

The Dojo Kun of Shotokan in Japanese:

道場訓

どうじょうくん
Doujyou kun

人格完成に勤むること

じんかく かんせいに つとむること
Jinkaku Kansei ni Tsutomuru koto

誠の道を守ること

まことのみちを まもること
Makoto no michi wo mamoru koto

動力の精神を養うこと

どうりょくのせいしんを やしなうこと
Douryoku no seishin wo yashinau koto

礼儀を重んずること

れいぎを おもんずること
Reigi wo omonzuru koto

血気の勇を戒めること

けっきのゆうを いましめること
Kekki no yuu wo imashimeru koto

Common English translation:

Seek perfection of character
Be faithful
Endeavor for effort
Respect others
Refrain from violent behavior

Literal Translation:

Strive to complete your character (mature or grow-up)
Protect the road/way of the truth
Foster a spirit of effort
Respect the principles of etiquette
Guard against impetuous courage (suppress boldness of the blood spirit/bloodthirsty spirit)

What a Japanese person hears:

Learn self-discipline and good sportsmanship
This is the best way to do Karate
Inspire everyone around you to try hard by setting an example
Be polite to other people (whether you actually respect them or not is irrelevant – do the behaviors)
Stay calm, reserved, and detached (whether you are being violent or not is irrelevant as long as you are not embarrassing yourself by losing control)