
CANADIAN KENDO FEDERATION

IAIDO WRITTEN EXAMINATION QUESTIONS (1 DAN TO 5 DAN ONLY)

Please answer only the questions for the Dan rank you are applying for and upload your exam to [Written Exam Submission](#) or email your completed written exam to iaidonationalwrittenexam@kendo-canada.com.

NOTE: Ikkyu challengers do not need to submit a written examination.

Please note that all written exams must be submitted prior to the deadline posted on the CKF website. Late Exams will not be accepted.

Name:

Member ID Number:

Dojo:

Rank Applied For:

Grading Date:

Grading Location:

SHODAN

Please note there are no specific word limits for your answers. Provide clear, concise, and complete answers that reflect the number of years of experience and the depth of your practice. You are encouraged to expand on these answers/concepts and give appropriate examples when possible.

Please answer all the questions:

1. What is Reiho and why is it important in laido?
2. What is Hasuji and why is it important in laido?
3. Five of the ZNKR Iai kata contain a Tsuki (thrust). Name the katas and identify the target areas.

NIDAN

Please note there are no specific word limits for your answers. Provide clear, concise, and complete answers that reflect the number of years of experience and the depth of your practice. You are encouraged to expand on these answers/concepts and give appropriate examples when possible.

Please answer all of the following questions:

1. Explain the following concepts and their application in laido:
 - Jyo-Ha-Kyu (序破急)
 - Ki-ken-tai-icchi (気剣体一致) or Ki-tai-ken-no-icchi (気体剣一致)
 - Metsuke (目付)
2. Choose one ZNKR (Seitei) kata and discuss the key grading points of the form as listed in the ZNKR laido manual.

SANDAN

Please note there are no specific word limits for your answers. Provide clear, concise, and complete answers that reflect the number of years of experience and the depth of your practice. You are encouraged to expand on these answers/concepts and give appropriate examples when possible.

Please answer one of the following questions:

1. Explain the following concepts as they relate to laido:

- Kigurai (気位)
- Seme (攻め)
- Fukaku (風格) & Hin'i (品位)/Hinkaku (品格)

2. Where should the hands and kissaki finish at the completion of each of the cuts delivered in Seiteigata #11 - Sou Giri? List the three grading points for Sou Giri, as listed in the ZNKR laido manual.

3. What is meant by Kokyu (呼吸) and how should it be applied to laido?

YONDAN

Please note there are no specific word limits for your answers. Provide clear, concise, and complete answers that reflect the number of years of experience and the depth of your practice. You are encouraged to expand on these answers/concepts and give appropriate examples when possible.

Please answer two (2) the following questions:

1. Explain how correct Ma-ai (間合い) and Ma (間) are important in Iaido and provide an example in a kata.

2. Explain the concept “saya no uchi” (鞘の内) and how this relates to Iaido.
3. What is meant by Shu Ha Ri (守破離) in Budo?

GODAN

Provide clear, concise, and complete answers that reflect the number of years of experience and the depth of your practice. You are encouraged to expand on these answers/concepts and give appropriate examples when possible.

Answer one (1) of the following questions:

1. What key points would you stress when teaching beginners and why? What points would you not stress and why?
2. Explain the concept of Senpai-Kohai (先輩後輩) and its importance in laido.
3. What is meant by Shu Ha Ri (守破離) in budo?

Answer one (1) of the following questions:

1. List all seven grading points for Mae, as listed in the ZNKR laido manual. Select two (2) of these points and explain how they have a functional effect on the kata.
2. Describe three (3) elements that you would use when judging an laido shiai and explain why they are important.

Answer one (1) of the following questions:

1. In addition to the technical points described in the ZNKR laido manual, what other points of consideration are there when evaluating candidates in higher level gradings?
2. Describe how laido can serve as a means of self-improvement.
3. Describe how you perform safety checks on a sword and how you maintain safety in the dojo.