KR

LANGUAGE COURSE

Korean Basic Conversation 1

Twelve everyday situations in Korean: greetings, introductions, numbers, family, work, time, cafés, shopping, directions, hotels and transport.

12 Chapters | Philip Osztromok | Generated with Claude

KOREAN BASIC CONVERSATION 1

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Korean Basic Conversation 1

Chapter 1 · Greetings & Goodbyes

👋 Greetings & Goodbyes — 인사

Welcome to your first Korean conversation lesson. By the end of this chapter you can say hello at any time of day, ask how someone has been, say thank you and sorry, knock on a door, and say goodbye the right way. Korean has two different goodbyes, and which one you use depends on whether you are the one leaving or the one staying. You already read Hangul in Korean Alphabet 1, so every phrase is written in Hangul with its romanization underneath.

eo = ㅓ (short, open "uh") **eu** = ㅡ (unrounded "oo") **ae** = ㅐ (like the vowel in "bed")

[ ] = how the word is actually said, where it differs from the spelling (Korean Grammar 1, chapter 2)

① Haven't Seen You for a While — 오랜만에

A:

안녕하세요?

Annyeonghaseyo?

Hello.

B:

안녕하세요? 잘 지내세요?

Annyeonghaseyo? Jal jinaeseyo?

Hello. How have you been?

A:

네, 잘 지내요. 감사합니다.

Ne, jal jinaeyo. Gamsahamnida.

Yes, I've been well. Thank you.

B:

천만에요.

Cheonmaneyo.

Not at all.

② At the Office — 회사에서

A:

안녕하세요, 민수 씨.

Annyeonghaseyo, Minsu ssi.

Hello, Minsu. (씨 is a polite "Mr/Ms"; see Chapter 2.)

B:

아, 안녕하세요, 지연 씨!

A, annyeonghaseyo, Jiyeon ssi!

Oh, hello, Jiyeon!

A:

잘 지내세요?

Jal jinaeseyo?

How are you?

B:

네, 잘 지내요. 또 봐요.

Ne, jal jinaeyo. Tto bwayo.

Yes, I'm well. See you again.

③ Sorry! — 죄송합니다

A:

죄송합니다!

Joesonghamnida!

I'm so sorry!

B:

괜찮아요.

Gwaenchanayo.

It's okay.

A:

정말 죄송합니다.

Jeongmal joesonghamnida.

I'm really sorry.

B:

아니에요, 괜찮아요.

Anieyo, gwaenchanayo.

No, really, it's fine.

④ Knocking at a Door — 문 앞에서

A:

실례합니다.

Sillyehamnida.

Excuse me. (May I come in?)

B:

네, 들어오세요.

Ne, deureooseyo.

Yes, please come in.

A:

안녕하세요. 감사합니다.

Annyeonghaseyo. Gamsahamnida.

Hello. Thank you.

⑤ Leaving a Friend's Home — 집에서

A:

안녕히 계세요.

Annyeonghi gyeseyo.

Goodbye. (I'm leaving, you're staying.)

B:

안녕히 가세요. 또 오세요.

Annyeonghi gaseyo. Tto oseyo.

Goodbye. (You're leaving, I'm staying.) Come again.

A:

네, 감사합니다. 안녕히 주무세요.

Ne, gamsahamnida. Annyeonghi jumuseyo.

Yes, thank you. Good night.

⑥ Two Friends (casual) — 친구에게

A:

안녕! 잘 지내?

Annyeong! Jal jinae?

Hi! How've you been?

B:

응, 잘 지내. 너는?

Eung, jal jinae. Neoneun?

Yeah, I'm well. And you?

A:

나도 잘 지내. 그럼 또 봐!

Nado jal jinae. Geureom tto bwa!

Me too. Well then, see you!

B:

응, 잘 가! 고마워!

Eung, jal ga! Gomawo!

Yeah, bye! Thanks!

🔑 Key Phrases — 중요한 표현

*Korean has three speech levels you will meet in this chapter: **formal polite** (-ㅂ니다), **everyday polite** (-요) and **casual** (no 요). With anyone you don't know well, in a shop, in a hotel or at work, use the polite column. The casual column is for close friends and family, and for understanding what you hear (Korean Grammar 1, chapter 10).*

SITUATION	POLITE	CASUAL
Hello	안녕하세요 *annyeonghaseyo*	안녕 *annyeong*
How have you been?	잘 지내세요? *jal jinaeseyo?*	잘 지내? *jal jinae?*
Thank you	감사합니다 / 고맙습니다 *gamsahamnida [감사함니다] / gomapseumnida [고맙씀니다]*	고마워 *gomawo*
You're welcome	천만에요 *cheonmaneyo*	아니야 *aniya*
I'm sorry	죄송합니다 / 미안합니다 *joesonghamnida / mianhamnida*	미안해 *mianhae*
It's okay	괜찮아요 *gwaenchanayo [괜차나요]*	괜찮아 *gwaenchana*
Excuse me (entering, passing, interrupting)	실례합니다 *sillyehamnida*	(not used)
Goodbye (you are staying)	안녕히 가세요 *annyeonghi gaseyo*	잘 가 *jal ga*

SITUATION	POLITE	CASUAL
Goodbye (you are leaving)	안녕히 계세요 *annyeonghi gyeseyo*	잘 있어 *jal isseo*
See you again	또 봐요 *tto bwayo*	또 봐 *tto bwa*
Good night	안녕히 주무세요 (to elders) *annyeonghi jumuseyo*	잘 자 *jal ja*
Yes / no	네 / 아니요 *ne / aniyo*	응 / 아니 *eung / ani*

🔤 Three Verbs You Can Already Use — 동사

*The goodbyes are built from the verbs **가다** (to go), **오다** (to come) and **있다** (to be, to stay). You don't need the full grammar yet; just notice the endings (Korean Grammar 1, chapters 6 and 10).*

VERB	EVERYDAY POLITE (-요)	FORMAL (-ㅂ니다)	CASUAL	RESPECTFUL (-세요)
to go (가다)	가요 *gayo*	갑니다 *gamnida*	가 *ga*	가세요 *gaseyo*
to come (오다)	와요 *wayo*	옵니다 *omnida*	와 *wa*	오세요 *oseyo*
to be, to stay (있다)	있어요 *isseoyo*	있습니다 *itseumnida [읻씀니다]*	있어 *isseo*	계세요 *gyeseyo* (special respectful form)

How the Goodbyes Work

안녕히 means "in peace". The person who *stays* says **안녕히 가세요** ("go in peace", from 가다) to the person leaving. The person who *leaves* says **안녕히 계세요** ("stay in peace", from the respectful form of 있다). The casual versions work the same way: the one staying says **잘 가**, the one leaving says **잘 있어**. If you are both walking away, say **안녕히 가세요** to each other.

🌙 Hello, Thanks and Sorry — 인사, 감사, 사과

MEANING	KOREAN	HOW IT IS USED
hello	안녕하세요 *annyeonghaseyo*	the everyday greeting, all day, to anyone
hello (very formal)	안녕하십니까 *annyeonghasimnikka*	speeches, announcements, news, very formal settings
hello (casual)	안녕 *annyeong*	friends and family; also means "bye"
hello (on the phone)	여보세요 *yeoboseyo*	answering or starting a phone call
thank you	감사합니다 *gamsahamnida*	safe in every setting; shops, hotels, offices
thank you (warm)	고맙습니다 *gomapseumnida*	equally polite, often heard between people who know each other
I'm very sorry	죄송합니다 *joesonghamnida*	apologising to strangers, customers, superiors
I'm sorry	미안합니다 *mianhamnida*	a lighter apology; 미안해 to friends
excuse me (calling someone)	저기요 *jeogiyo*	getting a waiter's or a stranger's attention

📖 Vocabulary — 어휘

20 key words. Read the Korean first, then check the romanization and the "Say it" column.

#	KOREAN	SAY IT	ENGLISH	TYPE
1	안녕하세요	*an-nyeong-ha-se-yo*	hello	phrase
2	안녕히 가세요	*an-nyeong-hi ga-se-yo*	goodbye (said to the one leaving)	phrase

#	KOREAN	SAY IT	ENGLISH	TYPE
3	안녕히 계세요	*an-nyeong-hi gye-se-yo*	goodbye (said by the one leaving)	phrase
4	안녕	*an-nyeong*	hi / bye (casual)	phrase
5	감사합니다	*gam-sa-ham-ni-da*	thank you	phrase
6	고맙습니다	*go-map-sseum-ni-da*	thank you (warm)	phrase
7	죄송합니다	*jwe-song-ham-ni-da*	I'm very sorry	phrase
8	미안합니다	*mi-an-ham-ni-da*	I'm sorry	phrase
9	실례합니다	*sil-lye-ham-ni-da*	excuse me (entering, passing)	phrase
10	괜찮아요	*gwaen-cha-na-yo*	it's okay; I'm fine	phrase
11	네	*ne*	yes	phrase
12	아니요	*a-ni-yo*	no	phrase
13	잘 지내세요?	*jal ji-nae-se-yo*	how have you been?	phrase
14	천만에요	*cheon-ma-ne-yo*	you're welcome; not at all	phrase
15	또 봐요	*tto bwa-yo*	see you again	phrase
16	안녕히 주무세요	*an-nyeong-hi ju-mu-se-yo*	good night (respectful)	phrase
17	잘 자요	*jal ja-yo*	good night (to someone close)	phrase
18	들어오세요	*deu-reo-o-se-yo*	please come in	phrase
19	저기요	*jeo-gi-yo*	excuse me (calling someone)	phrase
20	여보세요	*yeo-bo-se-yo*	hello (on the phone)	phrase

Real Korean Tip — Bowing (인사)

A greeting is often accompanied by a bow. For everyday hellos and thanks a small nod of the head (sometimes with a slight bend from the waist) is enough. A deeper bow, from the waist at about 30 degrees, is used in business and to show respect; the deepest bow, at about 45 degrees, is for sincere thanks or apology. Bow to people who are older than you or senior to you, such as teachers, bosses and officials.

