Some common examples of "imikotoba"

1) If you are preparing a speech for a wedding, do not use any words that infer divorce or separation. For example, words that repeat the same sound (e.g., tabitabi) infer remarriage.

2) When the speech is for funerals, do not use any words that infer "something sad will happen and family members imagine "failure" in daily conversation.

3) During the school entrance exam season avoid any words that make examinees fear of separation. For example, words that repeat the same sound (e.g., tsugitsugi) infer remarriage.

Below is Mr. Pole's speech at his friend's wedding. Make the appropriate changes to the "imikotoba" in the boxes below.

ご結婚おめでとうございます。

男子と女子が将来を背負って、新しい人生を歩む時、両親は心から喜びを表します。

Congratulations on your wedding.

私は新郎の大輔さんの同僚のポールと申します。これからも一緒に働くことを約束します。

Congratulations to the happy couple.

以下、私の挨拶を終わりにさせていただきます。

Finally, I wish you much love and happiness.

You are starting a new life today.

Congratulations on your wedding.

Congratulations to the happy couple.

Below is the Japanese. He told me not to use "imikotoba." I have never heard of "imikotoba" before. What does it mean, Hirayama-san?

A friend of mine is getting married next month and I have to give a speech at the wedding. I wrote a speech and asked my friend to check the Japanese. He told me not to use "imikotoba." I have never heard of "imikotoba" before. What does it mean, Hirayama-san?

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