

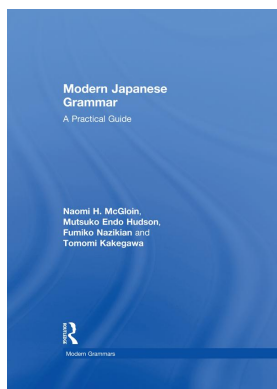
This article was downloaded by: 10.2.97.136

On: 21 Sep 2023

Access details: *subscription number*

Publisher: *Routledge*

Informa Ltd Registered in England and Wales Registered Number: 1072954 Registered office: 5 Howick Place, London SW1P 1WG, UK



## **Modern Japanese Grammar A Practical Guide**

Naomi H. McGloin, Mutsuko Endo Hudson, Fumiko Nazikian, Tomomi Kakegawa, Sarah Butler

### **Remembering and forgetting**

Publication details

<https://test.routledgehandbooks.com/doi/10.4324/9780203856628.ch57>

Naomi H. McGloin, Mutsuko Endo Hudson, Fumiko Nazikian, Tomomi Kakegawa

**Published online on: 04 Oct 2013**

**How to cite :-** Naomi H. McGloin, Mutsuko Endo Hudson, Fumiko Nazikian, Tomomi Kakegawa.

04 Oct 2013, *Remembering and forgetting from: Modern Japanese Grammar, A Practical Guide*

Routledge

Accessed on: 21 Sep 2023

<https://test.routledgehandbooks.com/doi/10.4324/9780203856628.ch57>

**PLEASE SCROLL DOWN FOR DOCUMENT**

Full terms and conditions of use: <https://test.routledgehandbooks.com/legal-notices/terms>

This Document PDF may be used for research, teaching and private study purposes. Any substantial or systematic reproductions, re-distribution, re-selling, loan or sub-licensing, systematic supply or distribution in any form to anyone is expressly forbidden.

The publisher does not give any warranty express or implied or make any representation that the contents will be complete or accurate or up to date. The publisher shall not be liable for an loss, actions, claims, proceedings, demand or costs or damages whatsoever or howsoever caused arising directly or indirectly in connection with or arising out of the use of this material.

# 57

## Remembering and forgetting

### 57.1 Spontaneous expression of recalling

To indicate that one has just recalled something, the verb **omoidasu** ‘to recall’ is used in the past affirmative form, i.e. **omoidashita/omoidashimashita**.

A: 私のこと、覚えてる？ (I)  
**Watashi no koto, oboeteru?**  
Do you remember me?

B: ええと、ああ、思い出した。  
**Eeto, aa, omoidashita.**  
Um, oh, I remember you now.

ちょっと用事を思い出しましたので、失礼します。  
**Chotto, yooji o omoidashimashita node, shitsuree shimasu.**  
I just remembered something I have to do, so I will excuse myself.

### 57.2 Expressing what one remembers

To express what one remembers, use X **o oboete iru/imasu**.

一年生の時の先生を覚えています。  
**Ichinensee no toki no sensee o oboete imasu.**  
I remember my first-grade teacher.

初めてデートした場所を覚えています。  
**Hajimete deeto shita basho o oboete imasu.**  
I remember the place of my first date.

It is also common to say X **no koto o oboete iru/imasu** to indicate that you remember things about X.

#### ▶ 18.1

初めてお酒を飲んだときのことを覚えています。  
**Hajimete osake o nonda toki no koto o oboete imasu.**  
I remember the time when I had alcohol for the first time.

幼なじみのことを覚えている。  
**Osananajimi no koto o oboete iru.**  
I remember (things about) my childhood friends.

To say that one remembers a past action, **V-ta koto o oboete iru/imasu** is used.

よく友達がノートを貸してくれたことを覚えています。  
**Yoku tomodachi ga nooto o kashite kureta koto o oboete imasu.**  
I remember that my friend often lent me his/her notebook.

The word **kioku** ‘memory’ is also used to denote that one has a memory of a person, place or a thing. **kioku** is mainly used in the following two sentence structures.

- **kioku ga aru** ‘to have the memory of’

What one remembers is expressed by the modifier that precedes **kioku ga aru**.

生まれた時の記憶があります。

**Umareta toki no kioku ga arimasu.**

I have the memory of when I was born.

ここに財布を置いた記憶があるんだけど...

**Koko ni saifu o oita kioku ga aru n da kedo...**

I have the memory of putting my wallet here, but...

### ▶ 7.2.3; 25

- **kioku shite iru** ‘to remember,’ ‘to have... in mind’

When using **kioku shite iru**, what one remembers is expressed in the following ways.

- **N + o kioku shite iru**

小学校の時の先生の名前をすべて記憶しています。

**Shoogakkoo no toki no sensee no namae o subete kioku shite imasu.**

I remember the names of all the teachers from my elementary school.

