

# E7 - The First Youth Match

Source: [Crunchyroll](#)

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QC:

(Please feel free to edit the speaker names if incomplete or inaccurate. Names are handled on a best-effort basis depending on the info on the source file. Dialogue is left as is.)

**[00:03] Hana**

I'm a fan of Aoi Ashito.

Probably his first in the world.

**[00:11] Hana**

So there you have it. You never  
know when fans might be listening,

**[00:15] Hana**

so watch what you say. End of discussion!

**[00:24] Ashito**

Hey. What's up?

**[00:38] Hana**

Y-You didn't hear all that, did you?

**[00:42] Ashito**

Can I have that lunch?

**[00:43] Hana**

Huh?

**[00:45] Ashito**

The lunch you were talking about.

**[00:47] Ashito**

Is this it?

**[02:23] Sign**

The First  
Youth Match

**[02:24] Ashito**

Hey, tell me something.

**[02:26] Ashito**

Why do you root for me so much?

**[02:30] Ashito**

I mean, I wasn't eavesdropping as such...

**[02:34] Ashito**

I was just sitting there when I heard old man  
Fukuda's voice, followed by yours...

**[02:39] Ashito**

Then, I heard my name, so I couldn't just *leave*...  
and I ended up hearing the whole thing.

**[02:45] Hana**

That's exactly what eavesdropping is!

**[02:49] Hana**

Don't you have a match? Just go already.

**[02:53] Ashito**

Well, what I'm trying to say is...

**[02:56] Ashito**

Thanks.

**[02:58] Ashito**

For persuading my mom and  
all that. You've been really—

**[03:02] Hana**

Noriko-san?

**[03:04] Hana**

Oh, yeah! That was the first thing I was  
going to mention when I saw you next.

**[03:08] Hana**

Your mom is such an amazing woman!

**[03:11] Hana**

Trust me on this.

**[03:12] Hana**

We got really close over the phone.

**[03:15] Hana**

Just from listening to her talk,  
I could tell she really cares about you.

**[03:22] Ashito**

I know.

**[03:24] Ashito**

You're a good person.

**[03:26] Hana**

Huh?

**[03:27] Ashito**

That's what I planned to say to you when  
I saw you next. You're a good person.

**[03:34] Hana**

I know.

**[03:36] Ashito**

You know what? You're kinda cute.

**[03:39] Ashito**

Yeah.

**[03:40] Ashito**

I think you're cute.

**[03:42] Ashito**

Cu—

**[03:47] Togashi**

Bein' on this youth team ain't all that bad!  
Gotta love that all-you-can-eat cafeteria.

**[03:54] Ashito**

J-Jeez, what am I saying?

**[03:57] Ashito**

That didn't come out right.

**[04:01] Hana**

Well, I guess I can tell you.

**[04:04] Hana**

So, uh, I'm rooting for you because you remind me of a certain player.

**[04:12] Hana**

And that person is someone very important to me.

**[04:16] Hana**

Watching you takes me back to a time when I was totally crazy about him.

**[04:21] Hana**

So I feel like I want to root for you for my own sake.

**[04:28] Ashito**

Really? I remind you of that guy, huh? He must be an awesome player!

**[04:35] Hana**

He is!

**[04:36] Hana**

Hey, listen! I have a dream.

**[04:40] Hana**

I want to...

**[04:44] Hana**

H-Hey! Where'd my lunch go?

**[04:47] Ashito**

Huh? I ate it all.

**[04:49] Ashito**

It was good.

**[04:50] Hana**

Don't you have a match soon?!

**[04:53] Hana**

I said you could have *one!*  
Why would you stuff your face?!

**[04:56] Ashito**

Don't worry, I'll be fine!

**[04:58] Hana**

Give them back! I'm sticking my hand down your throat!

**[05:01] Ashito**

What?! Hold on, you're...

**[05:05] Ashito**

Stop it, you idiot! Are you insane?!

**[05:10] Hana**

If you want to go pro,  
learn to take care of your body!

