

花鳥風月

花鳥風月・かちょうふうげつ
ゝEnjoying the beauties of nature.
(origin: poetry)

花・はな
ゝflower
鳥・とり
ゝbird
風・かせ
ゝwind
月・つき
ゝmoon

一日千秋

一日千秋・いちじつせんしゅう

ゝWaiting impatiently, a moment that feels like an eternity.

一・いち

ゝone

日・にち

ゝday

千・せん

ゝthousand

秋・あき

ゝAutumn/ Fall

三日坊主

三日坊主・みっかぼうず

ゝliteral: a monk for three days. A person who can't stick to anything.

三・さん

ゝthree

日・にち

ゝday

坊主・ぼうず

ゝmonk

一石二鳥

一石二鳥・いっせきにちょう
ゝKilling two birds with one stone.

一・いち
ゝone
石・せき
ゝstone
二・に
ゝtwo
鳥・と/
ゝbirds

一期一会

一期一会・いちごいちえ

∪The only chance in a lifetime.

One meeting, one opportunity—the concept of regarding every encounter as a unique opportunity of a lifetime, or in general, of treasuring each passing moment in order to live meaningfully.

(origin: Way of Tea/ Zen)

一期・いちご

∪one lifetime

一会・いちえ

∪one encounter, one meeting

一日一歩

一日一歩・いちにちいっぽ
ゝOne step each day. Slowly but surely.

一日・いちにち
ゝone day
一歩・いっぽ
ゝone step

飛花落葉

飛花落葉・ひからくよう

ゝ (literal) The scattering of the blossoms and falling of the leaves. The impermanence of worldly things.

飛ぶ・とぶ

ゝ (verb) to scatter, to fly, to jump

花・はな

ゝ flower(s)

落ちる・おちる

ゝ (verb) to fall

葉・は

ゝ leaf/ leaves

七転八起

七転八起・しちてんはつき

ゝNot giving up.

Also: 七転び八起き・ななころびや起き

七・しち／なな(つ)

ゝseven

転ぶ・ころぶ

ゝ(verb) to fall down, to fall over

八・はち／や(っ)

ゝeight

起きる・おきる

ゝ(verb) to get up (also: to wake up)

十人十色

十人十色・じゅうにんといろ

ゝTo each his own, different strokes for different folks.

十・じゅう／とお

ゝten

人・ひと

ゝperson

色・いろ

ゝcolor(s)

無我夢中

無我夢中・むがむちゅう
ゝTo be totally absorbed in doing something.

無い・ない
ゝnot, no
我・われ
ゝoneself
夢・ゆめ
ゝdream
中・なか
ゝmiddle

以心伝心

以心伝心・いしんでんしん

〜To be totally absorbed in doing something.

(Buddhism: non-verbal Zen Buddhist transmission to a disciple of the central tenets of Buddhism)

以て・もって

〜with, by..., by means of...

心・こころ

〜heart

伝・でん／伝える・つたえる

〜tradition / (verb) to convey, to transmit

異口同音

異口同音・いくどうおん
〜In chorus, in unison, unanimously.

異・い
〜different
口・くち
〜mouth
同じ・おなじ
〜same
音・おと
〜sound

半信半疑

半信半疑・はんしんはんぎ
ゝHalf in doubt, half believe, dubiously.

半・はん
ゝhalf
信・しん
ゝtrust
疑う・うたがう
ゝ(verb) be doubtful (about), be suspicious (of)

不言実行

不言実行・ぶいげんじつこう

ゝDeeds are better than words. Actions speak louder than words.

不・ぶ

ゝun-, non-, negative prefix

言・いう

ゝ(verb) to talk

実・じつ

ゝtruth, reality, sincerity, (good) results

行・こう

ゝgoing, act, action

自問自答

自問自答・じもんじとう

ゝAnswer one's own question, wonder to oneself, think to oneself.

自・じ

ゝoneself

問・い・とい

ゝa question

答・え・こたえ

ゝan answer