One Hello for the Whole Day

Unlike English "good morning / good afternoon / good evening", **안녕하세요** works from morning to night, and it is also the greeting you give a stranger when you make eye contact. It isn't really a question, so you don't answer "I'm fine"; you just say it back. To ask how someone has been, especially if you haven't seen them for a while, use **잘 지내세요?** The word **안녕** itself means peace or well-being, which is why 안녕하세요 is often explained as "are you at peace?" Casual **안녕?** is a short form of it.

Which Goodbye in a Shop or Café?

The rule "the one who leaves says 안녕히 계세요" is clearest at someone's home or office. In a shop, restaurant or café, staff usually say **안녕히 가세요** to you as you leave, and customers often just say **감사합니다**. Learners' sources disagree about whether customers should also say 안녕히 계세요, so treat this as a tendency, not a rule: a smile and **감사합니다** is always safe.

As Heard in Dramas — 드라마에서

In Korean TV shows you will mostly hear **casual speech** (반말) between friends and family: **안녕**, **잘 가**, **응**, **고마워**, **미안해**, **괜찮아?** ("Are you okay?", very common in dramas). The same sentences with **-요** or **-ㅂ니다** on the end appear when characters speak to bosses, elders or strangers, so switches between the two levels tell you how characters feel about each other. On the phone, characters answer with **여보세요**. Don't copy casual speech with strangers or older people, though, even if characters do among themselves.

Grammar Pointer

The endings you saw here are explained in Korean Grammar 1, chapter 6 (the everyday polite **-요**), chapter 10 (the formal **-ㅂ니다** and the respectful **-세요**) and chapter 2 (why **감사합니다** is said "gam-sa-ham-ni-da" and **괜찮아요** "gwaen-cha-na-yo").

✍️ Try It Yourself — 연습

Say each answer out loud first, then click to check.

1. You meet the receptionist at your hotel. What do you say?

▼ Show answer

안녕하세요. (Annyeonghaseyo.)

2. You bump into a stranger on the street. What do you say, and how might they reply?

▼ Show answer

죄송합니다. (Joesonghamnida.) They might reply 괜찮아요. (Gwaenchanayo.)

3. You are leaving a friend's flat and your friend is staying. What do you say, and what does your friend say?

▼ Show answer

You say 안녕히 계세요. (Annyeonghi gyeseyo.) Your friend says 안녕히 가세요. (Annyeonghi gaseyo.)

4. You knock at an office door and want to ask permission to enter. What do you say?

▼ Show answer

실례합니다. (Sillyehamnida.) The person inside might say 들어오세요. (Deureooseyo.)

5. Which is casual and which is polite: 안녕 and 안녕하세요?

▼ Show answer

안녕 is casual (friends and family); 안녕하세요 is polite (everyone else).

6. What is the difference in meaning between 가세요 and 계세요 in the goodbyes?

▼ Show answer

가세요 comes from 가다, "to go", so it is said to the person who is leaving. 계세요 comes from the respectful form of 있다, "to be, to stay", so it is said to the person who is staying.

🤝 Introducing Yourself — 자기소개

*In this chapter you learn to say who you are, ask someone's name, and say "nice to meet you" the Korean way, including the phrase **잘 부탁드립니다**, which has no direct English equivalent. You also learn the order of Korean names, how to address someone politely with **씨**, and the two Korean words for "I". The sentence pattern is the one from Korean Grammar 1, chapter 5: **저는 민수예요**, "I am Minsu."*

eo = ㅓ (short, open "uh") **eu** = ㅡ (unrounded "oo") **ae** = ㅐ (like the vowel in "bed")

[ ] = how the word is actually said, where it differs from the spelling

- in romanization = where a name ends and its ending begins

① Meeting for the First Time (formal) — 처음 만났을 때

A:

안녕하세요. 처음 뵙겠습니다. 저는 김민수입니다.

Annyeonghaseyo. Cheoeum boepgetseumnida. Jeoneun Gim Minsu-imnida.

Hello. Pleased to meet you. I am Kim Minsu.

B:

안녕하세요. 저는 이지연입니다. 만나서 반갑습니다.

Annyeonghaseyo. Jeoneun I Jiyeon-imnida. Mannaseo bangapseumnida.

Hello. I am Lee Jiyeon. Nice to meet you.

A:

네, 만나서 반갑습니다. 잘 부탁드립니다.

Ne, mannaseo bangapseumnida. Jal butakdeurimnida.

② What's Your Name? — 이름이 뭐예요?

A:

안녕하세요. 이름이 뭐예요?

Annyeonghaseyo. Ireumi mwoyeyo?

Hello. What's your name?

B:

저는 에이미예요. 지연 씨는요?

Jeoneun Eimi-yeyo. Jiyeon ssi-neunyo?

I'm Amy. And you, Jiyeon?

A:

저는 지연이에요. 만나서 반가워요.

Jeoneun Jiyeon-ieyo. Mannaseo bangawoyo.

I'm Jiyeon. Nice to meet you.

B:

만나서 반가워요.

Mannaseo bangawoyo.

Nice to meet you too.

Yes, nice to meet you. I look forward to working with you.

B:

저도 잘 부탁드립니다.

Jeodo jal butakdeurimnida.

Me too.

③ This Is My Friend — 제 친구예요

A:

지연 씨, 이쪽은 제 친구예요.

Jiyeon ssi, ijjog-eun je chingu-yeyo.

Jiyeon, this is my friend.

B:

안녕하세요. 저는 박준호예요.

Annyeonghaseyo. Jeoneun Bak Junho-yeyo.

Hello. I'm Park Junho.

C:

안녕하세요. 만나서 반갑습니다.

Annyeonghaseyo. Mannaseo bangapseumnida.

Hello. Nice to meet you.

④ At the Hotel Desk (very polite) — 호텔에서

A:

안녕하세요. 성함이 어떻게 되세요?

Annyeonghaseyo. Seonghami eotteoke doeseyo?

Hello. May I have your name?

B:

에이미 스미스예요.

Eimi Seumiseu-yeyo.

Amy Smith.

A:

에이미 스미스 씨, 맞아요?

Eimi Seumiseu ssi, majayo?

Ms Smith, is that right?

B:

네, 맞아요.

Ne, majayo.

Yes, that's right.

⑤ Two Young People (casual) — 친구끼리

A:

안녕! 이름이 뭐야?

Annyeong! Ireumi mwoya?

Hi! What's your name?

B:

⑥ Mistaken Identity — 사람을 잘못 봤어요

A:

지연 씨예요?

Jiyeon ssi-yeyo?

Are you Jiyeon?

B:

나는 민수야. 너는?

Naneun Minsu-ya. Neoneun?

I'm Minsu. And you?

A:

나는 지연이야. 만나서 반가워!

Naneun Jiyeon-iya. Mannaseo bangawo!

I'm Jiyeon. Nice to meet you!

B:

나도!

Nado!

Me too!

아니요, 저는 지연이 아니에요. 수진이에요.

Aniyo, jeoneun Jiyeon-i anieyo. Sujin-ieyo.

No, I'm not Jiyeon. I'm Sujin.

A:

아, 죄송합니다!

A, joesonghamnida!

Oh, I'm so sorry!

B:

괜찮아요.

Gwaenchanayo.

It's okay.

🔑 Key Phrases — 중요한 표현

Use the polite columns with anyone you don't know well. The casual column is for friends your own age or younger, and for understanding what you hear (Korean Grammar 1, chapter 10).

SITUATION	POLITE	CASUAL
Pleased to meet you (first meeting)	처음 뵙겠습니다 *cheoeum boepgetseumnida*	(not used)
Nice to meet you	만나서 반갑습니다 / 만나서 반가워요 *mannaseo bangapseumnida / mannaseo bangawoyo*	만나서 반가워 *mannaseo bangawo*
I am …	저는 …입니다 / 저는 …예요 *jeoneun …imnida / …yeyo*	나는 …야 *naneun …ya*
What's your name?	이름이 뭐예요? *ireumi mwoyeyo?* (very respectful: 성함이 어떻게 되세요?)	이름이 뭐야? *ireumi mwoya?*

SITUATION	POLITE	CASUAL
And you? (returning a question)	지연 씨는요? *jiyeon ssi-neunyo?*	너는? *neoneun?*
Please look after me / I look forward to working with you	잘 부탁드립니다 / 잘 부탁해요 *jal butakdeurimnida / jal butakhaeyo*	잘 부탁해 *jal butakhae*
This is my friend	이쪽은 제 친구예요 *ijjogeun je chinguyeyo*	얘는 내 친구야 *yaeneun nae chinguya*
That's right	맞아요 *majayo*	맞아 *maja*

🔤 Three Verbs You Can Already Use — 동사

*"To be" is the heart of every introduction. Here are the forms of **이다** (to be), **아니다** (to not be) and **반갑다** (to be glad to meet). See Korean Grammar 1, chapter 5 for the full explanation.*

VERB	EVERYDAY POLITE (-요)	FORMAL (-ㅂ니다)	CASUAL
to be (이다)	이에요 / 예요 *ieyo / yeyo*	입니다 *imnida*	이야 / 야 *iya / ya*
to not be (아니다)	아니에요 *anieyo*	아닙니다 *animnida [아님니다]*	아니야 *aniya*
to be glad to meet (반갑다)	반가워요 *bangawoyo*	반갑습니다 *bangapseumnida [반갑씀니다]*	반가워 *bangawo*

이에요 or 예요? Look at the Last Sound

After a name or noun that ends in a **consonant** (a final consonant in the last block) use **이에요**: 지연이에요, 수진이에요. After one that ends in a **vowel** use **예요**: 민수예요, 에이미예요. The formal 입니다 and casual forms follow the same split: casual 지연이야 but 민수야.

