

ONI DOJO 鬼道場

N1

JLPT N1 Workbook

Reading like a native

Literary and formal grammar, idioms and the dense prose of essays, editorials and literature.

30

LESSONS

89

GRAMMAR POINTS

361

WORDS

8

READINGS

777

EXERCISES

with Kurenai 紅 · Slettvoid Security · slettvoid.org

How to use this workbook

“Welcome to my dojo. I am Kurenai, your sensei, and yes, I am an oni. Don't worry, I only bite lazy students. Work through one lesson at a time, write your answers by hand, and check them at the back. Then do it again in a week. That's the whole secret.”

1. **Read the grammar.** Each point has a short explanation and examples. Read the examples aloud.
2. **Learn the words.** Tick the box when you know a word without looking.
3. **Read the dialogue** and cover the English to see how much you understand.
4. **Do the practice** on paper without looking back, then check your answers in the answer key.
5. **Read the stories** placed between the lessons. They only use what you have learned so far.
6. **Review.** Come back to a lesson after a few days and a week. Spaced review is what makes words stick.

Furigana (small kana above kanji) is shown in grammar, dialogues and stories. Try reading without it first. In the practice sections there is less help, as in the real test.

This workbook follows the N1 course in the **Oni Dojo** app (slettvoid.org/onidojo), where every sentence also has audio, flashcards and typed answers. You can use the book on its own or together with the app.

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FREE SAMPLE
slettvold.org/onidojo/workbooks.html

N1 · LESSON 1

The instant that ^{はや}が早いか・^{いな}や否や・なり・そばから

In this lesson you will

- Describe immediate succession with ^{はや}～が早いか／^{いな}～や否や／～なり
- Describe frustrating repetition with ～そばから
- Choose the right "as soon as" for written and spoken style

Grammar

① ^{はや}～が早いか *the moment ..., (already)*

Dictionary/た form + ^{はや}が早いか: the second action happens almost simultaneously, often surprisingly fast: ベルが鳴るが早いか、生徒たちは教室を飛び出した "The instant the bell rang, the pupils rushed out of the classroom". Written, narrative style.

かれ いえ かえ ^{はや} 彼は家に帰るが早いか、ベッドに倒れ込んだ。

The moment he got home, he collapsed onto the bed.

セール ^{はじ}が始まるが早いか、商品 ^{しょうひん}は売り切れた。

The moment the sale started, the goods sold out.

② ^{いな}～や否や／～なり *no sooner ... than*

Dictionary form + ^{いな}や否や (やいなや): very formal, written: 扉が開くや否や、客が殺到した "No sooner had the doors opened than customers rushed in". Dictionary form + なり: the same subject does something unexpected immediately: 彼は私の顔を見るなり、泣き出した "The moment he saw my face, he burst into tears". なり is not used for your own actions.

ニュース ^{なが}が流れるや否や、株価 ^{かぶか}が急落した。

No sooner had the news broken than share prices plunged.

むすめ ^{かえ} 娘は帰ってくるなり、部屋 ^{へや}に閉じこもった。

The moment my daughter got home, she shut herself in her room.

③ ～そばから *no sooner ... than (again, frustratingly)*

Dictionary/た form + そばから: a repeated cycle where effort is instantly undone: 片付けるそばから、子どもが散らかす "No sooner do I tidy up than the kids make a mess again"; 覚えたそばから忘れる。

たんご ^{おぼ} 単語を覚えるそばから、忘 ^{わす}れてしまう。

No sooner do I learn words than I forget them.

つく ^た 作るそばから食 ^{りょうり}べられて、料理 ^おが追いつかない。

It gets eaten as soon as I make it — I can't cook fast enough.

Vocabulary

WORD	READING	MEANING	✓
飛び出す	とびだす	rush out	☐
倒れ込む	たおれこむ	collapse onto	☐
殺到	さっとう	rush, stampede	☐
 扉	とびら	door	☐
株価	かぶか	share price	☐
急落	きゅうらく	sharp fall	☐
閉じこもる	とじこもる	shut oneself in	☐
散らかす	ちらかす	make a mess	☐
追いつく	おいつく	catch up	☐
瞬時	しゅんじ	instant	☐
即座	そくざ	immediately	☐
流れる	ながれる	(news) be broadcast	☐
繰り返し	くりかえし	repetition	☐
果てしない	はてしない	endless	☐

Dialogue: The final level

You begin N1 training.

紅 N1の教科書を開くが早いか、ため息をついたわね。

The moment you opened the N1 textbook, you sighed.

あなた おぼ わす たんご いちまんご
覚えるそばから忘れる単語が、一万語もあるんですよ。

There are ten thousand words I forget as soon as I learn them.

紅 わたし にんげん ことば まな はじ
私も人間の言葉を学び始めたころは、そうだった。

It was the same for me when I started learning human language.