- **Clause + koto o kioku shite iru**

### ▶ 18.1

よく兄弟喧嘩したことを記憶しています。

**Yoku kyoodai-genka shita koto o kioku shite imasu.**

I remember that we often had sibling fights.

- **Clause + to kioku shite iru**

### ▶ 26.2

母は若い頃パートをしていたと記憶している。

**Haha wa wakai koro paato o shite ita to kioku shite iru.**

I remember that my mother had a part-time job when she was young.

To say that you remember seeing someone, somewhere, or something, **mioboe ga aru** is used. The word **mioboe** means recognition or familiarity. The object of **mioboe ga aru** is marked by the particle **ni**.

この場所に見覚えがある。

**Kono basho ni mioboe ga aru.**

I remember seeing this place. (This place looks familiar to me.)

私は田中さんに見覚えがあります。

**Watashi wa Tanaka-san ni mioboe ga arimasu.**

I remember seeing Mr/Ms Tanaka. (Mr/Ms Tanaka looks familiar to me.)

## 57.3

### Asking people whether they remember a person, place, or thing

To ask people whether they remember a person, place, or thing, you can use any of the sentence structures discussed in 57.2 in the form of a question, but the most commonly used structure is **oboete iru?/oboete imasu ka**.

昔のウォークマンを覚えていますか。

**Mukashi no wookuman o oboete imasu ka.**

Do you remember the old-fashioned Walkman?

田中さんのこと、覚えてる？

**Tanaka-san no koto, oboete ru?**

Do you remember Mr/Ms Tanaka?

この車に見覚えがありますか。

**Kono kuruma ni mioboe ga arimasu ka.**

Do you remember seeing this car?

## 57.4

## Expressing that one has forgotten something or someone

To say that one has forgotten something, use the verb **wasureru** ‘to forget’ in the past tense form, i.e. **wasureta/wasuremashita**. Because forgetting is something that occurs inadvertently, the verb **wasureru** ‘to forget’ is also often used with the auxiliary verb **shimau** ‘to do . . . , inadvertently/unfortunately.’

## ▶ 19.2.5

パスワードを忘れてしまった。

**Pasuwaado o wasurete shimatta.**

I have forgotten my password.

初めてデートした場所を忘れました。

**Hajimete deeto shita basho o wasuremashita.**

I have forgotten the place where I had my first date.

To say that one has forgotten someone, **no koto o wasureru** is commonly used.

田中さんのことは忘れました。

**Tanaka-san no koto wa wasuremashita.**

I have forgotten Mr/Ms Tanaka.

幼なじみのことをすっかり忘れてしまった。

**Osananajimi no koto o sukkari wasurete shimatta.**

I completely forgot about my childhood friend.

**Oboete inai** ‘not remember’ can express more or less the same meaning as ‘to have forgotten.’

この人のことを覚えていません。

**Kono hito no koto o oboete imasen.**

I don’t remember this person.

母の出身地を覚えていない。

**Haha no shusshinchi o oboete inai.**

I don’t remember my mother’s place of birth.

The verb **dowasure suru** is used to indicate that something has just slipped one’s mind.

あの人の名前を度忘れしてしまいました。

**Ano hito no namae o dowasure shite shimaimashita.**

I have forgotten that person’s name just now.

地名を度忘れした。

**Chimee o dowasure shita.**

The name of the place slipped my mind.

When one wants to sound apologetic about forgetting something, the V-te **shimau** structure needs to be used to make the unintended nature of forgetting explicit.

## ▶ 19.2.5

宿題を忘れてしまいました。

**Shukudai o wasurete shimaimashita.**

I forgot my homework.

顧客の名前を忘れてしまった。

**Kokyaku no namae o wasurete shimatta.**

I forgot my client's name.

## 57.5

## Asking people whether they have forgotten something or someone

To ask whether someone has forgotten something or someone, use the following sentence structures.

**X o wasureta n desu ka.** 'Is it that you forgot X?'

**X o wasurete shimatta n desu ka.** 'Is it that you inadvertently forgot X?'

**X no koto o wasurete shimatta n desu ka.** 'Is it that you inadvertently forgot about X?'

切符を忘れたんですか。

**Kippu o wasureta n desu ka.**

Is it that you forgot the ticket?

田中さんのことをわすれてしまったんですか。

**Tanaka-san no koto o wasurete shimatta n desu ka.**

Did you forget about Mr/Ms Tanaka?

Another way to ask whether people have forgotten something is to use the negative question **oboete inai no?/n desu ka.**

この人を覚えていないの？

**Kono hito o oboete inai no?**

You don't remember this person?

さっき言ったことを覚えて (い) ないんですか。

**Sakki itta koto o oboete (i)nai n desu ka.**

You don't remember what I just said?