

Naruto: The Wind Calamity

Chapter 11: Improvements

The academy life continued in this manner for the first six months. After six months, Genki had to report to Hiruzen on the progress of his class.

He reached the Hokage office on the appointed time and knocked on the door. After being allowed in, he entered the room and respectfully said, "Lord Hokage"

Hiruzen nodded and said, "It's alright. How is your class fairing? Any talents?"

Genki replied, "It's going pretty well. While it's still too early to say, I believe the majority of these kids will become elite among chunnins, and few probably will become Jounins. Senju Teru and Uchiha Yori have been showing the most talent, as expected from someone of their clan. Hyuga Hoka and Hana have also been performing really well. Shimura Nobu is also pretty good. The remaining three from Senju, Uchiha and Hyuga clans and the lone Aburame are decent as well.

Among the civilians we've had a surprise. The orphan, Suzuki Fujin, has been progressing pretty fast. I've spied a little on him, he is very diligent and works very hard. He is definitely someone we should nurture for the future. There's another among the civilian kids, Aoki Nori, who is performing very well. The other kids are doing okay.

On average, the talent in this batch is higher than the previous one." He said enthusiastically. But then he sighed and said, "Sadly there's no one like Itachi in this class."

Hiruzen nodded and said, "That's alright. We can't get someone like Itachi every year. But your report still sounds very promising. If in the next 15 years, we get a dozen jounins and have the remaining at chuunin ranks, then it'll help the village a lot.

You've done a good job. Keep it up. You'll be responsible for raising this batch into good shinobi for our village."

Genki nodded his head and respectfully said, "Yes Lord Hokage" and exited the room.

After he left Hiruzen thought, 'Looks like we will be having another good crop of Shinobi. Still, to think we'd have another diligent orphan. I wonder how his story would turn out to be.'

The praise that Genki had for Fujin wasn't underserved. Fujin improved a lot in these six months. A lot more than Genki gave him credit for. After all, even he couldn't know the fact that even at his home, Fujin spent most time training in a very planned manner.

The most important improvement was in Fujin molding the chakra with hand signs. The speed had finally reached an acceptable speed and he was able to do six random seals one after another consecutively. He decided that it was finally time to start learning the basic jutsus.

In earth nature transformation, he managed to crumble the rock. The clay molding was also coming along well. He could now manipulate the clay freely. And could partially harden it, but couldn't harden it entirely.

Fujin noted that his progress with Earth nature was much slower than wind nature. But that was understandable as his affinity was wind. Fujin also managed to create deep cuts in stones using his wind nature.

In Taijutsu, he also adapted to the academy style very well. He frequently sparred with Teru, Hoka and Yori in the academy and now ranked within the top 4. Senju Teru in particular was kind of becoming a sparring partner to Fujin. In the tournaments, he also noted that his stamina was very high among his classmates. With only Teru being able to match his stamina. He wondered if this was only due to having a more trained body or was his chakra also higher than others. After all, it made sense for Teru to have higher chakra level thanks to him being a Senju.

Shuriken throwing was coming around properly too. He was able to hit all 6 shurikens on the target with his right hand. Though not all used to hit in the dead center yet. But left handed throwing still needed a bit of practice as he could only hit 4 out of 6 with it. He decided to practice till he can consistently hit the dead center with both hands. Then he can try to hit the target while running around. In the weekly shuriken throwing competitions, Fujin had slowly climbed into the top 10.

Probably the most surprising thing would be that he was able to pop the water balloon around 4 months after the academy had started. He moved on to rubber ball, but that was very difficult for him. He felt like it'd be years before he could pop it successfully.

The class went on in a similar manner. The enthusiasm of a new academy had died down, however competition between students had increased a lot.

A 'smug' Uchiha Yori had turned into a 'grumpy' Uchiha Yori. Though he was good, he obviously was no Itachi. In terms of shuriken throwing, he was matched equally by Teru and others were slowly managing to hit correctly with all 6 shurikens as well. Whereas in terms of Taijutsu, both Teru and Hoka were better than him and Fujin and Hana were at a similar level as him. And even in lectures, Hana and Teru used to outdo him. In all, Teru was obviously better than him and Hana was around the same level.

Fujin wondered, 'Does this kind of jealousy unlock Sharingan? Or does it have to be a major impact like the death of someone? Well I do hope he unlocks his sharingan though, it would be helpful to get some experience by sparring with someone with a sharingan.'

Those thoughts aside, Fujin had trouble of his own. His physical workouts in the morning were becoming stale. He had grown comfortable to them and didn't know how to make it harder without increasing the time of workout. Well saying that he didn't know any method would be wrong, he did know one method, that was adding weights. However he didn't know if restricting your body with weights when he ain't even 7 years old would create any problems or not. He had found out about the prices of the weights. After 6 months of saving, Fujin had saved up over 1200 Ryo and could afford to buy the lighter weights.

After thinking about it a bit, he decided to consult Genki. Unlike other things, there wasn't really much to hide about his physical workouts as he used to do it in the open anyways. Anyone who did a little investigation would have found it out.

So one day, after the lectures were over, he asked Genki for help. He explained his problem to his sensei properly. After thinking for a bit, Genki demonstrated him a few slightly more difficult exercises. He also helped out to design a new workout plan for Fujin.

After seeing the new plan, Fujin thanked his sensei politely for it while thinking, 'Hmm, this is really helpful. I should have asked him earlier! He actually seemed enthusiastic to help me. But then again, I'm pretty sure that even this will become comfortable for me after a few months.'

Hence after thanking him, he asked again, "Sensei, will it be fine if I make the exercises difficult by wearing weights?"

Genki was surprised by the question, he asked seriously, "Where did you learn about weights?"

Fujin acted to show that he was nervous and said, "Umm, I saw a weapons shop in the market when I was shopping. I saw the weights in that shop."

Genki understood and then explained, "I see. Well it's good to be curious, but don't use weights for training. They'll affect the growth of your body and it'll be bad for you in the long run."

He then put up a kind smiling face and said, "It is very good that you asked me. Next time you have any such ideas, ask me before trying, okay?"

Fujin nodded. Then after thinking for a bit he asked, "Sensei, then is there anything else I could use to make the workout tougher?"

Genki was a bit surprised by Fujin's obsession in making the physical workouts tougher. He thought, 'Fujin was genuinely happy with the new plan, and yet he still keeps asking me these questions. Does that mean that he is thinking that this new workout will soon become easy for him? That's surprising. I knew he was diligent, but not this much. Now he makes me really look forward to his future.'

Genki then said, "Actually there is another way. Instead of weights, you can have some seals do the same work without having any disadvantages. Like a gravity seal."

Fujin was surprised with this information. He thought, 'I guess I really need to learn Fuinjutsu.' He showed an enthusiastic expression to Genki. Genki was happy with the enthusiasm Fujin showed and decided to play a little trick on him.

Genki continued, "However these seals can't be given to anyone. Also they are very expensive if you try to get them, so you can't get them by yourself."

Fujin was instantly confused. He frowned a bit and wondered, 'What's he playing at? I think he is trying to bait me or something.' He decided to play along and then sighed and showed a dejected expression.

Genki was happy with the response he saw on Fujin's face and said enticingly, "However don't worry. Do you remember what I said on the first day? That the Hokage will watch your exams?"

Fujin, still confused, nodded his head. Genki continued, "If you perform the best among your classmates, then you can ask Hokage for a gift. So then you could ask Hokage for these seals to help you. Till then you should stick to the plan I made for you."