あなた せんせい
先生が？

You, Sensei?

紅 むらびと わたし み に だ れんしゅうあいて
村人は私を見るなり逃げ出したから、練習相手もいなかったのよ。

The villagers ran away the moment they saw me, so I didn't even have anyone to practise with.

Kurenai's culture corner

N1 is described by the Japan Foundation as the ability to understand Japanese "used in a broad range of circumstances". Its grammar section focuses heavily on written and literary forms like や否や and なり — patterns you'll meet in novels, newspapers and formal speeches far more than in conversation.

Practice

1.1 Match the word to its meaning

Match each Japanese word with its English meaning.

- | | |
|----------------|---|
| 1. ____ 株価 | a catch up |
| 2. ____ 果てしない | b rush out |
| 3. ____ 流れる | c collapse onto |
| 4. ____ 倒れ込む | d shut oneself in |
| 5. ____ 扉 | e share price |
| 6. ____ 売り切れる | f door  |
| 7. ____ 瞬時 | g (news) be broadcast |
| 8. ____ 追いつく | h endless |
| 9. ____ 飛び出す | i sell out |
| 10. ____ 閉じこもる | j instant |

1.2 Choose the right word

Choose the word that fills the blank ____.

- ベルが鳴る____、生徒たちは飛び出した。(The instant the bell rang...)
a ばかりに **b** そばから **c** が早いか **d** ものの
- 扉が開く____、客が殺到した。(No sooner had the door opened...)
a ものを **b** ところで **c** や否や **d** そばから
- 彼は私の顔を見る____、泣き出した。(The moment he saw me, he cried.)
a ところ **b** なり **c** そばから **d** うちに
- 片付ける____、子どもが散らかす。(As soon as I tidy, the kids mess up.)
a が早いか **b** なり **c** や否や **d** そばから
- 単語を覚えた____忘れてしまう。(I forget words as soon as I learn them.)
a なり **b** や否や **c** そばから **d** とたん
- ニュースが流れるや____、株価が急落した。(No sooner was the news out than shares fell.)
a なり **b** 否や **c** 早いか **d** そば

1.3 Translate into Japanese

Write each sentence in Japanese (kana is fine), then check against the model answer.

1. The moment he got home, he collapsed.

2. No sooner had the door opened than people rushed in.

3. As soon as I learn words, I forget them.

4. The moment she saw me, she ran off.

1.4 Understand the dialogue

Match each line from the dialogue to its meaning.

1. _____ N1の教科書を開くが早い、ため息を
いたわね。

2. _____ 覚えるそばから忘れる単語が、一万語も
あるんですよ。

3. _____ 私も人間の言葉を学び始めたころは、そ
うだった。

4. _____ 先生が？

5. _____ 村人は私を見るなり逃げ出したから、
練習相手もいなかったのよ。

a You, Sensei?

b There are ten thousand words I forget as soon as I learn them.

c The villagers ran away the moment they saw me, so I didn't even have anyone to practise with.

d The moment you opened the N1 textbook, you sighed.

e It was the same for me when I started learning human language.

N1 · LESSON 2

Ever since, starting with

てからというもの・を皮切りに・を限りに・を経て

In this lesson you will

- Describe lasting change with ～てからというもの
- Mark a starting point with ～を皮切りに
- Mark an ending with ～を限りに; a process with ～を経て

Grammar

① ～てからというもの *ever since ... (things have been different)*

て-form + からというもの: a dramatic, lasting change since an event: 犬を飼い始めてからというもの、毎朝散歩するようになった "Ever since I got a dog, I've been walking every morning". Emotional, written.

日本に来てからというもの、毎日が発見の連続だ。

Ever since coming to Japan, every day has been a string of discoveries.

彼女と別れてからというもの、彼は笑わなくなった。

Ever since breaking up with her, he's stopped smiling.

② ～を皮切りに(して) *starting with, beginning with*

Noun + を皮切りに: the first of a series of events that spread: 東京公演を皮切りに、全国ツアーが始まる "Starting with the Tokyo show, a nationwide tour begins".

大阪店を皮切りに、全国に店舗を広げた。

Starting with the Osaka branch, they expanded stores nationwide.

彼の発言を皮切りに、反対意見が次々と出た。

His remark was the first of a stream of objections.

③ ～を限りに／～を経て *as of (the last time) / via, after going through*

Noun + を限りに: from this point, something stops: 今日を限りに、たばこをやめる "As of today, I quit smoking"; 本日を限りに閉店いたします. を経て: through a process or place: 三年の交際を経て、結婚した "After three years of dating, they married"; 香港を経てロンドンへ.

今月を限りに、退職することにしました。

I've decided to retire at the end of this month.

長い議論を経て、ようやく法案が成立した。

After lengthy debate, the bill was finally passed.

