

Module 1-4 Devoiced Vowels

In this module:

- You will learn when vowels are devoiced in Japanese.
- You will listen to and practice pronouncing words with devoiced vowels.

If you hear Japanese spoken in the Tokyo area especially, the (unaccented) vowels [i] and [u] automatically become voiceless or lost when the vowels appear between any two voiceless consonants ([k], [s], [t], [p], or [h]) or at the end of a sentence after a voiceless consonant.

Practice: Listen to the audio file and practice pronouncing the words/phrases below. Devoiced vowels are highlighted.



1. よろしくおねがいします。

(Nice to meet you/
Thank you very much in advance.)

2. そうですか。

(I see.)

3. がくせい



4. きく

(to listen)

5. あした

(tomorrow)

6. つくえ