Fujin finally started to get some ideas. He nodded his head while thinking, 'Is he trying to motivate me to perform good in the exams? By dangling a carrot in front of me?'

Seeing Fujin nod, Genki smiled and said while ruffling Fujin's hair, "Good. But the exams will also have a theoretical part and not only physical exercises. So you have to study theory too if you want to come first."

Finally getting what's going on, Fujin said enthusiastically, "Yes Sensei, I'll study hard for the final exam."

Satisfied with himself, Genki finally left. After Genki left, Fujin laughed a lot internally and then thought, 'Sigh, it's hard to keep acting as a kid, though there is an aspect of fun in it and damn these adults, trying to manipulate little kids so much. It was the same in my previous life. Everyone just forces little kids to come first in everything they do. Sad part is I actually have to perform well in those exams.'

Still though, it was very hilarious to watch. Him trying to manipulate a little kid. Sucks for him that I am no little kid. I guess he said that just because I don't participate much in those boring lectures. Come to think about it, I don't think I have ever even answered a single question he asked in class. No wonder he tried to manipulate me. I guess I'll have to improve my pretending to pay attention in class skill!

Anyways, I ain't really worried about theoretical exams. While I won't be arrogant to say that I am the smartest person in the room, but my brain is much more mature than theirs. These exams should be very easy for me.

That said, the seals do worry me a bit. After all, if someone messes with the seal while putting it on me, it would become very troublesome. I guess I should check up the gravity seal and some suppression seals in the library sometime later.'

Ending his train of thoughts, Fujin looked again at the new workout plan and walked to the library.

Chapter 12: Defection

After entering the library, Fujin first entered section 0 and searched for chakra control scrolls. After searching for a few minutes, he finally found the right one.

After finding a place to sit he opened it up and started reading while thinking, 'I can now walk on walls even in my sleep! I need to try tree climbing a bit and then move on to water walking if I want to improve my chakra control even further. If anyone asks where I learnt these things, I can refer them to this scroll.'

The scroll mentioned leaf concentration, tree climbing and water walking. However what surprised Fujin was that a scroll was referred to at the end of the scroll which presented a theory to improve chakra control even further.

To satisfy his curiosity, he searched for that scroll and started reading it. After reading he analyzed, 'Interesting. The scroll proposes a theory that chakra could be used to counterbalance ourselves against the gravity itself. By applying as much force as Gravity applies on us, one could float, and ascend or descend by applying higher and lower forces respectively.

Still though, no one has successfully managed to do this. Even Tsunade in the series didn't have any such skill and her chakra control was the best there was in the whole series. As for others who flew like the 3rd Tsuchikage and the ones related to him, I think they used earth style to lighten themselves or something along those lines. I don't recall it properly. Anyways, this is an interesting theory. Maybe I could try it sometime later on.'

Keeping the scroll back, Fujin finally decided to get to his main task. He went in section E and grabbed the clone jutsu scroll.

On opening it, he found that this jutsu needed only 3 seals. They were Ram, Snake and Tiger in that order. He read the scroll further. After reading it he thought, 'I see. Even though the hand signs are only 3, a lot more has to be done internally. The hand signs only act as a guide. So just knowing the hand signs won't be enough to be able to do the jutsu. Guess that scraps all my plans for Shadow Clone jutsu. Anyways, I should start learning this jutsu.'

After memorising everything of importance regarding clone jutsu, he left the library. He went back to his apartment and started practicing the clone jutsu behind closed doors.

As expected, the jutsu was quite difficult. He had to make a couple of more trips to the library in order to read that scroll again. During one such trip he saw Genki watching him and smiling. He thought, 'I guess he misunderstood that I'm visiting the library to learn more about history and other stuff he covers in class. Well whatever, it's not a problem to me.'

He also temporarily scrapped his after academy routine and focused entirely on the clone jutsu. Only after he ran out of chakra would he take a break and meditate.

It took 3 days for him to be able to make his first clone. And he was horrified by it! His thoughts were, 'I never thought I'd make worse clones than Naruto!!'

Only after a week was he finally able to create a decent clone. He practiced it for another week to get the hang of it and could do it at a much faster pace.

After that, he started to learn the transformation jutsu. Transformation was going to be a critical technique for him. He planned to disguise himself in order to train outside in order to ensure that he didn't attract much attention to himself. It also doubles up as training for infiltration missions. In case anyone did catch him, he can use that excuse to get away.

It took him a week to pull off transformation jutsu properly to a certain extent. He had transformed into his classmates. However it wasn't entirely perfect. There were still a lot of imperfections. And that only in terms of appearance. He hadn't managed to transform his smell and chakra as mentioned in the scroll.

He thought, 'This is tough. Just getting the appearance right is very difficult. I guess I may be able to change the smell after a while, but perfectly replicating someone's smell will be difficult. Then again, if I recall right, even Naruto in

chuunin exams wasn't able to replicate smell as Kiba was easily able to identify him due to his smell. So I guess it is rather difficult to pull off. Even the ones who pass the academy aren't expected to learn how to change the smell. I guess I can work around this by transforming into people from my previous life and using perfumes to mask my smell. That way at least disguising as a stranger would be doable.'

He continued with his practice. However, next morning when he woke up and started his morning workout, he noticed that the environment in the village seemed very tense. Despite it being so early, quite a lot of people were awake. And many ninjas were running around. And most of those ninjas had very solemn faces. Fujin wondered as to what happened.

After the class started, he noticed that a few of the kids from clans looked a bit tense. He approached Senju Teru and asked why they were so tense. Teru was surprised a bit and asked, "Didn't anyone tell you the news?"

Fujin was now really curious. He asked back, "Nope, what news?"

Teru stated seriously, "Yesterday night, one of the legendary sannins, Orochimaru betrayed Konoha and ran away from the village. He is now a missing-nin!"

Hearing that, Fujin became very serious. After a few seconds he replied seriously, "Yeah, that's some bad news. Extremely surprising too!"

Teru agreed, "Yeah. Who would have thought that one of the 3rd Hokage's students would betray Konoha? I heard that he did a lot of illegal experiments that killed a lot of people. Who'd have ever guessed that someone so respected would have been such a scum!"

Fujin nodded solemnly and went to the last bench and sat there. He thought, 'Damn it's hard to act surprised when you already know it is gonna happen! Still though, things are happening in a similar way to what happened in Naruto. The results of the 3rd war, attack of Kurama and Minato's death, then Itachi passing in a year and now Orochimaru's defection.

I guess the next event would be an attempt by Kumo to kidnap Hinata and the death of Hizashi. That move from Kumo does make some sense. With Minato dead, Orochimaru defected and the remaining 2 sannins not present in the village. Then again, giving Hizashi to them was really spineless of Hiruzen.

Well whatever, I don't really have any power to interfere or all the information about Konoha's and Kumo's military. Then again, even if I did have the power, I'd have probably ignored it as it doesn't have anything to do with me.

Anyways, Orochimaru leaving is definitely some good news. If I had to pick the ones I totally want to avoid before I become strong enough, then Danzo and Orochimaru would be the ones to top the list. With Orochimaru gone, half the danger is eliminated. Now I just need to hope that I don't catch Root's attention. Otherwise life will get a lot more troublesome.