Names, 씨, and the Words for "I" — 이름과 호칭

Korean names

A Korean name is the **family name first**, then the given name. The family name is usually one syllable and the given name usually two. The three most common family names are 김, 이 and 박.

NAME	FAMILY NAME	GIVEN NAME	ROMANIZATION
김민수	김	민수	*Gim Minsu (often written Kim)*
이지연	이	지연	*I Jiyeon (often written Lee)*
박준호	박	준호	*Bak Junho (often written Park)*

Koreans usually give their full name when they introduce themselves. As a foreigner you can give just your first name: 저는 에이미예요. A foreign name is written in Hangul as it sounds, so Amy is 에이미, James is 제임스 and Smith is 스미스.

씨: a polite "Mr / Ms" after a name

DO	DON'T
민수 씨 (given name + 씨)	김 씨 (family name alone + 씨 sounds disrespectful)
김민수 씨 (full name + 씨, a little more formal)	저는 민수 씨예요 (never use 씨 for yourself)
김 선생님, 박 사장님 (family name + a title, for senior people)	씨 to a boss, a teacher or a much older person: use their title instead

Two words for "I" and "my"

	POLITE (HUMBLE)	CASUAL
I	저 *jeo* → 저는, 저도	나 *na* → 나는, 나도

	POLITE (HUMBLE)	CASUAL
my	제 *je* (제 친구)	내 *nae* (내 친구)
you	use the person's name + 씨, or a title, or just leave it out	너 *neo* → 너는

📖 Vocabulary — 어휘

20 key words. Read the Korean first, then check the romanization and the "Say it" column.

#	KOREAN	SAY IT	ENGLISH	TYPE
1	처음 뵙겠습니다	*cheo-eum bwep-kket-sseum-ni-da*	pleased to meet you (first time)	phrase
2	만나서 반갑습니다	*man-na-seo ban-gap-sseum-ni-da*	nice to meet you	phrase
3	만나서 반가워요	*man-na-seo ban-ga-wo-yo*	nice to meet you (everyday polite)	phrase
4	잘 부탁드립니다	*jal bu-tak-tteu-rim-ni-da*	please look after me; I look forward to working with you	phrase
5	맞아요	*ma-ja-yo*	that's right	phrase
6	저	*jeo*	I (polite)	pronoun
7	나	*na*	I (casual)	pronoun
8	제	*je*	my (polite)	pronoun
9	너	*neo*	you (casual only)	pronoun
10	이름	*i-reum*	name	noun
11	성함	*seong-ham*	name (respectful)	noun

#	KOREAN	SAY IT	ENGLISH	TYPE
12	성	*seong*	family name	noun
13	씨	*ssi*	Mr / Ms (after a name)	suffix
14	선생님	*seon-saeng-nim*	teacher; a respectful title	noun
15	친구	*chin-gu*	friend	noun
16	이쪽	*i-jjok*	this person; this way	noun
17	이다	*i-da*	to be	verb
18	아니다	*a-ni-da*	to not be	verb
19	반갑다	*ban-gap-tta*	to be glad to meet	verb
20	어떻게	*eo-tteo-ke*	how	adverb

잘 부탁드립니다: A Phrase With No English Equivalent

Literally something like "I humbly ask you to treat me well". You say it at the end of a first meeting, especially when you will work or study with the person, join a group, or the other person is older or senior to you. The other person says it back (저도 잘 부탁드립니다). With friends and equals the shorter, softer 잘 부탁해요 is fine.

How Much to Say "I"

저 is the polite, humble word for "I" and is the right one with strangers, elders and in shops and offices. **나** is for friends and family. But you will drop the word for "I" far more than you would in English: if it is obvious who you mean, just say 민수예요 (Korean Grammar 1, chapter 1). **You** is trickier: avoid the word 당신; use the person's name + 씨, or their title, or nothing at all.

And You? Use 은/는요

To return a question without repeating it, add **-은요 / -는요** to the person's name: 지연 씨는요? means "And you, Jiyeon?" or "What about you?". It works with any noun: 커피는요? "And the

coffee?" (Korean Grammar 1, chapter 3 explains 은/는.)

As Heard in Dramas — 드라마에서

In a company or school drama, the polished **처음 뵙겠습니다. 저는 …입니다.** is how a new colleague or a trainee introduces themselves, often with a bow, and it ends with **잘 부탁드립니다**. Between friends you will hear **나는 …야** or just **…야**, and **이름이 뭐야?** Characters at work are often called by a *title* rather than a name (**선생님**, **사장님**, and many others), which shows their relationship before you even hear the rest of the conversation. At a reception desk you may hear the very respectful **성함이 어떻게 되세요?**

Grammar Pointer

The pattern "*noun* + 이에요/예요" is explained in Korean Grammar 1, chapter 5; the topic marker 은/는 in Korean Grammar 1, chapter 3; and the three speech levels in Korean Grammar 1, chapter 10.

✍️ Try It Yourself — 연습

Say each answer out loud first, then click to check.

1. You meet a company director for the first time. Introduce yourself formally as James (제임스).

▼ Show answer

안녕하세요. 처음 뵙겠습니다. 저는 제임스입니다. 잘 부탁드립니다. (Annyeonghaseyo. Cheoeum boepgetseumnida. Jeoneun Jeimseu-imnida. Jal butakdeurimnida.)

2. Choose 이에요 or 예요: 지연___, 민수___, 수진___, 에이미___.

▼ Show answer

지연이에요, 민수예요, 수진이에요, 에이미예요. (지연 and 수진 end in a consonant; 민수 and 에이미 end in a vowel.)

3. Ask a stranger their name politely. How would you ask a hotel guest very respectfully?

▼ Show answer

이름이 뭐예요? and, very respectfully, 성함이 어떻게 되세요?

4. Why is it wrong to call a colleague "김 씨"? What should you say instead?

▼ Show answer

씨 is attached to the given name or the full name, not to the family name alone (that sounds disrespectful). Say 민수 씨 or 김민수 씨, or use a title such as 김 선생님 for someone senior.

5. A colleague says 저는 민수예요. 지연 씨는요? You are Amy. Answer.

▼ Show answer

저는 에이미예요. (Jeoneun Eimi-yeyo.)

6. Someone mistakes you for Jiyeon. Say "No, I'm not Jiyeon."

▼ Show answer

아니요, 저는 지연이 아니에요. (Aniyo, jeoneun Jiyeon-i anieyo.)

🔢 Numbers, Age & Contact Details — 숫자와 연락처

*Korean has **two number systems**, and this chapter teaches both because you need both to give your age and your phone number. It is split into **three parts**: **Part 1** the Sino-Korean numbers 0 to 100 (phone numbers, room numbers), **Part 2** the native Korean numbers and age, and **Part 3** phone numbers, email addresses and messaging apps. The 20-word vocabulary table and the practice are at the end. Korean Grammar 1, chapter 9 explains the number systems in more detail.*

eo = ㅓ (short, open "uh") **eu** = ㅡ (unrounded "oo") **ae** = ㅐ (like the vowel in "bed")

[ ] = how the word is actually said, where it differs from the spelling

① Part 1 — A Room Number — 방 번호

A:

안녕하세요. 방이 몇 호예요?

Annyeonghaseyo. Bang-i myeot ho-yeyo?

Hello. What's the room number?

B:

삼백십이 호예요.

Sambaek-sibi ho-yeyo.

It's room 312.

A:

삼백십이 호요? 감사합니다.

Sambaek-sibi hoyo? Gamsahamnida.

Room 312? Thank you.

② Part 1 — Counting Practice — 숫자 연습

A:

일, 이, 삼, 사, 오!

Il, i, sam, sa, o!

One, two, three, four, five!

B:

육, 칠, 팔, 구, 십!

Yuk, chil, pal, gu, sip!

Six, seven, eight, nine, ten!

A:

잘했어요!

Jalhaesseoyo!

Well done!

③ Part 2 — How Old Are You? — 몇 살이에요?

A:

몇 살이에요?

④ Part 2 — Asking Politely — 나이가 어떻게 되세요?

A:

실례합니다. 나이가 어떻게 되세요?

Myeot sal-ieyo?

How old are you?

B:

스물다섯 살이에요. 지연 씨는요?

Seumuldaseot sal-ieyo. Jiyeon ssi-neunyo?

I'm 25. And you, Jiyeon?

A:

저는 서른두 살이에요.

Jeoneun seoreundu sal-ieyo.

I'm 32.

Sillyehamnida. Naiga eotteoke doeseyo?

Excuse me. May I ask your age?

B:

마흔두 살이에요.

Maheundu sal-ieyo.

I'm 42.

A:

아, 그래요? 감사합니다.

A, geuraeyo? Gamsahamnida.

Oh, I see. Thank you.

⑤ Part 3 — A Phone Number — 전화번호

A:

전화번호가 뭐예요?

