



# AKR Iaido Grading Written Examination

Each applicant must answer **two** of the questions below for the rank they are attempting. Please provide a **typed** response. At the top of the page write your name and the grade that you are attempting. Answers are to be in English and no more than 2 x A4 pages in total.

**Please submit your answers at the grading participants registration on the morning of the grading.**

## Shodan candidates

1. Name, and briefly describe, the five basic on-guard postures (kamae) used in swordsmanship.
2. What is the purpose of chiburi?
3. List the names of all 12 All Japan Kendo Federation Iaido katas.
4. Explain what is meant by the term saya-biki. Describe its use in one All Japan Kendo Federation Iaido kata.

## Nidan candidates

1. Draw a simple diagram of a katana, label as many parts as you can.
2. Tsuki (thrusts) occur in five of the All Japan Kendo Federation Iaido kata. Name these kata, and identify their target areas.
3. Discuss the concept of zanshin. Describe its use in at least one All Japan Kendo Federation kata.
4. Explain the proper way of gripping the katana when cutting.

## Sandan candidates

1. What is kirioroshi? Describe its use in one All Japan Kendo Federation Iaido kata.
2. Describe how to clean a sword (shinken and/or iaito).
3. How should the left hand function while drawing the sword?
4. Describe the action of furikaburi in All Japan Kendo Federation kata Ipponme (Mae).

## Yondan candidates

1. Write what you know about kokyū (breath control) in Iaido.
2. What is meant by jo-ha-kyū? Describe its application in one All Japan Kendo Federation Iaido kata.
3. Is it important, or is it not important to participate in Iaido Competitions? Explain your rationale.
4. Discuss reiho: What does the word mean, why is it important in the dojo?

## Godan candidates

1. In addition to the main technical points described in the All Japan Kendo Federation Iaido (Seitei) manual, what other points of consideration are there when evaluating candidates in a grading?
2. Discuss reiho. What does the word mean, why is it important in the dojo?
3. Explain Ki Ken Tai Ichi, and give two examples of its application in All Japan Kendo Federation Iaido.
4. What is important when teaching Iaido to beginners?