That said, I do wonder if, like in Naruto, here too Hiruzen let Orochimaru go or was Orochimaru able to retreat by himself. If it's the former, then that's a huge blame on Hiruzen. How many people died due to Orochimaru just because Hiruzen was too soft to kill his disciple. Heck, even all the deaths caused by Kabuto's impure world resurrection in the 4th great ninja war can be blamed on this bad decision by Hiruzen.' Fujin sighed after having that thought.

While Fujin wasn't disturbed, and even happy that Orochimaru had defected, almost everyone else in the ninja world was tense.

In the Hokage's office, Hiruzen was present with a solemn face. Apart from Hiruzen, Homura and Koharu were also very worried. Danzo was present too.

Danzo criticized the Hokage, "Hiruzen! You've grown soft. You have let such a huge threat to the village get away."

Before Hiruzen could reply, Koharu chided, "I agree. Orochimaru has the knowledge of a lot of secrets of Konoha. If he were to leak anything to our enemy villages, then it'll be a nightmare for us."

Hiruzen sighed and replied, "It's unfortunate that he chose to defect, but I'm sure that he won't do anything that'll be detrimental for Konoha."

Danzo sarcastically spoke, "Yeah, just like you were sure that he won't defect from Konoha. Not only did he escape from you, he also killed close to a couple of dozen of our ninjas that were chasing after him. And there's no saying what else would he do."

Homura tried to calm the situation down, "Well we can keep arguing about this later. The question right now is what to do right now. With the amount of secrets he was privy to, even the various clan heads are very tense."

Danzo stated, "We have to mark Orochimaru as a missing-nin. Increase his bounty and also send a squad to chase after him and eliminate him."

Hiruzen countered it saying, "Sending any squads behind him will probably just get them killed. And we are very short on manpower as it is."

Koharu questioned, "But we can't leave him unchecked, can we?"

Danzo and Homura agreed with Koharu. Hiruzen then said, "I'll send Jiraiya to chase after him" while thinking, 'Hopefully he'll be able to convince Orochimaru to return and get back on the right track.'

Danzo questioned, "Won't he fall prey to his emotions just like you did? I suggest sending root ninjas alongside Jiraiya"

Hiruzen, however not trusting Danzo's intentions, just dismissed it saying, "They'll just get in his way."

The discussion between the 4 old teammates continued for a while. In the afternoon, there was a council meeting.

All the clan leaders were very tense during this meeting. Orochimaru had worked with all of them at some point, and known many of their clan secrets which would be bad for them if leaked to enemies. A few even blamed Hiruzen for having a soft side for his students.

The council concluded by labelling Orochimaru as a missing-nin, increasing his bounty by 50% and sending Jiraiya to hunt down Orochimaru. The various clan leaders were doubtful whether Jiraiya would really hunt Orochimaru, however they didn't really have any other option.

Every other hidden village was surprised and shocked by this news.

In Sunagakure, Rasa thought, 'First Minato and their jinchuriki's death and now Orochimaru's defection? Are they falling apart? Tch, it sucks that we were hit so badly in the previous war and recovery is so slow due to that bastard Daimyo. Otherwise I'd have definitely taken advantage of this situation.'

In Kirigakure, Yagura received the reports as well. But he was too busy in Kiri's internal problems to pay much attention to this incident.

In Iwagakure, the council debated this matter at length. A few suggested that they should use this opportunity to take revenge for what Minato did to them. While some were cautious, wondering if Konoha was playing some sort of game. At the end, when the discussion came to an end, they asked Onoki what they should do.

Onoki said, "There's no point in hurrying to do something right now. Even without Minato and Orochimaru, Konoha is still very strong. And in any case, there's no way that Brat A won't do something. Let's just watch what he does and how Konoha responds and then decide what to do."

On hearing Onoki's decision, one thought ran through everyone present in the council meeting, 'Fence-sitter indeed!'

In Kumogakure though, the 4th Raikage thought very hard about this incident. After discussing with his council, he decided to see if he could take advantage of Konoha's misfortune.

Chapter 13: Academy Exam

While the whole ninja world discussed Orochimaru's defection, Fujin didn't bother with it and kept his focus on his training. After 2 weeks of training for transformation jutsu, it had finally improved to an acceptable level, though it still had a lot of space for improvement.

After that, he began the training for substitution jutsu. This one was much tougher than the other two. It took nearly twice the time to learn this jutsu and master it to an acceptable level. However, it wasn't what Fujin had thought it to be.

He thought, 'The technique is basically just misdirection. The main focus here is noticing your opponent's focus and the instant he loses focus a bit, replace yourself with an object quickly enough so that the enemy won't notice you. It ain't an instant switcheroo. So it won't work against someone much stronger than you or someone having a Sharingan activated. The object actually has to be very close to you, otherwise the jutsu will become much harder to be performed. Sigh, that makes sense, instant switcheroo would have been too overpowered considering that every academy kid learns this technique.'

It does have a lot of variations though. Genjutsu, transformation jutsu can be used to fool the enemy better. Chakra threads could be used to bring an object at a distance closer to you. It also states that a lower form summoning jutsu could be used to instantly summon the objects around you, while you hightail outta there. Still, though it ain't as overpowered as I thought, it is still very useful. The subtleness of misdirection would be a very important skill to have as a ninja. It could be applied in a lot of scenarios. I should still master it to the point of being able to do it without hand signs. But Body Flicker jutsu has to be focused much more now. I will also have to learn some wind and earth style escape jutsus.'

For nearly 2 months, Fujin kept on attempting these jutsus till he ran out of chakra. This process of training till he ran out of chakra had a marvellous effect on his chakra reserves. They increased considerably during these 2 months.

During these 2 months, he also searched the library for scrolls on increasing Chakra reserves. He found two scrolls very easily. One explained that Chakra increased as one experienced physical and spiritual growth, i.e., it could be increased over time by doing physical exercises and meditation.

Another compared chakra reserves to muscle. Just like how physical straining your muscles would increase muscles, chakra reserves would increase by straining it. So to increase the reserves, one had to keep using his chakra till he ran out of it.

Fujin had been dependent on the above two till now, which explained the rapid growth in his chakra reserves.

Apart from that, he also found a few other ways or theories. One scroll talked about using nature chakra, i.e., the Sage mode, which would increase the chakra reserves and make it more potent for the time the sage mode was activated.

Another scroll talked about increasing cellular activity. By making the cells more active, one could extract more chakra out of each cell. Thus considerably increasing the reserves. It would also help in improving the physique. Fujin was quite impressed with this theory. Sadly the way to increase cellular activity wasn't mentioned. Fujin wondered, 'I doubt it'll be easy to increase cellular activity. Otherwise this method would be very common. I wonder who came up with this theory. Perhaps I could contact that person in the future.'

On reading the scroll entirely, he saw the name of the person who wrote this scroll at the end. He was very surprised by it initially and then concluded, 'Makes sense that it was the snake bastard who came up with this theory. Tch, seems like this method is a dead end. Maybe if I raid his bases in the future and get my hands on his research results, I could find the way if I get lucky, though the chances are pretty low to be honest. Otherwise I could try asking Tsunade. Her knowledge of the human body might exceed Orochimaru's. And she was his ex-teammate. It's possible that she helped Orochimaru on this. Sigh, another thing to consider for the future!'

The other theories were similarly not implementable. Some were not complete, some were detrimental in the long run. Fujin sighed and returned all the scrolls to their place.

