

KARAOKE SCENE

The Japanese word "karaoke" is now listed not only in Japanese dictionaries but also in the latest edition of The Oxford English Dictionary, proving the word has become common throughout the world.

What does 'karaoke' mean?

Though karaoke was at first an entertainment mainly for business people, it has grown to be a nationwide amusement, thanks to technological development and a new business called the "karaoke box."



Originally in the form of tape of a popular song's accompaniment, karaoke evolved to the compact disk, which can locate the beginning of a song immediately. This development also made possible the enhancement of video scenes to create an atmosphere suitable to each song, displayed on a TV monitor along with the words

About 50 million Japanese people are *karaoke* amateurs. Each group of singers will often rent a room called a "karaoke box." The nation has about 14,000 *karaoke* box buildings.