Jeonhwabeonhoga mwoyeyo?

What's your phone number?

B:

공일공, 일이삼사, 오육칠팔이에요.

Gong-il-gong, il-i-sam-sa, o-yuk-chil-pal-ieyo.

It's 010, 1234, 5678.

A:

다시 한번 말씀해 주세요.

Dasi hanbeon malsseumhae juseyo.

Please say that once more.

B:

네. 공일공, 일이삼사, 오육칠팔이에요.

Ne. Gong-il-gong, il-i-sam-sa, o-yuk-chil-pal-ieyo.

Sure. 010, 1234, 5678.

⑥ Part 3 — Email and Messaging — 이메일과 카톡

A:

이메일 주소가 어떻게 되세요?

Imeil jusoga eotteoke doeseyo?

What's your email address?

B:

amy 골뱅이 gmail 점 com이에요.

Amy golbaengi gmail jeom com-ieyo.

It's amy at gmail dot com.

A:

카톡도 있어요?

Katok-do isseoyo?

Do you have KakaoTalk too?

B:

네, 있어요.

Ne, isseoyo.

Yes, I do.

① Part 1 — Sino-Korean Numbers 0 to 100 — 한자어 숫자

These numbers came from Chinese. Use them for phone numbers, room and floor numbers, dates, minutes and money (Korean Grammar 1, chapter 9).

0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
영 / 공	일	이	삼	사	오	육	칠	팔	구	십
yeong / gong	*il*	*i*	*sam*	*sa*	*o*	*yuk*	*chil*	*pal*	*gu*	*sip*

From 11 you simply put the numbers together, tens first. There is no special word for 11, 12 or 20.

NUMBER	BUILT AS	KOREAN	SAY IT
11	10 + 1	십일	*si-bil*
12	10 + 2	십이	*si-bi*
16	10 + 6	십육	*sim-nyuk*
20	2 × 10	이십	*i-sip*
25	2 × 10 + 5	이십오	*i-si-bo*
30	3 × 10	삼십	*sam-sip*
40	4 × 10	사십	*sa-sip*
50	5 × 10	오십	*o-sip*
60	6 × 10	육십	*yuk-ssip*
70	7 × 10	칠십	*chil-ssip*
80	8 × 10	팔십	*pal-ssip*
90	9 × 10	구십	*gu-sip*
99	9 × 10 + 9	구십구	*gu-sip-gu*

NUMBER	BUILT AS	KOREAN	SAY IT
100		백	*baek*
312	3 hundreds + 12	삼백십이	*sam-baek-si-bi*

영 or 공? Two Words for Zero

영 yeong is zero in counting and sums; **공** gong is the zero you say when reading out a **phone number** (010 is **공일공**). Nobody says 영일영.

Watch the Sound of 6

The number **육** is said "yuk" on its own, but after a vowel (or after ㄹ) it is often said **륙** "ryuk": the digits 5 and 6 read one after another in a phone number sound like **오륙** "o-ryuk". Number 16, **십육**, is said "sim-nyuk". You don't have to write this, only recognise it when you hear it (Korean Grammar 1, chapter 2).

② Part 2 — Native Korean Numbers and Age — 고유어 숫자와 나이

These are the old Korean numbers. Use them for age (살), counting things with a counter, and the hour when telling the time (Korean Grammar 1, chapter 9).

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
하나	둘	셋	넷	다섯	여섯	일곱	여덟	아홉	열
hana	*dul*	*set*	*net*	*daseot*	*yeoseot*	*ilgop*	*yeodeol*	*ahop*	*yeol*

The tens have their own words: 스물 seumul 20, 서른 seoreun 30, 마흔 maheun 40, 쉰 swin 50, 예순 yesun 60, 일흔 ileun 70, 여든 yeodeun 80, 아흔 aheun 90. Put the ones after the tens: 스물다섯 25, 서른두 32, 마흔두 42.

Age with 살

The counter for years of age is **살** sal. Five numbers change shape in front of it: 하나 → 한, 둘 → 두, 셋 → 세, 넷 → 네, 스물 → 스무.

AGE	KOREAN	SAY IT
1	한 살	*han sal*
3	세 살	*se sal*
10	열 살	*yeol sal*
19	열아홉 살	*yeo-ra-hop sal*
20	스무 살	*seu-mu sal*
25	스물다섯 살	*seu-mul-da-seot sal*
30	서른 살	*seo-reun sal*
42	마흔두 살	*ma-heun-du sal*

To say your age: 저는 스물다섯 살이에요. (I am 25.) To ask: 몇 살이에요? with people of your own age or younger, or the more polite 나이가 어떻게 되세요? The word 나이 nai means "age".

"Korean Age" Is Gone

For many years a Korean was born "one year old" and gained a year every 1 January, so people were often one or two years older than their age elsewhere. On **28 June 2023** South Korea adopted the international way of counting age (the age you would give in Britain) as the official standard. Some legal areas, such as military service, school entry and the legal drinking and smoking ages, still count by calendar year. Older Korean speakers, and dramas set before 2023, may still use the old system, so if you are puzzled by an age, you can ask.

Why Koreans Ask Your Age

Age decides which speech level two people use and what they call each other (older friends are called by special words you will meet in Chapter 5), so you may be asked how old you are soon after

> meeting. It is usually normal, not rude, but among adults you've just met it is kinder to wait or to use the polite 나이가 어떻게 되세요? — and you are free not to answer.

③ Part 3 — Phone Numbers, Email and Messaging — 전화번호와 이메일

*Use Sino-Korean digits for phone numbers, say **공** for zero, and read the digits one by one in groups. A mobile number begins **010** (**공일공**).*

NUMBER	SPOKEN	SAY IT
010-1234-5678	공일공 일이삼사 오육칠팔	*gong-il-gong, il-i-sam-sa, o-ryuk-chil-pal*
010-9012-3456	공일공 구공일이 삼사오육	*gong-il-gong, gu-gong-i-ri, sam-sa-o-ryuk*

Pause between the groups. If you want to say the hyphen, you can read it as 에 (written 의, said "e"): 공일공 에 일이삼사 에 오육칠팔. Most people simply pause. To say "My number is ..." add 이에요 or 예요, chosen by the last digit (Chapter 2):

LAST DIGIT	ENDS IN	ENDING	EXAMPLE
1 일, 3 삼, 6 육, 7 칠, 8 팔, 0 공	consonant	이에요	...오육칠팔이에요
2 이, 4 사, 5 오, 9 구	vowel	예요	...삼사오구예요

Contact words

KOREAN	MEANING	EXAMPLE
전화번호 *jeonhwabeonho*	phone number	전화번호가 뭐예요?
휴대폰 *hyudaepon*	mobile phone	휴대폰 번호가 뭐예요?
연락처 *yeollakcheo*	contact details	연락처를 알려 주세요.

KOREAN	MEANING	EXAMPLE
이메일 주소 *imeil juso*	email address	이메일 주소가 어떻게 되세요?
골뱅이 *golbaengi*	the @ sign (literally a sea snail)	amy 골뱅이 gmail
점 *jeom*	dot	gmail 점 com
카톡 *katok*	KakaoTalk, the messaging app most Koreans use	카톡 있어요?

Asking for a Number Politely

연락처를 알려 주세요 means "please let me know your contact details", and 전화번호 좀 알려 주세요 "could you tell me your phone number?" The little word **좀** jom softens a request, a bit like "please" or "just". To ask for something to be said again: 다시 한번 말씀해 주세요 (**다시** = again, **한번** = once). Korean Grammar 1, chapter 10 explains the polite request ending **-세요**.

🔤 Three More Verbs — 동사

Three useful verbs for giving and asking for information.

VERB	EVERYDAY POLITE (-요)	FORMAL (-ㅂ니다)	CASUAL
to know (알다)	알아요 *arayo*	압니다 *amnida*	알아 *ara*
to not know (모르다)	몰라요 *mollayo*	모릅니다 *moreumnida*	몰라 *molla*
to say, to speak (말하다)	말해요 *malhaeyo*	말합니다 *malhamnida*	말해 *malhae*

📖 Vocabulary — 어휘

20 key words. Read the Korean first, then check the romanization and the "Say it" column.

#	KOREAN	SAY IT	ENGLISH	TYPE
1	영	*yeong*	zero (counting)	number
2	공	*gong*	zero (phone numbers)	number
3	번호	*beo-no*	number	noun
4	전화번호	*jeon-hwa-beo-no*	phone number	noun
5	휴대폰	*hyu-dae-pon*	mobile phone	noun
6	연락처	*yeol-lak-cheo*	contact details	noun
7	이메일	*i-me-il*	email	noun
8	주소	*ju-so*	address	noun
9	골뱅이	*gol-baeng-i*	@ sign	noun
10	점	*jeom*	dot; point	noun
11	카톡	*ka-tok*	KakaoTalk (messaging app)	noun
12	나이	*na-i*	age	noun
13	살	*sal*	years old (counter)	counter
14	호	*ho*	room number (counter)	counter
15	몇	*myeot*	how many; what number	question word
16	다시	*da-si*	again	adverb
17	좀	*jom*	please; a little (softener)	adverb
18	알다	*al-da*	to know	verb

#	KOREAN	SAY IT	ENGLISH	TYPE
19	모르다	*mo-reu-da*	to not know	verb
20	말하다	*mal-ha-da*	to say, to speak	verb

As Heard in Dramas — 드라마에서

You will hear **몇 살이야?** (casual "how old are you?") and **몇 살이에요?** a lot, because in a drama two people often work out who is older before deciding how to speak to each other. Phone numbers are rarely spoken in full on screen; instead characters say **번호 좀 줘** or **카톡 해** (or **카톡 보낼게**, "I'll message you"). Ages in dramas are usually given with the native numbers: **스물일곱 살**, **서른 살**, **마흔 살**.