Vocabulary

WORD	READING	MEANING	✓
発見	はっけん	discovery	☐
連続	れんぞく	succession, series	☐
公演	こうえん	performance	☐
店舗	てんぽ	store, outlet	☐
発言	はつげん	remark, statement	☐
次々と	つぎつぎと	one after another	☐
閉店	へいてん	closing a shop	☐
退職	たいしよく	retirement, leaving a job	☐
交際	こうさい	relationship, dating	☐
法案	ほうあん	bill (law)	☐
成立	せいりつ	enactment, formation	☐
ようやく		at last	☐
過程	かてい	process	☐

Dialogue: The last day of the shop

An old sweet shop is closing.

店主 ^{ほんじつ かぎ} 本日を限りに、^{へいてん} 閉店いたします。^{なが あいだ} 長い間、ありがとうございました。
As of today, we are closing. Thank you for so many years.

紅 ^{みせ ひら} この店が開いてからというもの、^{まいしゅう} 毎週^{だんご た} この団子を食べてきたのに……。
Ever since this shop opened, I've eaten its dango every week...

あなた ^{なんねん} 何年ですか。
For how many years?

紅 ^{え ど じ だ い} 江戸時代の^{そうぎょう} 創業^{さんびやくねん} だから、三百年ね。
It was founded in the Edo period, so three hundred years.

店主 ^{おお} 多くの^{こんなん} 困難^へ を経て、^{つづ} ここまで続けられたのは、^{きやくさま} お客様のおかげです。
That we could continue this long, through so many hardships, is thanks to our customers.

Kurenai's culture corner

Japan has more century-old businesses (^{しにせ} 老舗, shinise) than any other country — tens of thousands of companies over 100 years old, including inns, sake breweries and sweet shops. The oldest, the temple-building firm Kongō Gumi, traces its history back to 578.

Practice

2.1 Match the word to its meaning

Match each Japanese word with its English meaning.

- | | |
|--------------|-------------------------------|
| 1. ____ 発言 | a closing a shop |
| 2. ____ 発見 | b at last |
| 3. ____ 店舗 | c one after another |
| 4. ____ 閉店 | d performance |
| 5. ____ 成立 | e store, outlet |
| 6. ____ 次々と | f succession, series |
| 7. ____ ようやく | g process |
| 8. ____ 連続 | h enactment, formation |
| 9. ____ 過程 | i remark, statement |
| 10. ____ 公演 | j discovery |

2.2 Choose the right word

Choose the word that fills the blank ____.

- 日本に来て____、毎日が発見だ。(Ever since coming to Japan...)
a を限りに **b** を皮切りに **c** を経て **d** からというもの
- 東京公演を____に、全国ツアーが始まる。(Starting with Tokyo, a national tour begins.)
a 皮切り **b** 経 **c** きっかけに **d** 限り
- 今日を____に、たばこをやめる。(As of today, I quit smoking.)
a 経て **b** 皮切り **c** 限り **d** 機
- 三年の交際を____、結婚した。(After three years of dating, they married.)
a 経て **b** 限りに **c** めぐって **d** 皮切りに
- 犬を飼い始めて____というもの、毎朝散歩する。(Ever since getting a dog...)
a さえ **b** こそ **c** から **d** まで
- 本日を限り____閉店いたします。(We close as of today.)
a に **b** を **c** で **d** が

2.3 Translate into Japanese

Write each sentence in Japanese (kana is fine), then check against the model answer.

1. Ever since coming to Japan, every day is new.

2. As of today, I quit.

3. After long debate, the bill passed.

4. Starting with Osaka, they expanded nationwide.

2.4 Understand the dialogue

Match each line from the dialogue to its meaning.

1. _____ ^{ほんじつ} ^{かぎ} ^{へいてん} ^{なが}
本日を限りに、閉店いたします。長い
^{あいだ}
間、ありがとうございました。

2. _____ ^{みせ} ^{ひら} ^{まいしゅう}
この店が開いてからというもの、毎週こ
^{だんご} ^た
この団子を食べてきたのに……。

3. _____ ^{なんねん}
何年ですか。

4. _____ ^え ^ど ^じ ^{だい} ^{そうぎょう} ^{さんびやくねん}
江戸時代の創業だから、三百年ね。

5. _____ ^{おお} ^{こんなん} ^へ ^{つづ}
多くの困難を経て、ここまで続けられた
^{きやくさま}
のは、お客様のおかげです。

a For how many years?

b It was founded in the Edo period, so three hundred years.

c Ever since this shop opened, I've eaten its dango every week...

d That we could continue this long, through so many hardships, is thanks to our customers.

e As of today, we are closing. Thank you for so many years.

続く...

That was lessons 1 and 2 of 30 lessons.

“Not bad, pupil. The full JLPT N1 workbook has every lesson, every reading, the complete answer key and the word list. Come and get it, I'll be waiting.” — Kurenai

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