**[05:19] Togashi**

What's up with that girl?

**[05:21] Togashi**

She's scary.

**[05:24] Benzen**

This intrasquad game is a 30-minute, one-off  
7-on-7 match, using only half the field.

**[05:28] Benzen**

Offside rule applies.

**[05:30] Benzen**

This match is just for the new players.

**[05:33] Benzen**

We don't have enough goalkeepers,  
so I'll fill in between the sticks. I can't wait!

**[05:39] Date**

And as Fukuda mentioned,  
if you show your worth in this game,

**[05:45] Date**

you will be promoted to  
the A team immediately.

**[05:48] Date**

I will instruct both teams in the tactics  
I have come up with for them.

**[05:52] Date**

Follow the basic plan, though you are free to add your own individual flare.

**[06:00] (Flashback) Date**

There's no way he's going pro.

**[06:16] Ashito/I**

*I won't have you judging me  
before I even get to play.*

**[06:20] Ashito/I**

*And you're dead wrong.*

**[06:24] Ashito/I**

*It's not a matter of if I can or can't  
make it as a pro, Coach Stone Face.*

**[06:32] Ashito/I**

*I will definitely go pro.  
There's no "want" or "hope" about it.*

**[06:37] Ashito/I**

*I absolutely will\*.*

**[06:39] Ashito/I**

So even if others think it's impossible,  
that means nothing to me. It doesn't matter.

**[06:45] Ashito/I**

Not to mention, I have plenty\*  
*of people rooting for me.*

**[06:49] Ashito/I**

*To pay them back, I've got to show results.  
That's my first step toward becoming a pro.*

**[06:54] Ashito**

All righty! My first youth match!

**[06:57] Ashito**

That ticket to the A team will be mine!

**[07:05] Ashito/I**

*Score! I'm gonna score!*

**[07:07] Ashito/I**

*I'll show 'em all!*

**[07:10] Ashito**

Yuma! To me!

**[07:11] Yuma**

Huh?

**[07:12] Ashito**

Gimme the ball!

**[07:13] Ashito**

I'll show you that I'm the  
reincarnation of Roberto Baggio!

**[07:16] Ashito**

Though Roberto Baggio's still alive!

**[07:20] Yuma**

You're a funny one.

**[07:21] Tachibana**

Give me...

**[07:22] Tachibana**

...the ball!

**[07:24] Kuroda**

Yuma! Pass it back to me!

**[07:26] Ashito**

No, don't! Give it to *me!*

**[07:30] Yuma**

Here you go, Kuroda.

**[07:31] Ashito**

Huh?

**[07:45] Togashi**

Aw, man! Five centimeters  
lower and it woulda gone in!

**[07:49] Parents**

Wow, that was close.

**[07:51] Ashito**

What are you doing, Togashi?

**[07:52] Togashi**

Huh?

**[07:53] Ashito**

That was a great shot, but why'd you shove  
Kuroda outta the way? He's on *our* side.

**[07:58] Ashito**

Stop messing around, will ya?  
We're trying to play soccer here!

**[08:03] Togashi**

The only way to show your worth in a  
30-minute half-field mini-game is to score.

**[08:09] Togashi**

Even defenders need to go for it.

**[08:12] Ashito**

That's not an answer. You can't go  
stealing the ball from your own team!

**[08:17] Ashito**

Don't do that again.

**[08:19] Ashito**

And you're a defender. Focus on your job.

**[08:22] Parent C**

Did you hear that dull  
clunk when it hit the bar?

**[08:29] Ohtomo/I**

*Let's go score!*

**[08:30] Togashi/I**

*I'm gonna score!*

**[08:32] Ashito/I**

*I've got to score!*

**[08:37] Tachibana/I**

*Wow, that pass got through to me?*

**[08:39] Tachibana/I**

*It came right where I needed it.*

**[08:44] Tachibana/I**

*This is no time to be impressed.*

**[08:45] Tachibana/I**

*If I want to score in a game at this level...*

**[08:50] Tachibana**

Whoa!

