

LESSON NOTES

Lower Intermediate #37

U.G. Phone Home

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KANJI

1. ユウジ: 昨日、久しぶりに実家に電話したんだけど、母さん、俺のこと最初誰だかわからなくてさあ。
2. 里美: あんた、声変わりでもしたんじゃないの。
3. ユウジ: まさか。
4. 里美: ユウジ今、風邪ひいてるから、風邪声だっただけよ。
5. ユウジ: そうかなあ。年をとると、忘れっぽくなるって言うから、俺の声も忘れちゃったのかと思った。
6. 里美: 何言ってんの。あんたの声は普段から子供っぽいついていうか、子供みたいに高いじゃない。でも今はガラガラ声だから誰でも間違えうわよ。
7. ユウジ: (情けない声で) お母ちゃん、俺のこと忘れてたりしないよね。
8. 里美: あたり前じゃない。あんたはいつも女々しいわね。このマザコンが！！

KANA

1. ユウジ: きのう、ひさしづりにじっかにでんわしたんだけど、かあさん、おれのことさいしょだれだかわからなくてさあ。
2. さとみ: あんた、こえがわりでもしたんじゃないの。
3. ユウジ: まさか。

CONT'D OVER

4. さとみ: ヌウジいま、かぜひいてるから、かぜごえだっただけよ。
5. ヌウジ: そうかなあ。としをとると、わすれっぽくなるっていうから、おれのこえもわすれちゃったのかとおもった。
6. さとみ: なにいってんの。あんたのこえはふだんからこどもっぽいっていうか、こどもみたいにたかいじゃない。でもいまはガラガラごえだからだれでもまちがうわよ。
7. ヌウジ: (なさけないこえで) おかあちゃん、おれのことわすれたりしないよね。
8. さとみ: あたりまえじゃない。あんたはいつもめめしいわね。このマザコンが！！

ROMANIZATION

1. YŪJI: Kinō, hisashi buri ni jikka ni denwa shita n da kedo, kāsan, ore no koto saisho dare da ka wakaranakute sã.
2. SATOMI: Anta, koe-gawari demo shita n ja nai no.
3. YŪJI: Masaka.
4. SATOMI: Yūji ima, kaze hiite ru kara, kaze-goe datta dake yo.
5. YŪJI: Sō kanā. Toshi o toruto, wasure-ppoku naru tte iu kara, ore no koe mo wasurechatta no ka to omotta.
6. SATOMI: Nani ittenno. Anta no koe wa fudan kara kodomo-ppoi tte iu ka, kodomo mitai ni takai ja nai. Demo ima wa gara gara goe da kara dare demo machigau wa yo.

CONT'D OVER

7. YŪJI: (nasake nai koe de) o-kāchan, ore no koto wasuretari shinai yo ne.
8. SATOMI: Atarimae ja nai. Anta wa itsumo memeshii wa ne. Kono maza-kon ga!

ENGLISH

1. YUJI: I called home last night for the first time in a while, and my mother didn't recognize my voice at first.
2. SATOMI: Maybe your voice changed or something?
3. YUJI: No way!
4. SATOMI: You have a cold right now, so you sounded stuffy.
5. YUJI: You think? They say that people get forgetful as they age. So I thought maybe my mother forgot my voice.
6. SATOMI: What are you talking about? Your voice is always high-pitched and child-like. But now you sound coarse. So obviously people are not going to recognize you.
7. YUJI: (in a pitiful voice) Mom, you wouldn't forget me, would you?
8. SATOMI: Of course not! You're always such a sissy! You momma's boy!

VOCABULARY

Kanji	Kana	Romaji	English
誰	だれ	dare	who

声変わり	こえがわり	koegawari	change (break) of voice,
普段	ふだん	fudan	usually
忘れっぽい	わすれっぽい	wasureppoi	forgetful
女々しい	めめしい	memeshī	effeminate

GRAMMAR

(i) でも(*de mo*) in 声変わりでも(*koe gawari de mo*)

でも(*de mo*) in 声変わりでも(*koe gawari de mo*) is used like "noun + *de mo*" to indicate the preceding noun as one possibility. It equivalently means "-- or something" in English. When it is used in a invitation, it works as a polite expression because it implies other possibilities for listeners to choose.

Formation:

* Noun + *de mo*

映画でも ; *eiga de mo*; movie or something

Examples:

美香、遅いなあ。寝坊でもしたのかな。

Mika, osoi nā. Nebō de mo shita no ka na.

Mika is so late. I wonder if she overslept or something?

お茶でも飲みませんか？

O-cha de mo nomimasen ka?

Won't you have a cup of tea or something?

(ii) --っぽい(--*ppoi*) in 忘れっぽい(*wasureppoi*)

"--っぽい" (-*ppoi*), is a suffix that indicates something or someone has the characteristics or attributes of the attached noun, adjective or verb stem to which the suffix is attached. The meaning is "looks like," "-ish," "-like," "easy to," or "apt to." This expression is usually used in informal situations.

When -*ppoi* is used with verbs such as "*okoru* (get angry)," "*akiru* (get bored with)" or "*wasureru* (forget)," it usually means "easy to be in the state expressed by the verb used."

Usually, the "---*ppoi*" words imply a negative nuance because it is used when a thing or

person should not have such characteristic or attribute identified by the attached noun, adjective or verb. For example, 子どもっぽい; *kodomo ppoi*, which means "childish," is used to indicate someone who should not be like a child anymore but is still like a child.

Formation:

*Verb (*masu*-form) + っぽい (" - *ppoi*")
 怒りっぽい; *okori ppoi*; easily gets angry

*Noun + 「っぽい」 (" - *ppoi*")
 子どもっぽい; *kodomo ppoi*; childish

**I*-adjective (stem) + っぽい (" - *ppoi*")
 白っぽい; *shiro ppoi*; whitish

**Na*-adjective (stem) + っぽい (" - *ppoi*")
 皮肉っぽい; *hiniku ppoi*; ironic

(iii) --たり(--*tari*) in 忘れたり(*wasure tari*)

--たり(--*tari*) in 忘れたり(*wasure tari*) is the *-tari* form which is used to list an incomplete set of actions or states. Commonly this construction is used with verbs, and it means 'things like --' or '-- among other things'. So, --*tari* is often used twice in a sentence, like "--*tari*, --*tari*." But, --*tari* can be used one time in a sentence as in today's dialog. In that case, what the speaker thinks is most important or worst is indicated with --*tari*.

Plain form	Past plain form	Add <i>ri</i>	<i>Tari</i> form
泳ぐ	泳いだ	り	泳いだり
飲む	飲んだ	り	飲んだり

Examples:

タバコを吸ったりしてはいけません。
Tabako o suttari shite wa ikemasen.
 You don't smoke.
 (* Smoking is what the speaker thinks worst.)

まさか、宿題を忘れたりしてないよね。
Masaka, shukudai o wasure tari shite nai yo ne.
 By chance, you forgot doing your homework, didn't you?
 (* Forgetting homework is what the speaker thinks worst.)