Grammar Pointer

The two number systems are explained in Korean Grammar 1, chapter 9 (including the counters and the five short forms before a counter). The sound changes in numbers (**십육** "sim-nyuk", **오륙** "o-ryuk") come from Korean Grammar 1, chapter 2.

✍️ Try It Yourself — 연습

Say each answer out loud first, then click to check.

1. Say 17, 45 and 100 in Sino-Korean.

▼ Show answer

십칠, 사십오, 백. (Sip-chil, sa-si-bo, baek.)

2. Read out the phone number 010-5678-9012.

▼ Show answer

공일공 오육칠팔 구공일이 (Gong-il-gong, o-ryuk-chil-pal, gu-gong-i-ri.)

3. Say "I am 25" and "I am 30."

▼ Show answer

저는 스물다섯 살이에요. and 저는 서른 살이에요.

4. Which number system do you use for an age, and which for a phone number?

▼ Show answer

Age (with 살) uses the **native** numbers; phone numbers use the **Sino-Korean** numbers, with 공 for zero.

5. Ask someone's phone number, then ask them politely to say it again.

▼ Show answer

전화번호가 뭐예요? and 다시 한번 말씀해 주세요.

6. Why is "twenty years old" 스무 살 and not 스물 살?

▼ Show answer

Five native numbers take a short form before a counter: 한, 두, 세, 네 and 스무. So 스물 (20) becomes 스무 in front of 살.

Korean Basic Conversation 1

Chapter 4 · Where You're From: Countries & Nationalities

🌍 Where You're From — 어느 나라 사람이에요?

*In this chapter you learn to say which country you come from, where you live, and which languages you speak, and to ask the same of other people. Two small particles do most of the work: **에서** ("from") and **에** ("in" or "to"), which you met in Korean Grammar 1, chapter 4. You will also meet the Korean names of countries, which are mostly written in Hangul as they sound.*

eo = ㅓ (short, open "uh") **eu** = ㅡ (unrounded "oo") **ae** = ㅐ (like the vowel in "bed")

[ ] = how the word is actually said, where it differs from the spelling

① Which Country? — 어느 나라 사람이에요?

A:

어느 나라 사람이에요?

Eoneu nara saram-ieyo?

Which country are you from?

B:

저는 영국 사람이에요.

Jeoneun yeongguk saram-ieyo.

I'm British.

A:

영국 어디에서 왔어요?

Yeongguk eodi-eseo wasseoyo?

Where in Britain are you from?

B:

스코틀랜드에서 왔어요.

Seukoteullaendeu-eseo wasseoyo.

I'm from Scotland.

② A Korean Visitor — 한국에서 왔어요

A:

한국 사람이에요?

Hanguk saram-ieyo?

Are you Korean?

B:

네, 한국 사람이에요. 서울에서 왔어요.

Ne, hanguk saram-ieyo. Seoul-eseo wasseoyo.

Yes, I'm Korean. I'm from Seoul.

A:

서울이요? 정말 좋아요!

Seouriyo? Jeongmal joayo!

Seoul? That's great!

③ A Formal Introduction — 어디에서 오셨어요?

A:

안녕하세요. 어디에서 오셨어요?

Annyeonghaseyo. Eodi-eseo osyeosseoyo?

Hello. Where have you come from?

B:

독일에서 왔습니다.

Dogil-eseo watseumnida.

I'm from Germany.

A:

아, 그래요? 만나서 반갑습니다.

A, geuraeyo? Mannaseo bangapseumnida.

Oh, really? Nice to meet you.

④ Where Do You Live? — 어디에 살아요?

A:

어디에 살아요?

Eodi-e sarayo?

Where do you live?

B:

에든버러에 살아요. 에든버러는 스코틀랜드에 있어요.

Edeunbeoreo-e sarayo. Edeunbeoreo-neun Seukoteullaendeu-e isseoyo.

I live in Edinburgh. Edinburgh is in Scotland.

A:

그래요? 예뻐요?

Geuraeyo? Yeppeoyo?

Really? Is it pretty?

B:

네, 정말 예뻐요.

Ne, jeongmal yeppeoyo.

Yes, it's really pretty.

⑤ Two Friends (casual) — 친구끼리

A:

너 어느 나라 사람이야?

Neo eoneu nara saram-iya?

Which country are you from?

B:

나는 미국 사람이야. 너는?

Naneun miguk saram-iya. Neoneun?

I'm American. And you?

A:

나는 한국 사람이야. 서울에서 왔어.

Naneun hanguk saram-iya. Seoul-eseo wasseo.

I'm Korean. I'm from Seoul.

⑥ Languages — 한국어 해요?

A:

한국어 해요?

Hangugeo haeyo?

Do you speak Korean?

B:

조금 해요. 아직 잘 못해요.

Jogeum haeyo. Ajik jal moshaeyo.

A little. I can't speak it well yet.

A:

아니에요, 한국어 잘하세요!

Anieyo, hangugeo jalhaseyo!

No, your Korean is good!

B:

감사합니다!

Gamsahamnida!

Thank you!

🔑 Key Phrases — 중요한 표현

Use the polite column with people you don't know well. The casual column is for friends your own age or younger, and for understanding what you hear.

SITUATION	POLITE	CASUAL
Which country are you from?	어느 나라 사람이에요? *eoneu nara saram-ieyo?*	어느 나라 사람이야? *eoneu nara saram-iya?*
Where are you from? (a place)	어디에서 왔어요? *eodi-eseo wasseoyo?* (respectful: 어디에서 오셨어요?)	어디에서 왔어? *eodi-eseo wasseo?*
I'm British	저는 영국 사람이에요 *jeoneun yeongguk saram-ieyo*	나는 영국 사람이야 *naneun yeongguk saram-iya*
I'm from Scotland	스코틀랜드에서 왔어요 *seukoteullaendeu-eseo wasseoyo*	스코틀랜드에서 왔어 *seukoteullaendeu-eseo wasseo*
Where do you live?	어디에 살아요? *eodi-e sarayo?*	어디에 살아? *eodi-e sara?*
I live in Edinburgh	에든버러에 살아요 *edeunbeoreo-e sarayo*	에든버러에 살아 *edeunbeoreo-e sara*
Do you speak Korean?	한국어 해요? *hangugeo haeyo?*	한국어 해? *hangugeo hae?*
A little / not well yet	조금 해요. 아직 잘 못해요. *jogeum haeyo. ajik jal moshaeyo.*	조금 해. 아직 잘 못해. *jogeum hae. ajik jal moshae.*

SITUATION	POLITE	CASUAL
Your Korean is good!	한국어 잘하세요! *hangugeo jalhaseyo!*	한국어 잘해! *hangugeo jalhae!*

🔤 Three Verbs You Can Already Use — 동사

*"Where are you from?" in Korean literally asks where you came from, so the key verb is **오다** (to come), together with **살다** (to live) and **잘하다** (to be good at).*

VERB	EVERYDAY POLITE (-요)	FORMAL (-ㅂ니다)	CASUAL
to come (오다)	와요 *wayo*	옵니다 *omnida*	와 *wa*
(past) came (오다)	왔어요 *wasseoyo*	왔습니다 *watseumnida [왇씀니다]*	왔어 *wasseo*
to live (살다)	살아요 *sarayo*	삽니다 *samnida*	살아 *sara*
to be good at (잘하다)	잘해요 *jalhaeyo*	잘합니다 *jalhamnida*	잘해 *jalhae*

> **"I'm From" Means "I Came From"**
> **스코틀랜드에서 왔어요** is literally "I came from Scotland": **에서** ("from") plus the *past* tense of 오다 (Korean Grammar 1, chapter 7). Use **에서** to say where you come from, and **에** for where you *live* or are: 서울에 살아요, 서울에서 왔어요 (Korean Grammar 1, chapter 4).

🏳️ Countries, People and Languages — 나라, 사람, 말

Countries

COUNTRY	KOREAN	SAY IT
South Korea	한국	*han-guk*
The UK / Britain	영국	*yeong-guk*
Scotland	스코틀랜드	*seu-ko-teul-laen-deu*
England	잉글랜드	*ing-geul-laen-deu*
Ireland	아일랜드	*a-il-laen-deu*
The USA	미국	*mi-guk*
Canada	캐나다	*kae-na-da*
Australia	호주	*ho-ju*
France	프랑스	*peu-rang-seu*
Germany	독일	*do-gil*
Hungary	헝가리	*heong-ga-ri*
Japan	일본	*il-bon*
China	중국	*jung-guk*

People and languages

For a person, put **사람** saram ("person") after the country: 한국 사람, 영국 사람, 스코틀랜드 사람. For a language, the country name's key syllable is joined to **어** eo ("language"):

COUNTRY	PERSON	LANGUAGE
Korea	한국 사람	한국어 *hangugeo*
Britain / England	영국 사람	영어 *yeong-eo* (English)

COUNTRY	PERSON	LANGUAGE
Japan	일본 사람	일본어 *ilbon-eo*
China	중국 사람	중국어 *jungguk-eo*
Germany	독일 사람	독일어 *dogil-eo*
France	프랑스 사람	프랑스어 *peurangseu-eo*
Hungary	헝가리 사람	헝가리어 *heonggari-eo*

Some cities

CITY	KOREAN	SAY IT
Seoul	서울	*seo-ul*
Busan	부산	*bu-san*
Jeju	제주	*je-ju*
Edinburgh	에든버러	*e-deun-beo-reo*
London	런던	*reon-deon*

📖 Vocabulary — 어휘

20 key words. Read the Korean first, then check the romanization and the "Say it" column.

#	KOREAN	SAY IT	ENGLISH	TYPE
1	나라	*na-ra*	country	noun
2	사람	*sa-ram*	person	noun
3	한국	*han-guk*	South Korea	noun

#	KOREAN	SAY IT	ENGLISH	TYPE
4	영국	*yeong-guk*	the UK; Britain	noun
5	스코틀랜드	*seu-ko-teul-laen-deu*	Scotland	noun
6	미국	*mi-guk*	the USA	noun
7	한국어	*han-gu-geo*	the Korean language	noun
8	영어	*yeong-eo*	English (language)	noun
9	도시	*do-si*	city	noun
10	고향	*go-hyang*	hometown	noun
11	어느	*eo-neu*	which	question word
12	어디	*eo-di*	where	question word
13	조금	*jo-geum*	a little	adverb
14	아직	*a-jik*	still; not yet	adverb
15	오다	*o-da*	to come	verb
16	살다	*sal-da*	to live	verb
17	잘하다	*jal-ha-da*	to be good at	verb
18	-에서	*e-seo*	from; at (where an action happens)	particle
19	-에	*e*	in; at; to (place)	particle
20	그래요?	*geu-rae-yo*	really? is that so?	phrase

사람 or 인? Both Are Correct

A Korean person is a **한국 사람** or, more formally and in writing, a **한국인** (the 인 here means "person"). Both are fine: 영국 사람이에요 and 영국인이에요 mean the same thing. In conversation

사람 is the more natural one.

Don't Say "I Am Korea"

Do not answer "Where are you from?" with just the country and 이에요: 저는 한국이에요 means "I am Korea". Say 한국 사람이에요 ("I am a Korean person") or 한국에서 왔어요 ("I came from Korea"). You can also say 저는 한국 출신이에요 jeoneun hanguk chulsin-ieyo, "I'm originally from Korea", which is useful when you now live somewhere else.

Britain, England and Scotland

영국 is the word for the United Kingdom as a whole, so a British person is a **영국 사람**. Korean also uses **잉글랜드** and **스코틀랜드** for the individual countries, for instance in football coverage where they play as separate teams. If you want to be specific, say **스코틀랜드에서 왔어요** ("I'm from Scotland"); Koreans will understand it. (How Koreans choose between 영국, 잉글랜드 and 스코틀랜드 in everyday speech wasn't something I could confirm, so listen for it.)

Your Korean Is Good!

When a foreigner says even a few words of Korean, people often respond **한국어 잘하세요!** It is a compliment and a kindness, not a real assessment. A modest reply is **아니에요, 조금 해요** ("no, only a little"), or just **감사합니다**. You can also say the language name two ways: **한국어** (more formal) and **한국말** (everyday).

As Heard in Dramas — 드라마에서

Characters often mention their **고향** (hometown) and sometimes switch to a regional **사투리** saturi (dialect), such as the speech of Busan or Jeju, which drama subtitles often mark with a note. Casual questions like **너 어디서 왔어?** ("where are you from?") use the shortened **어디서** for 어디에서.

Grammar Pointer

The particles **에서** and **에** are explained in Korean Grammar 1, chapter 4; the past tense **왔어요** in Korean Grammar 1, chapter 7; and "noun + 이에요/예요" in Korean Grammar 1, chapter 5.

✍️ Try It Yourself — 연습

Say each answer out loud first, then click to check.

1. Say "I'm British" politely.

▼ Show answer

저는 영국 사람이에요. (Jeoneun yeongguk saram-ieyo.)

2. Say "I'm from Scotland."

▼ Show answer

스코틀랜드에서 왔어요. (Seukoteullaendeu-eseo wasseoyo.)

3. Say "I live in Edinburgh."

▼ Show answer

에든버러에 살아요. (Edeunbeoreo-e sarayo.)

4. Ask "Which country are you from?" politely, and then to a close friend.

▼ Show answer

어느 나라 사람이에요? and 어느 나라 사람이야?

5. Choose 에 or 에서: 서울___ 살아요 (I live in Seoul) and 서울___ 왔어요 (I came from Seoul).

▼ Show answer

서울에 살아요 (where you live: 에) and 서울에서 왔어요 (where you came from: 에서).

6. Someone says 한국어 잘하세요! and you only know a little. Reply modestly.

▼ Show answer

아니에요, 조금 해요. (Anieyo, jogeum haeyo.) or 아직 잘 못해요. or simply 감사합니다.

👨‍👩‍👧 Talking About Your Family — 가족

*Family words in Korean have a twist English doesn't: the word for an **older brother or sister** depends on whether you are a man or a woman. This chapter teaches the main family words, how to say what family you have and don't have, how to count family members, and the little word **우리** ("our"), which Koreans use where English says "my". It builds on **있다** ("to be", "to have") from Chapter 1 and the counting from Chapter 3.*

eo = ㅓ (short, open "uh") **eu** = ㅡ (unrounded "oo") **ae** = ㅐ (like the vowel in "bed")

[ ] = how the word is actually said, where it differs from the spelling

① How Many in Your Family? — 가족이 몇 명이에요?

A:

가족이 몇 명이에요?

Gajok-i myeot myeong-ieyo?

How many people are in your family?

B:

우리 가족은 네 명이에요. 어머니, 아버지, 여동생, 저예요.

Uri gajog-eun ne myeong-ieyo. Eomeoni, abeoji, yeodongsaeng, jeo-yeyo.

There are four of us: my mother, my father, my younger sister and me.

A:

아, 네 명이요? 좋은 가족이에요!

A, ne myeong-iyo? Joeun gajog-ieyo!

Oh, four? What a lovely family!

② Brothers and Sisters (a man speaking) — 형제가 있어요?

A:

형제가 있어요?

Hyeongjega isseoyo?

Do you have brothers or sisters?

B:

네, 형이 한 명 있어요. 누나도 한 명 있어요.

Ne, hyeong-i han myeong isseoyo. Nuna-do han myeong isseoyo.

Yes, I have one older brother and one older sister.

A:

와, 가족이 많아요!

Wa, gajog-i manayo!

Wow, a big family!

③ Brothers and Sisters (a woman speaking) — 오빠와 언니

A:

형제가 있어요?

Hyeongjega isseoyo?

Do you have brothers or sisters?

B:

네, 오빠가 한 명 있어요. 언니도 한 명 있어요.

Ne, oppa-ga han myeong isseoyo. Eonni-do han myeong isseoyo.

Yes, I have one older brother and one older sister.

A:

남동생은 없어요?

Namdongsaeng-eun eopseoyo?

No younger brother?

B:

네, 없어요.

Ne, eopseoyo.

No, I don't.

④ Parents and Grandparents — 부모님과 할머니

A:

부모님은 어디에 사세요?

Bumonim-eun eodi-e saseyo?

Where do your parents live?

B:

부모님은 서울에 사세요.

Bumonim-eun seoul-e saseyo.

My parents live in Seoul.

A:

할머니도 서울에 사세요?

Halmeoni-do seoul-e saseyo?

Does your grandmother live in Seoul too?

B:

아니요, 할머니는 부산에 계세요.

Aniyo, halmeoni-neun busan-e gyeseyo.

No, my grandmother is in Busan.

⑤ Two Friends (casual) — 친구끼리

A:

너 형제 있어?

Neo hyeongje isseo?

Do you have any siblings?

B:

응, 여동생이 한 명 있어.

Eung, yeodongsaeng-i han myeong isseo.

Yeah, I have a younger sister.

A:

몇 살이야?

⑥ Married? — 결혼했어요?

A:

결혼했어요?

Gyeolhonhaesseoyo?

Are you married?

B:

네, 결혼했어요. 남편하고 아들하고 같이 살아요.

Ne, gyeolhonhaesseoyo. Nampyeon-hago adeul-hago gachi sarayo.

Yes, I am. I live with my husband and my son.

Myeot sal-iya?

How old is she?

B:

열다섯 살이야. 너는?

Yeoldaseot sal-iya. Neoneun?

She's fifteen. And you?

A:

아들은 몇 살이에요?

Adeul-eun myeot sal-ieyo?

How old is your son?

B:

세 살이에요.

Se sal-ieyo.

He's three.

🔑 Key Phrases — 중요한 표현

Use the polite column with people you don't know well. The casual column is for friends your own age or younger, and for understanding what you hear.

SITUATION	POLITE	CASUAL
How many people are in your family?	가족이 몇 명이에요? *gajogi myeot myeong-ieyo?*	가족이 몇 명이야? *gajogi myeot myeong-iya?*
There are four of us	우리 가족은 네 명이에요 *uri gajog-eun ne myeong-ieyo*	우리 가족은 네 명이야 *uri gajog-eun ne myeong-iya*
Do you have brothers or sisters?	형제가 있어요? *hyeongjega isseoyo?*	형제 있어? *hyeongje isseo?*
I have one older sister (a man says)	누나가 한 명 있어요 *nunaga han myeong isseoyo*	누나 한 명 있어 *nuna han myeong isseo*
I have one older sister (a woman says)	언니가 한 명 있어요 *eonniga han myeong isseoyo*	언니 한 명 있어 *eonni han myeong isseo*
I have a younger sister	여동생이 있어요 *yeodongsaengi isseoyo*	여동생 있어 *yeodongsaeng isseo*
I have no brothers or sisters	형제가 없어요 *hyeongjega eopseoyo*	형제 없어 *hyeongje eopseo*

SITUATION	POLITE	CASUAL
Where do your parents live?	부모님은 어디에 사세요? *bumonim-eun eodi-e saseyo?*	부모님 어디 사셔? *bumonim eodi sasyeo?*
Are you married?	결혼했어요? *gyeolhonhaesseoyo?*	결혼했어? *gyeolhonhaesseo?*

🔤 Three Verbs You Can Already Use — 동사

*In Korean you say you "have" a relative by saying that the relative exists (**있다**), or doesn't (**없다**): 누나가 있어요, "there is an older sister (for me)". You can also use the verb **결혼하다** (to marry).*

VERB	EVERYDAY POLITE (-요)	FORMAL (-ㅂ니다)	CASUAL
to be / to have (있다)	있어요 *isseoyo*	있습니다 *itseumnida [읻씀니다]*	있어 *isseo*
to not be / not have (없다)	없어요 *eopseoyo*	없습니다 *eopseumnida [업씀니다]*	없어 *eopseo*
to marry (결혼하다)	결혼해요 *gyeolhonhaeyo*	결혼합니다 *gyeolhonhamnida*	결혼해 *gyeolhonhae*

To say you *are married* use the past: 결혼했어요 (literally "I married", and it stays true as a statement of your state). To say you are single, 결혼 안 했어요 ("I haven't married").

👨‍👩‍👧 Family Words — 가족 단어

Parents, grandparents, children, spouses

MEANING	RESPECTFUL / FORMAL	EVERYDAY / AFFECTIONATE
father	아버지 *abeoji*	아빠 *appa*

MEANING	RESPECTFUL / FORMAL	EVERYDAY / AFFECTIONATE
mother	어머니 *eomeoni*	엄마 *eomma*
parents	부모님 *bumonim* (respectful; the usual word)	
grandfather	할아버지 *harabeoji* [하라버지]	
grandmother	할머니 *halmeoni*	
son	아들 *adeul*	
daughter	딸 *ttal*	
husband	남편 *nampyeon*	
wife	아내 *anae*	

Brothers and sisters: it depends on who is speaking

RELATIVE	A MAN SAYS	A WOMAN SAYS
older brother	형 *hyeong*	오빠 *oppa*
older sister	누나 *nuna*	언니 *eonni*
younger brother	남동생 *namdongsaeng* (both)	
younger sister	여동생 *yeodongsaeng* (both)	
younger sibling (either)	동생 *dongsaeng*	
brothers and sisters	형제 *hyeongje*	

The pairs are easy to mix up, so remember them in pairs: a **man** says **형 / 누나**, a **woman** says **오빠 / 언니**.

🔢 Counting the Family — 가족 수

Count people with the native numbers (Chapter 3) and the counter **명** myeong. Remember the short forms 한, 두, 세, 네.

PEOPLE	KOREAN	SAY IT
1	한 명	*han myeong*
2	두 명	*du myeong*
3	세 명	*se myeong*
4	네 명	*ne myeong*
5	다섯 명	*da-seot myeong*

Word order: the person, the number and the counter, then 있어요: 동생이 두 명 있어요. (I have two younger siblings.)

📖 Vocabulary — 어휘

20 key words. Read the Korean first, then check the romanization and the "Say it" column.

#	KOREAN	SAY IT	ENGLISH	TYPE
1	가족	*ga-jok*	family	noun
2	부모님	*bu-mo-nim*	parents	noun
3	아버지	*a-beo-ji*	father (respectful)	noun
4	어머니	*eo-meo-ni*	mother (respectful)	noun
5	아빠 / 엄마	*a-ppa / eom-ma*	dad / mum (everyday)	noun
6	형	*hyeong*	older brother (said by a man)	noun
7	오빠	*o-ppa*	older brother (said by a woman)	noun

#	KOREAN	SAY IT	ENGLISH	TYPE
8	누나	*nu-na*	older sister (said by a man)	noun
9	언니	*eon-ni*	older sister (said by a woman)	noun
10	동생	*dong-saeng*	younger brother or sister	noun
11	형제	*hyeong-je*	brothers and sisters	noun
12	할아버지	*ha-ra-beo-ji*	grandfather	noun
13	할머니	*hal-meo-ni*	grandmother	noun
14	아들	*a-deul*	son	noun
15	딸	*ttal*	daughter	noun
16	남편	*nam-pyeon*	husband	noun
17	아내	*a-nae*	wife	noun
18	우리	*u-ri*	we; our (also "my")	pronoun
19	결혼하다	*gyeol-hon-ha-da*	to marry	verb
20	같이	*ga-chi*	together; with	adverb

Two Brothers, Two Sisters: Why the Speaker Matters

A **younger** brother or sister is the same word for everyone (남동생, 여동생). But for **older** siblings Korean uses a different word depending on the *speaker*: a man says **형** and **누나**, a woman says **오빠** and **언니**. So the same older brother is 형 to his brother and 오빠 to his sister. That is why the word you choose also tells people whether you are a man or a woman.

우리 Means "Our", and Often "My"

Koreans often say **우리** ("our") where English says "my" for family, home and company: 우리 엄마 "my mum", 우리 가족 "my family", 우리 회사 "my company". Even a husband or wife is 우리 남편

or 우리 아내. You can use **제** (Chapter 2) too; 우리 sounds natural and warm. It does not mean you share the person with the listener.

Showing Respect to Family Elders

Words for parents and grandparents often take the respectful verb forms from Chapter 1: 부모님은 서울에 사세요 ("my parents live in Seoul", with **사세요** from 살다) and 할머니는 부산에 계세요 ("my grandmother is in Busan", with **계세요**, the respectful form of 있다). Use **있어요** for yourself and for friends, **계세요** for people you respect. Korean Grammar 1, chapter 10 explains the ending **-세요**.

As Heard in Dramas — 드라마에서

You will hear **오빠** and **언니** far outside the family. A woman may call an older male friend or a boyfriend 오빠, and an older female friend 언니; men say **형** and **누나** to older male and female friends. It signals closeness, and it can sound too familiar if the relationship is formal. At school or work you will also hear **선배** (senior), often as **선배님**. Mothers are called **엄마** and fathers **아빠** by adults too, not only by children, and grandparents are 할머니 and 할아버지 (and also used for any older person).

Grammar Pointer

The subject marker 이/가 in 누나가 있어요 and the topic marker 은/는 are explained in Korean Grammar 1, chapter 3; 하고 ("with, and") and 도 ("also") in Korean Grammar 1, chapter 4; the counter 명 and the numbers in Korean Grammar 1, chapter 9; and the past tense 결혼했어요 in Korean Grammar 1, chapter 7.

✍️ Try It Yourself — 연습

Say each answer out loud first, then click to check.

1. Say "There are four people in my family."

▼ Show answer

우리 가족은 네 명이에요. (Uri gajog-eun ne myeong-ieyo.)

2. What does a man call his older sister? What does a woman call hers?

▼ Show answer

A man says 누나; a woman says 언니.

3. Ask "Do you have brothers or sisters?" and answer "I have one younger sister."

▼ Show answer

형제가 있어요? and 여동생이 한 명 있어요.

4. Say "mum" and "dad" in everyday speech, and "mother" and "father" respectfully.

▼ Show answer

Everyday: 엄마, 아빠. Respectful: 어머니, 아버지.

5. Say "My parents live in Seoul" respectfully.

▼ Show answer

부모님은 서울에 사세요. (Bumonim-eun seoul-e saseyo.)

6. You are a man with two older brothers. How do you say "I have two older brothers"?

▼ Show answer

형이 두 명 있어요. (Hyeong-i du myeong isseoyo.) A man says 형 for an older brother.

💼 Talking About Your Job — 직업

In this chapter you learn to ask what someone does, say what you do, and say where you work or study. You will also meet the respectful 님 that Koreans attach to job titles, and see how work titles are used in place of names. It builds on 이에요/예요 from Chapter 2 and on 에서 from Chapter 4.

eo = ㅓ (short, open "uh") **eu** = ㅡ (unrounded "oo") **ae** = ㅐ (like the vowel in "bed")

[ ] = how the word is actually said, where it differs from the spelling

① What Do You Do? — 무슨 일을 하세요?

A:

무슨 일을 하세요?

Museun il-eul haseyo?

What do you do for a living?

B:

저는 회사원이에요. 서울에서 일해요.

Jeoneun hoesawon-ieyo. Seoul-eseo ilhaeyo.

I'm an office worker. I work in Seoul.

A:

아, 그래요? 일이 재미있어요?

A, geuraeyo? Il-i jaemiisseoyo?

Oh, really? Is the work interesting?

B:

네, 재미있어요.

Ne, jaemiisseoyo.

Yes, it is.

② A Student — 대학생이에요

A:

직업이 뭐예요?

Jigeobi mwoyeyo?

What's your occupation?

B:

저는 학생이에요. 대학교에 다녀요.

Jeoneun haksaeng-ieyo. Daehakgyo-e danyeoyo.

I'm a student. I go to university.

A:

무슨 공부를 해요?

Museun gongbu-reul haeyo?

What do you study?

B:

컴퓨터 공부를 해요.

Keompyuteo gongbu-reul haeyo.

I study computing.

③ A Teacher — 선생님이세요?

A:

무슨 일을 하세요?

Museun il-eul haseyo?