**[08:57] Tsukishima**

Aoi Ashito doesn't look up at all, does he?

**[09:01] Date/I**

*Is he planning to do it all on his own?*

**[09:05] Yuma**

Ya tryin' to dribble it through? Won't work!

**[09:07] Kuroda**

Out to the wing! Let's attack down the wing!

**[09:11] (Flashback) Ashito**

You're a defender. Focus on your job.

**[09:14] Ashito/I**

*Don't do anything that'll mess up my play.*

**[09:17] Ashito/I**

*You're a defender. Focus on your job.*

**[09:20] Ashito/I**

*I'm doing this for me! I'm the one who scores!*

**[09:24] Ashito/I**

*Don't get in my way!*

**[09:31] Ashito/I**

*I don't care if it's egoistic.*

**[09:34] Ashito/I**

*Call me selfish all you want.*

**[09:36] Ashito/I**

*For this match...*

**[09:37] Sign (Top)**

Savings Account

**[09:37] Sign (Center)**

Deposit (Yen)

**[09:37] Sign (Right)**

Balance (Yen)

**[09:39] Ashito/I**

*A match that can get me into the A team...*

**[09:44] Ashito/I**

*I will be the one who scores!*

**[09:56] Yuma**

All right!

**[09:58] Masuko/I**

*I guess he knows better than to charge right in.*

**[10:01] Asari**

Masuko.

**[10:02] Asari**

Don't lose that No. 2, okay?

But keep your distance.

**[10:05] Masuko**

I know.

**[10:07] Asari/I**

*We have enough people behind the ball.*

**[10:09] Asari/I**

*If we can hold this line...*

**[10:18] Masuko/I**

*What... What's he doing?*

**[10:21] Masuko/I**

*He's just walking...*

**[10:25] Asari**

What are you *doing*, Masuko?!

**[10:26] Asari**

Don't go toward him!

**[10:28] Masuko**

Huh?

**[10:44] Ashito**

Eat that!

**[10:46] Ashito**

How d'ya like that?!

**[10:47] Yuma**

Nice!

**[10:47] Ashito**

Did you all see that?!

**[10:49] Ashito**

Did you see that, Yuma?

**[10:49] Ohtomo**

I-I can't believe he scored...

**[10:53] Ohtomo**

But what was that just now?

**[10:57] Tachibana/I**

*I don't get it. What was that?*

**[10:59] Tachibana/I**

*Aoi was just aimlessly walking  
around in front of the goal.*

**[11:04] Tachibana/I**

*Then, seconds later, he darts forward  
and breaks through their defensive line.*

**[11:10] Tachibana/I**

*But what was the logic behind it?*

**[11:13] Ashito/I**

*Mom, Shun, I did it!*

**[11:16] Ashito/I**

*But I'm not done yet!*

**[11:17] Ashito**

I can do so much more!

**[11:20] Ashito**

I'm gonna win this by scoring  
3.86 trillion more goals!

**[11:24] Tsukishima**

Oh, bravo, Aoi Ashito!  
A player who defies logic!

**[11:30] Tsukishima**

They defended well,  
preventing shooting chances

**[11:32] Tsukishima**

and plugging the gaps so that  
no one could run in behind.

**[11:36] Tsukishima**

But when Aoi-kun started walking,  
it upset the defense's rhythm.

**[11:41] Tsukishima**

No one expects a player to  
start walking in that situation,

**[11:45] Tsukishima**

and that action disrupted  
the defensive line!

**[11:48] Tsukishima**

It drew Masuko out of the line and he  
ended up getting too close to Aoi-kun.

**[11:55] Tsukishima**

How on earth did he do it?

**[11:58] Tsukishima**

It's impossible unless you know how lots of  
players, including Yuma, are likely to move!

**[12:05] Date**

However...

**[12:07] Date**

Tsukishima, don't you feel it?  
Something doesn't quite fit.

**[12:11] Yuma**

You're amazin', Ashito!

**[12:16] Yuma**

That play required *precise* calculations.

**[12:19] Yuma**

So spill: when'd ya come up with that plan?

**[12:24] Ashito**

Oh, to tell you the truth,  
I don't remember at all.

**[12:28] Date**

Aoi Ashito.

**[12:30] Date**

He might have an interesting skill...

**[12:33] Date**

But the vital flaw in his  
game will prevent him

**[12:36] Date**

from making the jump  
from J-Youth to pro level.

**[12:53] Togashi**

Hey, Kuroda.

**[12:54] Togashi**

The parents are gettin'  
restless over there.

**[12:57] Togashi**

Can't blame 'em, though.

**[12:59] Togashi**

I was scouted and Ashito

made it through the tryouts.

**[13:03] Togashi**

You junior youth guys have  
had zero chance to show off.

**[13:06] Togashi**

Too bad, really. You coulda shown  
your parents the perfect debut here.

**[13:12] Togashi**

You junior youth guys ain't  
nothin' but a bunch of softies.

**[13:17] Asari**

Masuko, switch positions with me.

**[13:20] Masuko**

Huh?

**[13:21] Asari**

I don't want that guy doing  
anything else to ruin my mood.

**[13:26] Ashito/I**

*There! Take that, you jerk!*

**[13:28] Ashito/I**

*One goal ain't enough.*

*Right, Coach Stone Face?*

**[13:31] Ashito/I**

*Then, I'll just score as many as I can!*

**[13:41] Tsukishima**

What amazing power you have, Togashi-kun!  
He's speedy, too. He's like a tank!

**[13:46] Ashito**

That's far enough, Togashi! You're a defender!  
Pass me the ball and get back!

**[13:51] Togashi**

Tsk!

**[13:55] Ashito**

All right!

**[13:57] Ashito/I**

*Asari?*

**[14:02] Ashito/I**

*Oh, piss off!*

**[14:06] Ashito/I**

*I became keenly aware during the tryouts*

**[14:09] Ashito/I**

*that I'm way below the other youth  
players when it comes to ball skills.*

**[14:14] Ashito/I**

*So once I got that acceptance letter,*

**[14:17] Ashito/I**

*I practiced hard with my*

*friends in the soccer club.*

**[14:22] Ashito/I**

*I'll get by you!*

**[14:26] Ashito**

Huh?

**[14:28] Togashi**

You idiot! What do you think you're doing?!

**[14:32] Yuma**

Hey, don't push your luck  
and try to dribble past 'em.

**[14:35] Yuma**

You can pass it to me like before.

**[14:38] Yuma**

Move the ball about till we find  
the best place to shoot from.

**[14:42] Yuma**

That's soccer.

**[14:44] Yuma**

Let's work together.

**[14:58] Kuroda**

Aoi-kun! Try again!

**[15:00] Ashito/I**

*I'll use my first touch trick.*

**[15:03] Ashito/I**

*I can land it right there.*

**[15:06] Ashito/I**

*And get past!*

**[15:09] Ashito/I**

*I did it!*

**[15:14] Ashito/I**

*H-How did he know?! Dammit!*

**[15:18] Yuma**

Ashito!

**[15:20] (Flashback) Kogure**

Hm, point your bellybutton  
where you want to go?

**[15:23] (Flashback) Kogure**

I understand.

**[15:24] (Flashback) Kogure**

All right.

**[15:26] (Flashback) Kogure**

You can practice that on  
us all you want, Ashito.

**[15:30] (Flashback) Kogure**

We'll raise the level of your ball skills  
before you whirl into Tokyo like a storm!

**[15:34] Ashito/I**

*I'll get through!*

**[15:36] Ashito/I**

*I'll get through them!*

**[15:39] Yuma**

Oh, man.

**[15:40] Hana**

When you talked about Aoi Ashito's "vital flaw" that will prevent him from going pro...

**[15:45] Hana**

Did you mean his ball skills, Nozomi-san?

**[15:48] Tsukishima**

I'd like to know that, too, Coach Date.

**[15:51] Tsukishima**

Why do you doubt his skills even after he's scored a goal?

**[15:56] Tsukishima**

True, his ball skills leave a lot to be desired.

**[15:59] Tsukishima**

From how he reacts to the ball to controlling and dribbling it,

**[16:03] Tsukishima**

his skills are raw and unpolished.

**[16:06] Tsukishima**

His lack of ball skills stands out in this company.

**[16:08] Ashito/I**

*Dammit!*

**[16:10] Ashito/I**

*After all that practicing...*

**[16:13] Ashito/I**

*And my friends helping me out...*

**[16:16] Ashito**

*Dammit!*

**[16:18] Ashito**

I guess it wasn't enough.

**[16:21] Ashito**

I see.

**[16:23] Ashito**

I like it! That's exactly how Esperion Youth *should* be.

**[16:27] Ashito**

And I'm not backing down!

**[16:33] Hana**

Ball skills can be improved.

**[16:36] Hana**

And don't forget, he scored!

**[16:37] Hana**

How can you say he'll be  
useless in the youth team—

**[16:40] Anri**

Tactics.

**[16:43] Anri**

He was talking about tactics.  
Isn't that right, Coach Nozomi?

**[16:48] Date**

Precisely. As astute as ever.

**[16:54] Spectator A**

H-He lost the ball *again*.  
That's the third time now.

**[16:58] Ashito/I**

*Crap! Why can't I frigging get past 'em?! Dammit!*

**[17:02] Ashito**

S-Sorry, guys! Just one more go!

**[17:05] Ashito**

Let me give it another try!  
I'll manage it this time!

**[17:09] Anri**

Aoi Ashito.

**[17:11] Anri**

He is unable to execute tactics.

**[17:15] Anri**

It isn't about not learning how to or  
never thinking about them. He just can't.

**[17:21] Anri**

He'll be useless on the youth team.

**[17:23] Hana**

Excuse me, Miss "Daughter of the president  
of our sponsor, Kaido Electric," Kaido-san...

**[17:31] Hana**

Would you mind saying that again?

**[17:34] Anri**

My name is Kaido Anri.

**[17:36] Anri**

It's nowhere near as long as  
what you said, Ichijo Hana-san.

**[17:41] Anri**

Ichijo Hana-san, is Aoi Ashito  
your favorite player?

**[17:47] Tsukishima**

Anri-san, you're a hardcore  
soccer fan, aren't you?

**[17:51] Tsukishima**

It's really rare to see the

family member of a sponsor

**[17:55] Tsukishima**

come to a soccer club's training sessions  
so often, let alone to watch its youth team.

**[18:00] Anri**

Am I being a nuisance?

**[18:02] Tsukishima**

No, not at all! We're glad to have you here.

**[18:06] Ashito**

Pass it!

**[18:07] Ashito**

Just one more go! Pass to me!

**[18:10] Hana**

What "tactics" are you talking about?!

**[18:13] Hana**

Were they given detailed  
instructions before the game?!

**[18:16] Tsukishima**

Uh, well, the black team was told to attack  
and the red team was told to defend—

**[18:21] Hana**

See? Talk about vague.

**[18:23] Hana**

"Tactics" are concrete  
instructions from the manager,

**[18:26] Hana**

like "Play down the wing," or  
"Everyone stay back and look to counter," right?

**[18:31] Hana**

He wasn't given any instructions  
like that, but he *still* scored!

**[18:35] Hana**

Doesn't that *prove* he understands tactics?  
I think he did amazingly well!

**[18:40] Anri**

Um, what Hana-san's referring to is...

**[18:44] Date**

Those are team tactics.

**[18:46] Hana**

Huh?

**[18:47] Date**

I'm not talking about those. When I say  
"tactics," I mean *individual* tactics.

**[18:53] Date**

That is to say, crystallized intelligence.

**[18:59] Togashi/I**

*What's up with the promoted players?*

**[19:03] Togashi/I**

*They seem to be playin' a bit  
closer to each other than before.*

**[19:06] Kuroda**

Togashi!

**[19:11] Togashi/I**

*What was that, Kuroda?! You givin' me orders?!*

**[19:16] Ashito/I**

*Okay! I'll do it this time!*

**[19:18] Kuroda**

Aoi! Hold-up play!

**[19:20] Ashito/I**

*What?*

**[19:22] Ashito/I**

*What did you say just now, Kuroda?*

**[19:33] Kuroda**

Aoi-kun.

**[19:35] Kuroda**

I said "hold-up play." You were  
meant to keep the ball there.

**[19:39] Kuroda**

Why'd you try to take it forward?

**[19:41] Ashito**

W-Well, I know what "hold-up play"  
means, but it was so sudden...

**[19:46] Kuroda**

The type of pass didn't clue you in?

**[19:49] Kuroda**

If you'd paid attention to our  
positioning and the path the ball took,

**[19:54] Kuroda**

you could've guessed our intentions.

**[19:57] Ashito/I**

*Intentions? Positioning?*

*The type of pass cluing me in?*

**[20:02] Ashito/I**

*What on earth is he talking about?*

**[20:10] Ohtomo/I**

*The promoted players on both teams  
suddenly switched it up a gear.*

**[20:16] Roan**

Tachibana! Press! Press!

**[20:18] Tachibana**

R-Right.

**[20:21] Kuroda**

If you're gonna push up, do it faster,  
Togashi! You're a step behind!

**[20:24] Togashi**

Wh-What the *hell* did you just say?!

**[20:28] Togashi/I**

*Crap. What's happenin' here?*

**[20:31] Togashi/I**

*How can the promoted players be gettin' better in such a short space of time?*

**[20:36] Date**

The black team has realized Aoi Ashito cannot beat Asari one-on-one,

**[20:42] Date**

so they've tightened up their formation and started playing shorter passes.

**[20:48] Date**

Seeing this change in their play,

**[20:50] Date**

the red team responded instantly and became more compact in defense.

**[20:55] Date**

That's situational awareness.

**[20:57] Date**

Players have to think for themselves on the field to figure out the best plan of attack

**[21:02] Date**

and adjust how they play based on how the game unfolds.

**[21:07] Date**

This freedom to think and make choices has been instilled

**[21:11] Date**

in our home-grown players from a very young age.

**[21:15] Date**

In fact, only the promoted players have adjusted their play.

**[21:18] Date**

The others are barely keeping up.

**[21:21] Date**

As for Aoi Ashito, he doesn't even realize the style of play has changed.

**[21:27] Date**

That's because he's the type of player who relies on his intuition.

**[21:32] Date**

That might sound like a good thing, but in his case, it's too extreme.

**[21:37] Date**

While he sometimes does amazing things,

**[21:39] Date**

he's unable to reflect on them  
and explain how he pulled them off.

**[21:45] Date**

That's miles away from  
situational awareness.

**[21:47] Date**

It's obvious because he can't verbalize  
what he does, and he can't replicate it.

**[21:53] Date**

That just won't do.

**[21:56] Date**

The thinking abilities of a J-Youth player

**[21:59] Date**

far exceed those of the  
average high school player.

**[22:02] Date**

A player who can't think for  
himself will never advance.

**[22:06] Ashito/I**

*I don't get it.*

**[22:07] Ashito/I**

*Why are they moving  
differently all of a sudden?*

**[22:13] Ashito/I**

*What exactly am I supposed to be doing?*

**[22:17] Ashito**

Hey! Pass it to me!

**[22:18] Yuma**

Togashi!

**[22:23] Ashito/I**

*Five minutes left in the game.*

**[22:29] Ashito/I**

*No one's passing the ball to me anymore.*

**[24:19] Sign**

Next Episode

**[24:19] Sign**

Night Training

**[24:19] Sign (Bottom)**

This is a work of fiction, and bears no relation to any actual persons, organizations, or names.

**[24:23] Yuma**

The next episode of *Aoashi* is:  
"Night Training."

Updated 2024-03-25 21:17:26 UTC by whimsee