He thought, 'I guess my only option is asking Genki. Sadly I don't have a reasonable excuse to explain why I want to increase my chakra level. His first question would be how am I running out of chakra. And I can't tell him that I am practicing the basic jutsus on my own. If told it to him, and he told his colleagues, the word would eventually reach Hiruzen and Danzo. A six year old orphan who can perform all 3 basic ninjutsus, it's a ticket straight into the root!'

After Fujin had those 3 jutsus down, he started to again allot time for other aspects. For the past 2 months, he had decreased his shuriken throwing practice time, dropped clay molding, stopped practicing chakra control and used to meditate only when he was totally drained of chakra.

Among those 3 jutsus, he didn't intend to work much on the clone jutsu as in the future he'll be replacing it with shadow clones and elemental clones. As for transformation jutsu, it was very difficult to completely master. So he just decided to focus on the appearance part.

However, for Substitution jutsu, he planned to master it completely. To the extent where he could do it instantly without the use of any hand signs.

In these 2 months, he also progressed a lot in earth and wind nature training during the lectures. He was now instantly able to crumble a small stone into soil, and also able to cut a stone into 2.

In a rather awkward but hilarious incident, his desk was once full of the soil from crumbled stones and he had to silently clear it after the classes were over.

After that incident, he stopped crumbling the stones in the class. He wondered what he could do during that time though. Sadly he couldn't think of a suitable replacement for earth nature training. So he just decided to further focus on wind nature and started carrying a small metal scrap into class and started to try to cut it.

Over the next few months, he started to go out of his home and roam the streets of Konoha while using transformation jutsu to disguise himself as a random teenager. He identified a lot of isolated places in the bunch of mini-forests within Konoha and started practicing tree climbing. It was very similar to walking on walls. Only difference being, the rougher surface of the trees. He managed to do it within an hour itself and moved onto water walking. Apart from that, he also read up on the gravity seal and a few suppression seals in the library.

Another month went by in a similar manner, leaving less than a month to the final exams. Fujin finally wondered whether to start preparing for the exams, he thought 'Still 25 days for written exams. It's still too early!' However after 'convincing' himself a bit more, he sighed 'Whatever, it's my first exam in this world, might as well get it done with.'

While studying, he did note that the syllabus here was tougher than his previous world. It's probably what would be expected of a 9-10 year old kid, and not from a 6-7 year old kid. He wondered whether the syllabus in the ending years may actually provide a challenge to him.

Soon final exams were upon the academy students. For all other students, the final exams were only the written part. However for the ones in elite batches, more parameters were added. For Fujin's class, Shuriken throwing competition, leaf concentration competition and Taijutsu tournaments were arranged too.

For shuriken throwing, a board with circles of different size but same center was placed and everyone had to hit it. The points depended on in which circle the shuriken hit, with the smallest circle having highest points and largest having the lowest. In all, the Shuriken competition was worth 30 points.

Leaf concentration competition was only to see how long one could keep the leaf from falling down. It was worth 20 points. The one who held it for the longest would get full 20 points and the points of others would depend on how long they kept the leaf from falling as compared to him. For example, if the

one who held it for the longest hold it for 30 minutes, he would get 20 points, whereas if someone else held it for only 21 minutes, he'd get only 14 points.

The Taijutsu tournament was straightforward, with points depending on the rank. It was worth 50 points. And the written exam itself was worth 100 points.

The exams finally happened. Fujin did get a laugh out of how serious everyone was for the exams.

In the written exams, Fujin was confident that he answered everything right. Though he wasn't sure how everyone else performed. Two days after the written exams, the other competitions were to be held. He guessed that they wanted to grade the written papers first, so that Hokage can reward the winner right there.

They started the day with leaf concentration. Fujin, as he had already started to practice water walking, was quite confident in this competition. The competition started. The first guy dropped his leaf in merely 2 minutes. He was from the Inuzuka clan. More than half of the class dropped out within the first 4 minutes. Fujin could hear the groaning and upset voices from them. After 10 minutes, only 9 students were still competing.

After 15 minutes, the only ones left were Suzuki Fujin, Hyuga Hana, Senju Teru, Shimura Nobu and Uchiha Yori. Right around that time, he heard Yori groaning. He knew from the exercises conducted in class, that at max the others could go 20 odd minutes. Senju Teru dropped the leaf during the 19th minute, Nobu dropped it at the 21st minute, whereas Hana continued till the 22nd minute. Fujin decided to build up a decent lead for the points he'll be losing in the Taijutsu tournament. Wanting to stop around half an hour, he continued upto 33rd minute before intentionally making a mistake and dropping the leaf. Though he had outperformed his classmates, he wasn't that worried about attracting a lot of attention, as last year, Itachi didn't drop the leaf for freaking 2 hours! And there were rumors that he didn't drop it but was asked to stop performing it!

On opening his eyes, he saw a few kids looking at him enviously, and Yori nearly fuming at how outmatched he was in this competition.

The next one was the Shuriken throwing competition. Yori, Teru, Nobu, Fujin, Hoka and a couple more scored perfect in this competition. Looking at Yori's fallen face, Fujin noted, 'This competition is indeed unfair for him. From what I've seen, Yori is able to hit a still target while he is moving very accurately.

While he can also hit a moving target on a consistent basis, though not dead center. Sadly for him, the exam wasn't that difficult and hence many others were able to match him. If not, only Teru and maybe Nobu would have been able to match him.

In the Taijutsu competition, Hyuga Hoka ranked first, followed by Teru and Hana. Fujin was ranked 4th and Yori and Nobu were 5th and 6th respectively. Fujin had defeated Yori in the quarterfinals. Admittedly, Yori's technique was superior to Fujin's, however his physique was much weaker. However, in the semis, Fujin lost to Hoka, and in the fight to decide rank 3, he lost to Hana. He noted, 'Damn these Hyugas are tough to fight. Heck, pure Taijutsu competition against them is completely unfair! Even Teru, though he fought well with his Senju style, in the end he still lost. If I meet these Hyugas in chuunin exams or somewhere, I'll be sure to pack a shit lot of explosion tags to fight from far away!'

Hiruzen had visited to spectate the Taijutsu completion. Fujin did note that everyone was much fiercer during the Taijutsu competition, especially Hana. He wondered if that was because it was the exams, or because the Hokage was spectating.

With all the exams completed, the teachers allowed the students a small break while they readied the final scores of everyone.

Chapter 14: Results

While the teachers were calculating the final scores, all the students were waiting around in the training grounds. Fujin internally laughed while noticing, 'Wow, some of them are so nervous, it's so cute, hahaha. Only the 2 yawning Naras and Teru look calm.'

After adding up the scores and cross-checking, the teachers finally came back, led by the Hokage himself. Hiruzen gave another inspiring cum brainwashing speech while praising everyone for their efforts and the display of their talents. After his speech, Genki walked forward and displayed the results on a board.

As Fujin expected, he was the one ranked first. The scores of Top 5 were :
Fujin : $100+20+30+44 = 194$

Hana : $100+13+29+46 = 188$

Teru : $96+12+30+48 = 186$

Nobu : $98+13+30+40 = 181$

Yori : $95+09+30+42 = 176$

Fujin, looking at his rank, was very satisfied. It was as he expected. However, on taking a deeper look and checking the scores in each individual category for him and others, he was a bit shocked, 'Damn! I'm ranked one only due to the leaf concentration competition! If I didn't build a huge lead there, then Hana would have outranked me and Teru would have been tied with me! I didn't expect anyone else to get a 100 in written exams.'

