           |
| こじやんと好きやき | Kochi             |
| ばり好いとーよ   | Hakata            |
| ばり好いとるばい  | Nagasaki          |
| たげ好きやっちゃん | Miyazaki          |
| がば好いとう    | Saga              |
| たいざ好きったい  | Kumamoto          |
| でーじ好きだばーよ | Okinawa           |

### Japanese's Most Peculiar Slang

|           |                                                                                    |
|-----------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| ぜったいりょういき | the exposed area of a woman's thigh between her over-knee socks and skirt          |
| 絶対領域      |                                                                                    |
| だめんず      | a man whose personality/issues make him unsuitable as a romantic partner           |
| 中二病       | acting precocious - prone to narcissistic delusions (lit. "sixth-grader syndrome") |
| 中二病       |                                                                                    |
| 姫始め       | one's first sexual intercourse of the year                                         |
| 後ろ美人      | a woman who is beautiful (only) when viewed from behind                            |
| マグロ       | a woman who displays little or no reaction during sex (like a dead tuna fish)      |
| むつつり助平    | a person who does not seem as such, but is secretly a pervert                      |
| 箱入り娘      | a girl who has been excessively sheltered by overprotective parents                |
| つ連れション    | when two or more men (not strangers) urinate side by side                          |

### Sushi (& Other Aquatic Creature) Kanji

|       |           |     |                   |       |                |         |                    |            |
|-------|-----------|-----|-------------------|-------|----------------|---------|--------------------|------------|
| すし    | sushi     | あわび | sweetfish         | あわび   | 鮑/鮑            | abalone | ウニ/海栗              | sea urchin |
| 寿司/鮓  |           | 鮎   | salmon            | ほたて   | 帆立             | scallop | すずき                | 鱈          |
| さば    | mackerel  | けし  | Jack mackerel     | こい    | 鯉              | carp    | あさり                | 蛸          |
| いわし   | sardine   | たら  | bonito            | たら    | 鱈              | cod     | きす                 | 鱒          |
| たい    | sea bream | かレイ | righteye flounder | ハマチ/鮪 | yellowtail     | きす      | 鱒                  | whiting    |
| たこ    | octopus   | にしん | herring           | にしん   | 鱈              | たら      | ちうお                | 太刀魚        |
| イカ/烏賊 | squid     | かす  | herring roe       | かす    | 鱈              | かじか     | 鱈                  | sculpin    |
| えび    | shrimp    | まぐろ | tuna              | まぐろ   | 鮪              | 鮪       | 鮪                  |            |
| 海老    |           | かに  | crab              | かに    | 蟹              | かに      | 蟹                  |            |
| 伊勢海老  | lobster   | うなぎ | eel               | うなぎ   | 鰻              | うなぎ     | 鰻                  |            |
| 伊勢海老  |           | あなご | conger eel        | あなご   | 穴子             | あなご     | 穴子                 |            |
| 伊勢海老  |           | 大トロ | (very fatty)      | 中トロ   | (moderate fat) | 赤身      | (little or no fat) |            |

### Kansai Dialect Examples (Standard Japanese in gray)

ほんまに早よう頼むで！ わいはぼちぼち帰らなあかんねん。  
本当に 早くしてくださいよ！ 俺は そろそろ帰らないといけないんだ。  
Really, please hurry. I have to go back/home soon.

自分、アホちゃう!? のど飴を5キロ買ってもうてどないすんねん！  
アホ、馬鹿じゃないの!? のど飴を5キロ買ってもうてどないすんねん!  
Are you an idiot!? What are you going to do, having bought 5 kilograms of throat lozenges!

なんぼオカンの手料理ゆうても、こないけつたいなもんを食うわけあらへん！  
母の手料理といつても、こんな奇妙なものを食べるわけがない！  
Even if it is mom's home cooking like you say, there's no way I will eat something this strange-looking!

任せたってや！今夜ごつ可愛い女の子が仰山おるクラブに連れてったるわ。  
任せとね！今夜すごく可愛い女の子がたくさいるクラブに連れて行ってやるよ。  
Leave everything to me! Tonight I'll take you to a club where there are lots of super-cute girls.

この映画やのうてもええやろ？ほな、そつちかておもしろそうちゃうか？  
この映画じゃなくてもいいだろ？ほら、そつちも面白そうじゃないか？  
It doesn't have to be this movie, right? Look, that one looks interesting too, don't you think?

### Examples Using Lots of Miscellaneous Phrases & Vocabulary

このハバネロソースはやばい！激辛という次元を遙かに凌駕している。  
This habanero sauce will knock your socks off! It vastly transcends the realm of "super spicy".

言うに事欠いて初デートで元彼のことを聞いてきたよ。信じられない！  
Of all the senseless things to say, on our first date he asked about my ex-boyfriend. I can't believe his nerve!

斯くなる上は、多少の怪我を覚悟して窓から飛び降りるしかない。  
Unfortunately it's come to this, our only choice is to brace ourselves for slight injuries and jump out the window.

あ見えても、山田はちよっと抜けてるよ。しよつちゅうへまをやらかすんだ。  
Despite her appearances, Yamada is a little scatterbrained. She screws things up all the time.

我武者羅に攻撃しても、試合が終わる前に一矢報いるくらいは関の山だ。  
Even if we attacked recklessly, the most we could achieve is to make a minor retaliation before the match is over.

アイツの気合は半端じゃない。目を合わせるだけで鳥肌が立つよ。  
His intensity is on a whole different level. I get goosebumps just from making eye contact with him.

確かに田中もレイヤーだけど、あの遊び半分の奴と一緒にしないでくれ。  
To be sure, Tanaka is also a cosplayer, but don't confuse me with that half-hearted dabbler.

悪い、ちよっと野暮用ができちゃったもんでお暇するよ。  
Sorry, something came up that I have to attend to so I must excuse myself.

仕事のストレスを家族に八つ当たりする、器の小さい男だ。  
He's a shallow-natured man, who takes his stress from work out on his family.

この前のレースでビリだったお前が強がっても全然説得力がないぞ？  
Even if you—who was last place in a race the other day—act tough, but it's not convincing at all, you know?

こんなこともあろうかと思つて、数年前からへそくりを貯めているんだ。  
I suspected something like this might happen, so for a few years I've been saving up a secret stash of money.

よし、一肌脱いでやろ。友人の頼みを無視したら男が腐るしね。  
Alright, I'll help you out. After all, I'd be less of a man if I ignored a friend's request.

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5: Can also be written: 徘徊う (徘徊) 6: