

前へ (Mae-e)

Forward

覚えている

Oboete-iru

あなたの暖かな手を

Anata-no Atataka-na Te-wo

I remember

Your warm hand.

覚えている

Oboete-iru

あなたの優しい声を

Anata-no Yasashī Koe-wo

I remember

Your kind voice.

覚えている

Oboete-iru

あなたの真っ直ぐな眼差しと 静かな祈りを

Anata-no Massungu-na Manazashi-to Sizuka-na Inori-wo

I remember

Your honest eyes and quiet prayer.

目を閉じれば

Me-wo Tojire-ba

あなたと過ごした時のことを

Anata-to Sungoshi-ta Toki-no Koto-wo

あなたと共に歌ったことを思い出す

Anata-to Tomo-ni Utatta-koto-wo Omoi-dasu

When I close my eyes

I recall the time we spent together,

And the time we sang together.

音楽の終わりが あなたとの別れではない

Onngaku-no Owari-nga Anata-tono Wakare-dewa-nai

音楽がまたよみがえるように

Onngaku-nga Mata Yomingaeru-yōni

何度でも 何度でも あなたを思い出そう

Nando-demo Nando-demo Anata-wo Omoi-dasō

The end of music is not our farewell.

As music lives again,

So will you live again and again in my memory.

覚えている

Oboete-iru

あなたの大切な夢を

Anata-no Taisetsu-na Yume-wo

I remember

A dream you cherished.

覚えている

Oboete-iru

あなたの明日に向けた笑顔を

Anata-no Ashita-ni Muketa Engao-wo

I remember

A smile you beamed at tomorrow.

あなたとの思い出を胸に

Anata-tono Omoide-wo Mune-ni

一歩一歩 前へ

Ippo Ippo Mae-e

With memories of you in my heart,

One step at a time, I walk forward.

毎日の喜びと悲しみを抱きしめながら

Mainichi-no Yorokobi-to Kanashimi-wo Dakishime-nangara

一歩一歩 前へ

Ippo Ippo Mae-e

Embracing every day's happiness and sadness,

One step at a time, I walk forward.

一歩一歩 前へ

Ippo Ippo Mae-e

One step at a time, I walk forward.

Ken-P's Japanese Pronunciation Guide with IPA for Singers by Kentaro Sato (Ken-P)

1. Vowels

There are 5 vowels in the Japanese language and they are alphabetized as “A” “E” “I” “O” and “U.” Consecutive vowels belong to separate syllables, and there is virtually no diphthong when it comes to music.

- Singing Japanese “A” is always “Open A [ɑ]” as in “**f**ather.” You may use [ʌ] in softer passage.
- Singing Japanese “E” is always “Open E [ɛ]” as in “**f**etch.” Do not use [e].
- Singing Japanese “I” is always “Close I [i]” as in “**f**eet.” However, it can be modified toward “Open I [ɪ],” when it provide unified vowel sounds, or in softer passage.
- Singing Japanese “O” is always “Close O [o]” as in “**f**oe.” Do not use diphthong like [ou].
- Singing Japanese “U” is always “Close U [u]” as in “**f**ood.” However, it can be modified toward “Open U [ʊ]” as in “**f**oot,” if it provides ease of pronunciation for singers in upper resister and/or *forte* passages.
- Japanese “N [n]” often makes an independent syllable.

2. Consonants

B	[b]	as in (b oy)	N	[n]	(n od)
BY	[bj]		NG	[ŋ]	(s ong)
CH	[tɕ]	*or [tʃ] as in (ch ease)	NGY	[ŋj]	
D	[d]	(d ot)	NY	[nj]	(n ew)
F	[f]	(f ood)	P	[p]	(p ot)
FY	[fj]	(f ew)	PY	[pj]	(p uke)
G	[g]	(g ut)	R	[r] or [ɾ]	Japanese R is “flipped R”
GY	[gj]	(g as)	RY	[rj] or [ɾj]	
H	[h]	(h it)	S	[s]	(s ing/ t oss)
HY	[ç]	*or [hj] as in (h uman)	SH	[ç]	*or [ʃ] as in (sh ed)
J	[dz]	*or [dʒ] as in (j et)	T	[t]	(t ea)
K	[k]	(k ing)	TS	[ts]	(l et’s)
KY	[kj]	(c ute)	V	[v]	(v ictory)
L	[l]	(l ean)	W	[w]	(w ater)
M	[m]	(m all)	Y	[j]	(y ou)
MY	[mj]	(m ute)	Z	[dz]	(z ebra)

- “F” “L” and “V” are only used for foreign-origin words.
- If “NG [ŋ]” and “NGY [ŋj]” (aka *Bidakuon*) are difficult to produce, it is acceptable to use “G [g]” for NG and “GY [gj]” for “NGY.”
- One **MAY NOT** use “English R [ɹ],” “Rolled R [r]” nor “German/French R [ʀ]” for “Japanese flipped R,” but **MAY** use “L [l]” if s/he cannot produce [r] or [ɾ].
- Doubled consonants (EX. “a-**tt**a,” “a-**cc**hi” and “i-**ss**e-i”) indicate small stops between proceeding vowels. In my music, they can be sung without doubled consonants (EX. “a-ta,” “a-chi” and “i-se-i”) because they are already articulated by rests or *staccatos*. So please do observe and execute such rests and *staccatos* correctly.