He exhaled a long breath of air in relief, 'I guess I have been incredibly lucky with the marking system of the leaf concentration competition. Chakra control is where I am much superior to these kids from the clans. But sadly for them, their specialities weren't marked in this manner. Yori and Teru could have easily scored much more if the Shuriken competition was made more difficult. Similarly they'd have been much superior than everyone if Ninjutsu was tested. After all, Fireball jutsu is a rank C jutsu. I am sure Genki would have noticed this too. So next year, the marking scheme might be different. Perhaps other exams would be marked similar to the best scorer as well.'

He concluded his thoughts with, 'Even though I ranked first, I still have much to work on. I shouldn't slack off. Instead I should be intensifying my training. I'm sure these guys would be trained hard by their clans during the vacation.'

After coming out of his thoughts, he noticed those around himself. He noticed that Hana and Teru were looking at him with a very aggrieved look. As if he had done them a huge injustice. After a second he realised, that they were probably mad due to the results of the leaf concentration competition. He just decided to ignore them.

After displaying the results, Hiruzen wanted Genki to announce the prize. However after looking at Genki, Hiruzen felt as if Genki was looking very grumpy. He began to guess what made him so irritated. Wondering if he could get to hear an interesting story. He decided to ask him later.

Genki was really irritated. He thought, 'This brat! For 10 fucking months he didn't answer a single question in the class. Always seemed half distracted.'

Who knows what the fuck he does with his left hand always under his desk. The one time I tried to check, all I found was a lot of soil under his desk! And now he scores a perfect 100 on written exams? Don't tell me that after he goes home, all he does is study.'

Right then he felt like the Hokage was looking at him. Seeing Hokage looking at him, he understood what Hokage wanted and quickly announced, "Alright everyone, be silent for a while." After getting the class's attention, he continued "As I had told you guys on the first day, Lord Hokage would come here to watch your performance. However, there's an additional reward for the one who scores the highest in this exam. The best student can ask Lord Hokage for a reward."

On hearing this, the civilian kids were surprised. While the kids from clans seem to already know this. Genki announced loudly, "Suzuki Fujin, step forward."

Fujin walked forward while thinking, 'I wonder what are the limits of the reward. Can I ask for private tutoring from him? Any forbidden or rank S jutsus? Or better yet ask for the scroll of sealing? Hehe, I wonder what face he'd make if I asked for the scroll of sealing or something like Edo Tensei! Oh well, need to show proper respect now I guess.'

When Fujin reached in front of Hiruzen, he bowed respectfully. Seeing that, Hiruzen was very pleased. He smiled kindly and said, "You've performed really well. I can see that you have worked really hard to be able to rank 1st in your class. The will of fire burns strong in you." Fujin thought sarcastically, 'Yeah, right'

Hiruzen continued, "Ask what reward you'd like." Fujin took a glance at Genki, and was a bit surprised at his irritated look. He then looked towards Hiruzen and respectfully said, "Lord Hokage, I would like to get seals that can replicate the effect weights have on our physique, but without any detrimental side effects."

Hiruzen was a bit surprised by what Fujin asked for. However he soon nodded and said, "Alright. However it will require some time to be prepared. I'll call you to my office when it is ready."

Fujin tried to show a very happy and enthusiastic expression. He said in an excited manner, "Thank you very much lord Hokage."

After that he retreated back among the kids. The exams were finally over. Fujin, who had already grown used to the new routine provided by Genki, would finally have better means to strengthen his physique. However before they were dismissed, Genki announced that they would have a class tomorrow. Hearing that most of the kids groaned. Students from other divisions already started their vacations 2 days back. Genki however tried his best to assure everyone that this will be the last class.

Next day, everyone was present in the classroom. Genki arrived and the class greeted him. A few were still upset at being called for class.

Genki started by saying, "Before we start, I have to say that I am very proud of your performance yesterday. Keep up your hard work and soon you all will be splendid Shinobi."

Hearing that calmed down the upset ones. He continued, "I hope that you guys continue your training in the vacation as well. As for today's class, don't worry, it'll be very exciting for you. I will be talking about what options are available to you guys in the future. That is what type of ninja you can become."

After that, Genki started telling them what all options are there in the future. He started with the easiest one to understand, the Medic-nin. He explained what a medic ninja does and emphasized their importance in a squad. He even mentioned Tsunade in order to increase the interest of his students.

He followed it up with various other possibilities like Assault ninja, Tracking ninja, Sensor ninja, Hunter-nin, Infiltration ninja, Communication ninja and so on. He explained the benefits of each and every one of them as well as their restrictions and limitations as well as the risks associated. He also gave a good role model for each option.

He also explained about specialising. He explained, "Genjutsu, Taijutsu, various elemental Ninjutsu, a ninja could become very powerful if specialized in one of these. But having basic capability for the rest is important too. Otherwise you will have a lot of weaknesses."

He explained more about them. The lecture continued for 2 hours straight. Around 10 am, Genki finally ended his lecture. He said, "Alright, with this now you are officially on your vacations."

Fujin was very happy with this lecture. He thought, 'Finally, I got a chance!'

Many students got very excited and started celebrating. However Genki raised his voice and continued, "BUT, think about what we talked about today. Discuss it with your parents and decide the optimal way for you to train. If anyone has any doubts, they can consult me. I'll be in the staff room till noon."

With that he finally ended his class. Many students just ran out of the class. Fujin instead went to the shuriken training ground and started practicing. After half an hour, he decided to visit Genki.

On reaching the staff room, he knocked and entered after being permitted. Genki was the only teacher present. It made sense as vacations had started.

Looking at Fujin, Genki was still irritated a bit. However after a few seconds, he let out a sigh and thought, 'Forget it. I guess he is just too reserved to actively participate in class.'

Fujin was puzzled by looking at Genki sigh. He called him to get his attention, "Sensei"

Genki replied, "So, what queries do you want to clear?"

Fujin replied, "Sensei, could you update my workout routine again and also tell me more about those seals and how to use them?"

Genki nodded and took a look at his workout routine again. After considering the addition of seals, he made a few changes to the routine and asked Fujin to follow them. He said, "Alright, follow this plan and if you get comfortable, you can increase the pressure that the seals can put on you. However don't increase the pressure a lot or you can get injured and won't be able to practice for weeks."

Fujin nodded, "Thank you sensei." However he still stood there and asked something Genki would have never guessed. He said, "Sensei, I thought about the roles you mentioned during the lecture. And I'm really interested in being a sensor. So can you tell how I should train for it?"

Genki was really surprised by this request. Not able to understand the reason, he asked, "Why do you want to become a sensor?"

Fujin replied confidently, "Sensei, if an enemy sneaks up on me or my team in the future, being a sensor would help me save all of us. Also I'll be able to detect enemies from far away and prevent us from falling into any ambush."

That's why I wanted to become a sensor." After finishing, Fujin smirked internally.

Genki was surprised a bit by the answer. All the stuff that Fujin just said, was what he himself had said in class. He thought, 'No wonder he scored full in written exams. But still, something doesn't add up. He seems a bit too interested in becoming a sensor, it's not something that can happen in merely 2 hours. It's as if he knew about sensors beforehand.'

He asked, "Since when did you want to become a sensor ninja?"

Fujin wasn't ignorant of the fact that Genki could have found this request a bit suspicious. He acted to show that he was nervous, and said, "Um... I wasn't aware of sensor ninjas until today's lecture." He then sheepishly rubbed the back of his head while saying, "However I was thinking along those lines from the day you snuck up on me in the library. If it was an enemy, he could have killed me without me even knowing what happened."

Genki was stunned by the reply, 'I never thought that a simple incident as that had such an impact on him. And that was merely his first day! Sigh. Whatever, I guess I'm the one to blame for this obsession of his.'

He then replied, "I am not a sensor, so I won't be able to help you with this." Hearing that he saw a dejected look at Fujin. Fujin was thinking, 'Oh please, not another trick again! I don't wanna wait till next year's final exam!'

However, Genki had good news for Fujin. He continued, "However, I have a good friend who is a sensor and is in the sensor division of Konoha. I'll ask him to train you over the vacation. I hope you don't have any other plans for the vacation."

Fujin put up an excited expression, while thinking, 'Oh, I do have a lot of plans, not just for the vacation but also for the next year or two!' and said, "No sensei!" in an excited manner.

Genki smiled and said that he'll pick up Fujin tomorrow at 8 am. Fujin then took his leave.

Chapter 15: Sensor

Next morning, Genki showed up at Fujin's house at 8 am. After picking him up, they went to a training ground. Fujin saw that a middle-aged man, probably in late 20s or early 30s was waiting. He noticed that the man had Yamanaka crest on him. He thought, 'Should have guessed. In Konoha, they are the best sensors.'

Genki approached him and said, "Yo. This is the kid I was talking about. Fujin, he is Shin. He was my classmate. He is a special jounin. He'll be giving you tips on how to become a sensor. He may seem grumpy at times, but don't worry, he is a very kind person."

Fujin nodded, "Good morning Shin sensei"

He noted that Shin, who was already looking a bit mad at Genki's introduction, seemed even more grumpy after he greeted him.

Shin angrily said, "Damn you Genki. Not only do you give such a shit introduction but now are also trying to pull me into being a sensei?"

He then looked at Fujin strictly and said, "Kiddo, don't ever call me Sensei."

Fujin wondered, 'Why is everyone so strange?' while Genki asked mockingly, "Damn, why do you have to be so grumpy so early in the day?"

Fujin acted to show he was nervous and asked, "So what do I call you?"

Shin thought for a few seconds, and then put up a smile on his face, with his eyes almost sparkling, and said "Call me Shin aniki." His face looked borderline creepy.

Fujin's expression immediately became entirely plain and almost blurted out, 'Why don't I call you old geezer?'

Genki facepalmed and scolded, "Stop being creepy. Let him call you sensei!"

Shin sighed in disappointment and replied, "Alright, leave it."

Then looking at Fujin he said, "Alright kiddo, first let's see how talented you are in becoming a sensor. If your talent is very poor, then I won't be teaching you and you shouldn't waste your time on it either."

He first lectured Fujin a bit about what sensors do and how. Then instructed Fujin to sit in a meditative pose and told him how to sense his chakra field. It

took nearly half an hour for Fujin to sense his chakra field. The instructions were very helpful.

Shin then tested Fujin's chakra field a bit. After some testing, he concluded that Fujin's chakra field had a radius of 7.3 metres.

Shin commented, "7.3 metres, not bad. An average ninja has a chakra field of 4 to 5 metres. In my Yamanaka clan, we train our youngsters in becoming a sensor if their chakra field exceeds 7 metres, while for other Konoha Shinobi, the minimum requirement is 5.9 metres. However that is just the bare minimum. Quite a few in the Yamanaka clan had their chakra field exceed 10 metres before they started training to become a sensor. I myself had a radius of 10.6 metres. So while you can become a sensor, you'll have to do a lot of hard work. So are you sure you still wanna to train to become a sensor?"

Fujin processed all the information quickly and nodded. Shin said, "Alright, I'll guide you. However, the process of training to become a sensor is quite complicated. We will need proper training facilities. I'll take you to the place where Konoha sensors are trained. You will start visiting there daily at 10:30 am from tomorrow onwards."

Genki nodded at his former classmate. He looked at Fujin and informed, "Lord Hokage will have your seals ready by tomorrow. Report to his office tomorrow at 6 pm." Fujin nodded and said, "Thank You sensei"

He then accompanied Shin to the training facility. The location was slightly away from the residential areas. It was in the middle of one of the many mini-forests in Konoha. Fujin memorized the location and then took his leave.

Next day, Fujin reached the training facility at 10:28 am. He saw that Shin was already there. On entering, Fujin saw that there were a lot of rooms in the facility. The facility was mostly empty with very few people actually being there. However Fujin noted that quite a few rooms were occupied. Shin said, "These rooms isolate everything outside it. And also have seals that can eliminate all sound and smell in the room. So you'll have to entirely be dependent on your ability to sense."

Fujin paid attention while Shin was explaining it. He thought, 'I see, this makes sense. I suppose this is where most of Konoha's sensors train. I guess other trainees are occupying other rooms. I don't recall properly, but I think Konoha also had a facility that aided it to monitor the whole border of the village to look for intruders or something along those lines, though it was only shown in

Shippuden and not in part 1. I wonder if that facility is also in here, or is it someplace elsewhere?'

Shin led Fujin in one of the rooms. The room was very dark. All walls were painted black. The room was pretty big too. On entering, Shin explained Fujin how to train to be able to sense with only the help of his chakra. He said, "A blindfold will be placed on you, and after the seals are activated, all sound and smell in the room will be eliminated. After that, a few objects will be placed in the room. These objects have a small amount of Chakra sealed within them in a manner that it can be detected by sensors. So your job will be to detect these objects. We will start by placing the object 3 metres from you, and later increase the range to 5 metres and then to 7 metres. Once you are done with it, then I'll teach you how to increase the size of your chakra field."

Fujin understood and thanked him. He started the training. The training continued till 12:30 with him having no success at all. At that time, Shin ended the training. He said, that they'll daily train here for 2 hours and also gave him a few tips in order to make some progress. He also had a few words of encouragement for Fujin as he said that these things can't be sensed in a day and to not get very upset.

He also provided Fujin with a small cubical object. He said, "This is one of the objects that I had asked you to sense. You can temporarily borrow this to practice at home. Though you won't be able to block your sense of smell and sound, however it shouldn't matter much as you don't specialize in either of those. So just try to practice with your blindfold on. Maybe ask someone else to place the square down somewhere after you have put the blindfold and sat in your meditative posture. That way you won't know where exactly the cube is beforehand. However, don't practice for very long."

Fujin understood all what Shin said and nodded. He then thanked Shin and left for his home. With the academy over, he now had 7 additional hours he could use for training. The training at the facility, travelling to and fro and lunch took slightly less than 3 hours. Fujin allotted all the remaining 4 hours for chakra sensing training temporarily.

In the Hokage office, Hiruzen looked at the custom made seals on his desk. He sighed softly while thinking, 'Konoha's edge in Fuinjutsu is fading fast. With the annihilation of the Uzumaki clan and the passing away of Mito sama, our progress in Fuinjutsu had almost come to a standstill. Kushina and Minato had just started to make progress, but they died too young. Now it almost took 2 whole days to get such a simple seal custom made for Fujin.'

The request is still quite surprising though. Genki did say that the kid was diligent, but asking for such seals at such a young age is incredibly rare. Only a few geniuses among the clans usually train with this. However even they start at a later age in most cases. I do recall him glancing at Genki first before asking for the prize. I guess Genki was the one who suggested the idea to him. I guess I should have a nice chat with him when he visits me in a few hours.'

At 6pm, Fujin reached Hokage office and entered after knocking. He greeted respectfully while bowing his head slightly, "Good evening lord Hokage"

Hiruzen was impressed by it, he thought, 'Well atleast his manners are very good.'

He said, "Look up. Here are the seals you requested. This seal is a special seal designed by our village, it combines the features of a few basic seals in order to create a perfect tool to help train the bodies of our Shinobi. You can manipulate the amount of pressure the seal puts on your body freely. The pressure is applied on the whole body."

Fujin nodded and said, "Thank you Lord Hokage." He then looked at the seal placed in front of him. The seal was engraved on a square shaped paper. He thought, 'There is just one seal. I thought that there would be four or more seals to be applied on various parts of the body like the 4 limbs and so on. I guess this seal is much more advanced. Sigh, I can't analyze this seal then. Still, it's better that I have to place this seal on myself and no one else has to make the seal on my body. This way the chances of someone creating issues will probably be lower. That said, I'm not supposed to know much about Fuinjutsu.'

He then looked up at Hokage, and asked, "Lord Hokage, how do I use this seal?"

Hiruzen replied, "Just place the seal on your chest. It should stick to your body. The seal is reusable, so you can remove it and put it again if you ever wanted to. But don't ever give this seal to anyone else."

Fujin replied, "Yes, Lord Hokage. But how do I increase or decrease the pressure caused by the seal. Also how much pressure can be applied by the seal?"

Hiruzen chuckled at the curiosity of the youngster in front of him. He replied, "Just focus your chakra on the seal. It's similar to how you focus chakra on the leaf during leaf concentration exercise. Then you can decide whether to increase or decrease the pressure and it'll be done automatically. As for the maximum pressure, it can apply a lot. It is equivalent to wearing a body vest of 100kg, 50kg weights on each leg and 25kg weights on each arm."

Fujin was shocked with those numbers. He nearly cursed out, 'Bastard, shouldn't you say that first!' However he maintained control of his emotions. In order to keep up his act, he gulped and showed a bit of fear on his face.

Hiruzen looked at Fujin's expression and smirked internally, thinking, 'Well, this will ensure that he always uses that seal very carefully and doesn't harm himself with it.'

After that, Hiruzen talked a bit with Fujin. He tried to understand what caused Fujin to require these seals. He also asked about his daily life, whether his apartment is comfortable, whether he ate properly and so on. He also made Fujin try controlling the pressure in his presence. He also explained some tips and precautions. For instance, he said that while sleeping, Fujin should always deactivate the seal. He also cautioned Fujin against using the seal while sparring or fighting saying, "if you get used to it, then you will find it hard to properly control your movements when you deactivate the seal." At the end, he praised Fujin's performance in the exams and let him go.

After leaving, Fujin thought, '250kg huh. I really wanna know if anyone actually uses it all. I do wonder how much weight Lee carried. The number was never mentioned in the series.'

While leaving the Hokage office, Fujin had already activated the seal. In front of Hiruzen, he kept the pressure very low. However, after leaving the Hokage building, he increased the pressure. He increased it to a level where it put a decent amount of strain on his body, while still being able to bear it.

He ran all the way to his home and thought, 'Finally, even this simple run was a challenge! Though I will probably have to reduce the pressure a bit in order to be able to complete the workout routine Genki provided. I suppose I'll have to test for a few days in order to get the pressure right. I can track my progress too, as I will know the percentage of max pressure applied by the seal.'

He also thought about what all Hiruzen told him and focused on 2 points, 'He specified to not use the seal while sleeping and fighting. I suppose not following the first one ain't an option. As for 2nd, I can understand his point of view and concerns. If I do it, then trying to fight without that pressure will cause plenty of issues. Of course they can be fixed with some work, however if in the middle of a fight, it'll be deadly. However Kaguya did have a high gravity dimension. So I should try to learn to fight under high pressure too. But there's no need to do it now. Maybe later on I could build a gravity chamber and practice there. That might be more effective.'

Still, I gotta admit that this seal is very good. It applies pressure throughout my body. The pressure on my legs is more than on my arms. Even my back feels the strain. I guess the seal is made in a way that every muscle is properly exercised. Which would result in proper development of the whole body. There won't be any cases of some muscles being developed more and others being underdeveloped. I guess Hiruzen left out the specifics, not expecting me to understand them. This method is much superior to the weights Lee used. I guess I really need to be thankful to Genki. Though, this does make me wonder why these guys haven't given the seal to every Konoha shinobi. Is it that hard to produce?'

Ending his train of thoughts, Fujin started to meditate.

Chapter 16: Second Academic Year

Over the next few days, Fujin experimented with the pressure applied by the seal. He turned 7 year old as well. It took him four days to be able to figure out the amount of pressure he could be under and still complete his workout. It was slightly over 2% of the seals max capacity. He thought, 'Wow, that's very low! Then again, I'm barely 7 years old now. Anyways, at least my physique should develop faster now.'

His sensor training continued as well. It took him 8 days to finally be able to sense the objects placed around him. Yamanaka Shin was a bit disappointed by the progress, he sighed and thought, '8 days, while it ain't bad, it's not very good either. He probably won't be able to be an exceptional sensor. Though with some work, he could be a decent one. While the time is slightly better than the average of other Konoha sensors, it lacks when compared to sensors from my clan. On average, we are able to sense the object on the 7th day, and the more talented ones do it even faster.'

Oh well, Konoha does severely lack sensors. Due to the existence of Hyuga, Aburame and Inuzuka clans, the village didn't really invest much into training sensors. Majority of Konoha's sensors come from my clan. Having another sensor, even just an average one will be good for the village.'

After that, Shin moved the objects away from Fujin and placed them 4-5 metres away. As the basics were the same and the objects were still in his chakra field, he was able to sense it very quickly in less than half an hour. Shin was surprised by the speed. He moved the objects 7 metres away, and the same thing repeated.

This surprised Shin a lot, 'Well this is surprising. Though on average a Yamanaka senses the objects on the 7th day, sensing after moving it away takes some time, with most going into the 8th day and a few even to the 9th day. I guess he has more talent than I thought.'

Fujin's thoughts were, 'While it did take a long time to detect it, to detect after increasing range wasn't tough. The principles were the same and the object was still in my chakra field. I guess the next training would be to increase the size of my chakra field.' He sighed slightly thinking, 'I hope the training for it isn't as boring as this one.'

After the training was done, Shin said to Fujin, "Not bad, you have progressed faster than I thought. Over the next 4 days, keep practicing the same at your home, so that you get more comfortable with sensing chakras in your field. I'll be out on a mission, so I won't meet you. Once I return, we will start training to increase the radius of your chakra field."

Fujin thanked him and left. The next couple of months went in a similar manner. The training for increasing the Chakra field included even longer hours of meditation. He had to focus on one point and try to increase the range in that direction. Fujin thought, 'This is gonna take a long time! I guess over the vacation, I should work on being able to train while also keeping my eyes open instead of putting up a blindfold. That way I can train for this in the class too. Otherwise, there will be no hope of continuing this training after academy restarts.'

Over the vacation, he kept up his physical workouts, which produced great results thanks to the seal. He also trained a lot in the substitution jutsu. His goal was to reduce the time required to perform it and also reduce the number of required hand signs from five to zero. While he didn't make any progress on reducing the number of hand signs, he was able to perform it much faster,

being able to do it in less than a second, though he wasn't sure of the exact time due to having no instruments to measure it.

For clone jutsu, he was able to create 3 clones, which if he recalled correctly, was the requirement for the Genin graduation exam. Transformation jutsu was progressing well too as no one was able to see any issue with him when he was roaming in the streets while being transformed into others. But he hadn't yet tested it against someone who knew him.

As for Chakra control, he became capable of running freely on water surfaces. So he reduced the time allotted to it and only practiced it twice a week instead of daily. While he had some ideas to improve his chakra control even further, he decided to try them later so as to be able to focus more on Ninjutsu.

The wind nature transformation training had taken a step back as Fujin felt that he had trained enough for it. He thought, 'Being able to cut a stone was probably on par with being able to cut a waterfall. Even on the metal, I'm able to leave small scratches on the surface.' As for earth training, he had bought more clay to work on molding it and had also brought a small one foot rock in his home, which he attempted to crumble after being bored of sensor training.

As for sensor training, after teaching Fujin how to increase the radius of his chakra field, the meetings with Shin were reduced to only twice a week. When the vacation ended, Fujin was able to instantly sense chakra if anyone stepped in his chakra field, unless that person had hidden his chakra. However he had to actively focus to do that. If he didn't focus, then he wasn't able to sense anyone. However, he noticed that he was able to passively sense chakra in 0.6 metre radius around himself. Shin said that this was something every sensor developed over time. And was very important as this didn't require attention and the sensor could do other tasks simultaneously.

His radius of chakra field increased to over 4 times of its initial size to slightly over 30 metres. Shin was quite impressed with the pace of his improvement. Shin also taught Fujin to be able to measure the amount of chakra in the ninjas in his chakra field. He explained its uses in identifying the threat level. But he also explained to not be entirely reliant on it as the amount of chakra can be hidden as well. He demonstrated to Fujin as to how he could reduce his chakra that others can sense, or even completely hide it to appear as a common civilian. Shin taught the same to Fujin too.

Fujin had some success in hiding his chakra completely, though it wasn't perfect yet. However, trying to reduce it and putting up a facade of having a

lower chakra level was very difficult as his chakra would fluctuate a lot. On the other hand, Fujin was able to sense chakra without restricting any of his senses or without having to use the hand sign or even while moving around. However, without the hand sign, the radius of the chakra field used to reduce to around 25 metres, and while moving around, it went down to merely 17 metres. It showed that he still had a lot of work to do.

On the last day of vacation, Shin said, "You have improved a lot. In the future you can easily become a good sensor with some more training. So keep working on it. We won't have any more training sessions, but feel free to approach me if you have anything to clarify." Fujin thanked him for all his help over the past 2 months and took his leave. He also returned the chakra objects that he had borrowed.

Fujin was really grateful to him. Though Fujin's capabilities as a sensor were still very poor, in the past 2 months, Shin had drilled all the basics of being a sensor into him. Now he merely needed to put more efforts into becoming a good sensor.

The new year in the academy finally started. Genki was again our class teacher. Fujin guessed that he'll be the class teacher until they became genin.

The new year started with another brainwashing lecture. Fujin, not wanting to waste any time, employed the art he had mastered in his previous life and remastered in this one - The art of faking attention in a lecture. He moved his attention to his chakra field. His plan was to focus on increasing the radius of his chakra field. But upon sensing others, he decided to compare everyone's chakra levels first.

After noticing everyone's chakra levels, he concluded, 'Wow, my chakra reserves are really very good! The efforts taken over the previous year and half have really been very fruitful. It's good to finally be able to see the results of my efforts.'

As for others, Fujin noted that on average the chakra levels of the civilian students, and students from Nara, Yamanaka, Kato, Hatake, Sarutobi and Kurama clans is lower than others. Comparatively, students from Hyuga, Akimichi, Inuzuka, Aburame and Uchiha clans have slightly more chakra. In all, Uchiha Yori's chakra is the 6th highest in the class, while Hyuga Hoka ranked 7th. While that was what he expected, the one with the 5th highest chakra surprised him. He thought, 'Now that's surprising. The 5th highest

chakra level is of Shimura Nobu. I guess Danzo really has a proper training system for kids from his clan.'

As for the ones at the top, there was no surprise. He thought, 'Sigh, these Senjus are really blessed with high chakra reserves. Even the two who aren't that talented have their chakra reserves almost 50% greater than that of Yori. Whereas Teru's chakra reserves are more than twice that of Yori. It's even larger than mine!

Anyways, the chakra levels of everyone is just as expected. Only Nobu was an exception. Which implies that they haven't started to do any training to increase their reserves. Makes sense though, as they are only 7 years old. Anyways, if he doesn't focus on increasing his chakra level, I should be able to increase my chakra reserves to become larger than Teru's.'

He then tried to measure the chakra level of Genki. On measuring it, he thought, 'I see, his and Shin's chakra reserves are very similar to each other. I guess there isn't much difference between an elite chuunin and a special jounin. It's just that a special jounin has a skill that is at Jounin level, while the rest of his skills are only at elite chuunin level. For Shin, it is his capabilities as a sensor.

I gotta agree that becoming a sensor is very convenient. Unless the ones being sensed are sensors too, there's little chance of anyone realising that they are being sensed. Though I suppose all of the Kage level ninjas would have mastered this to a certain extent. Oh well, it's not like I'm planning to hunt any Kages.

Anyways, enough with this class. I should check the ones from other classes, especially the ones who will be becoming genin this year. While the 25 metre radius of my chakra field is pretty insignificant in an open field, in a compact building, it covers a lot.'

With those thoughts, he started to focus on chakras outside his classroom. He first observed the classroom in which he had seen Daisuke run in. Noticing the chakra levels of the students there, he observed that they were really low!

He then focused on the room where he knew the classes for senior most batches happen. He measured their chakras. He observed that there were a few with really pitiful chakra levels. He guessed that most of them won't become genin. On average however, their chakra level was only 20% higher

than Teru's. Though there were a few having much higher chakra levels. Fujin guessed that those kids were from the Senju clan too.

Fujin concluded, 'I see. I suppose by the end of this academic year, my chakra reserves should become high enough and could be considered genin level. And I know all the 3 basic jutsus too. So in terms of chakra and Ninjutsu, I should reach Genin level in a year. Even Taijutsu should reach that stage in less than 2 years. But that won't be enough to actually pass the graduation exam. The graduation exam has so much more than just Taijutsu and Ninjutsu. There's training on moving stealthily, setting up an encampment, incapacitating a target, freeing yourself if you are captured, using a first-aid kit, even hunting, cleaning and cooking a wild animal and a lot more that will be taught in the academy. Without all that knowledge and training, becoming a ninja might well be suicide.

Not to mention, actually trying to graduate so early would be stupid. Itachi was a different case. He is the son of the Uchiha patriarch. I, on the other hand, am merely an orphan. It would attract a lot of unwanted attention.

In addition, just from the point of view of ninjutsu, I still have so much more to learn. I still have to learn a few more basic jutsus like Body Flicker, and not to mention I still have to learn Wind and Earth style jutsus. Apart from that, I'm almost entirely blank when it comes to Genjutsu and have a lot to learn in Kenjutsu. So there's no point in graduating until I have gained everything I could from the academy. If I ever reach a point where I can't make much progress due to being in the academy, then I'll consider graduating early.'

After considering all that, Fujin finally focused on increasing the radius of his chakra field. The remaining lecture went in a similar boring manner. However, at the end of the lecture Genki said something that excited some of his fellow students. He said, "This year, we will start learning Ninjutsu."