What do you do?

B:

학교에서 영어를 가르쳐요.

Hakgyo-eseo yeongeo-reul gareuchyeoyo.

I teach English at a school.

A:

아, 선생님이세요?

A, seonsaengnim-iseyo?

Oh, you're a teacher?

B:

네, 선생님이에요.

Ne, seonsaengnim-ieyo.

Yes, I am.

④ Working With Computers — 컴퓨터 회사에서

A:

무슨 일을 하세요?

Museun il-eul haseyo?

What do you do?

B:

컴퓨터 회사에서 기술 지원 일을 해요.

Keompyuteo hoesa-eseo gisul jiwon il-eul haeyo.

I work in technical support at a computer company.

A:

바쁘세요?

Bappeuseyo?

Are you busy?

B:

네, 아주 바빠요. 그래도 재미있어요.

Ne, aju bappayo. Geuraedo jaemiisseoyo.

Yes, very busy. But it's fun.

⑤ At a Business Meeting (formal) — 명함을 주고받을 때

A:

어디에서 일하십니까?

Eodi-eseo ilhasimnikka?

Where do you work?

B:

무역 회사에서 일합니다. 영업팀 과장입니다.

Muyeok hoesa-eseo ilhamnida. Yeongeopteam gwajang-imnida.

⑥ Two Friends (casual) — 친구끼리

A:

너 무슨 일 해?

Neo museun il hae?

What do you do?

B:

나 은행에서 일해.

Na eunhaeng-eseo ilhae.

I work at a bank.

A:

은행원이야? 멋있다!

Eunhaengwon-iya? Meositda!

I work at a trading company. I'm a section chief in the sales team.

A:

아, 과장님이십니까? 만나서 반갑습니다.

A, gwajangnim-isimnikka? Mannaseo bangapseumnida.

Oh, you're a section chief? Nice to meet you.

A bank clerk? Cool!

B:

응. 너는?

Eung. Neoneun?

Yeah. And you?

🔑 Key Phrases — 중요한 표현

Use the polite column with people you don't know well. The casual column is for friends your own age or younger, and for understanding what you hear.

SITUATION	POLITE	CASUAL
What do you do?	무슨 일을 하세요? *museun il-eul haseyo?*	무슨 일 해? *museun il hae?*
What's your occupation?	직업이 뭐예요? *jigeobi mwoyeyo?* (formal: 직업이 무엇입니까?)	직업이 뭐야? *jigeobi mwoya?*
I'm a ...	저는 ...이에요 / ...예요 *jeoneun ...ieyo / ...yeyo*	나는 ...이야 / ...야 *naneun ...iya / ...ya*
I work as a ... (job + work)	저는 간호사 일을 해요 *jeoneun ganhosa il-eul haeyo*	나는 간호사 일을 해 *naneun ganhosa il-eul hae*
I work at a ...	병원에서 일해요 *byeongwon-eseo ilhaeyo*	병원에서 일해 *byeongwon-eseo ilhae*
Where do you work?	어디에서 일하세요? *eodi-eseo ilhaseyo?*	어디에서 일해? *eodi-eseo ilhae?*
I'm a student	학생이에요. 대학교에 다녀요. *haksaeng-ieyo. daehakgyo-e*	학생이야. 대학교에 다녀. *haksaeng-iya. daehakgyo-e*

SITUATION	POLITE	CASUAL
	danyeoyo.	*danyeo.*
What do you study?	무슨 공부를 해요? *museun gongbu-reul haeyo?*	무슨 공부 해? *museun gongbu hae?*
Are you a teacher? (respectful)	선생님이세요? *seonsaengnim-iseyo?*	(not used)

🔤 Three Verbs You Can Already Use — 동사

*The verbs for work and study: **일하다** (to work), **다니다** (to attend, to go regularly to a school or workplace) and **가르치다** (to teach).*

VERB	EVERYDAY POLITE (-요)	FORMAL (-ㅂ니다)	CASUAL
to work (일하다)	일해요 *ilhaeyo*	일합니다 *ilhamnida*	일해 *ilhae*
to attend (다니다)	다녀요 *danyeoyo*	다닙니다 *danimnida*	다녀 *danyeo*
to teach (가르치다)	가르쳐요 *gareuchyeoyo*	가르칩니다 *gareuchimnida*	가르쳐 *gareuchyeo*

👨‍💼 Jobs and Workplaces — 직업과 일터

Jobs

JOB	KOREAN	SAY IT
student	학생	*hak-ssaeng*
teacher	선생님	*seon-saeng-nim*
professor	교수	*gyo-su*

JOB	KOREAN	SAY IT
doctor	의사	*ui-sa*
nurse	간호사	*gan-ho-sa*
office worker	회사원	*hoe-sa-won*
bank clerk	은행원	*eun-haeng-won*
civil servant	공무원	*gong-mu-won*
engineer	엔지니어	*en-ji-ni-eo*
(software) developer	개발자	*gae-bal-jja*
cook; chef	요리사	*yo-ri-sa*
police officer	경찰	*gyeong-chal*
singer	가수	*ga-su*
actor	배우	*bae-u*
journalist	기자	*gi-ja*
writer	작가	*jak-kka*

Many job words end in the same handful of syllables: **-원** means a member or worker (회사원, 은행원, 공무원), **-사** a trained professional (의사, 간호사, 요리사), **-자** a person who does something (개발자, 기자) and **-가** a specialist or artist (작가). Spotting these helps you guess new words.

Places of work and study

PLACE	KOREAN	I WORK/STUDY THERE
company	회사 *hoesa*	회사에서 일해요

PLACE	KOREAN	I WORK/STUDY THERE
hospital	병원 *byeongwon*	병원에서 일해요
bank	은행 *eunhaeng*	은행에서 일해요
school	학교 *hakgyo*	학교에서 일해요
restaurant	식당 *sikdang*	식당에서 일해요
university	대학교 *daehakgyo*	대학교에 다녀요

🏢 Titles at Work and Respectful Forms — 직함과 존댓말

In a Korean office a colleague or boss is usually addressed by **surname + job title + 님**, not by name. The **님** is a respectful suffix and shouldn't be left out for someone senior.

TITLE	ROUGH MEANING	EXAMPLE
사장님 *sajangnim*	company president	박 사장님
부장님 *bujangnim*	department head	김 부장님
팀장님 *timjangnim*	team leader	이 팀장님
과장님 *gwajangnim*	section chief; manager	최 과장님
대리님 *daerinim*	assistant manager	정 대리님

When you ask a respected person whether they hold a job, the copula changes too: **이에요/예요** becomes **이세요/세요**.

PLAIN	RESPECTFUL
선생님이에요? (after a consonant)	선생님이세요? *seonsaengnim-iseyo?*
의사예요? (after a vowel)	의사세요? *uisa-seyo?*

PLAIN	RESPECTFUL
과장님입니다 / 과장님이에요	과장님이십니까? *gwajangnim-isimnikka?* (formal question)

📖 Vocabulary — 어휘

20 key words. Read the Korean first, then check the romanization and the "Say it" column.

#	KOREAN	SAY IT	ENGLISH	TYPE
1	직업	*ji-geop*	occupation; job	noun
2	일	*il*	work; job; task	noun
3	회사	*hoe-sa*	company	noun
4	회사원	*hoe-sa-won*	office worker	noun
5	학생	*hak-ssaeng*	student	noun
6	대학교	*dae-hak-kkyo*	university	noun
7	선생님	*seon-saeng-nim*	teacher	noun
8	의사	*ui-sa*	doctor	noun
9	간호사	*gan-ho-sa*	nurse	noun
10	은행원	*eun-haeng-won*	bank clerk	noun
11	엔지니어	*en-ji-ni-eo*	engineer	noun
12	개발자	*gae-bal-jja*	developer	noun
13	공부	*gong-bu*	study	noun
14	일하다	*il-ha-da*	to work	verb

#	KOREAN	SAY IT	ENGLISH	TYPE
15	다니다	*da-ni-da*	to attend; to go regularly to	verb
16	가르치다	*ga-reu-chi-da*	to teach	verb
17	무슨	*mu-seun*	what (kind of)	question word
18	사장님	*sa-jang-nim*	company president; boss	title
19	팀장님	*tim-jjang-nim*	team leader	title
20	과장님	*gwa-jang-nim*	section chief; manager	title

Two Ways to Ask — and to Answer

To ask what someone does, **무슨 일을 하세요?** ("what work do you do?") is the standard polite question. **직업이 뭐예요?** ("what's your occupation?") is polite and a little more direct, like a form; the very formal version is 직업이 무엇입니까? You can answer with just the job: 저는 간호사예요, or by naming the work: 저는 간호사 일을 해요 ("I do nurse's work"). To add where, put the place and **에서** in front: 병원에서 일해요 (Korean Grammar 1, chapter 4).

Titles Replace Names

In Korean companies people are called by **surname + title + 님**, such as 김 부장님. It would sound rude to call a senior colleague by their first name. The same pattern covers other roles: 교수님 (professor), 기사님 (driver or technician). Newer or junior staff are, according to one source, often addressed by name + 님 or 씨 instead of a rank; rank titles are also being questioned in some companies today, so listen to what colleagues around you say. Outside work, a shop or restaurant owner is often called 사장님 too.

As Heard in Dramas — 드라마에서

Office dramas show the ladder in action: **팀장님**, **과장님**, **부장님** and **사장님** or **대표님** (the head of a company) are used in nearly every scene, with polite endings (**-세요**, **-ㅂ니다**). Juniors reply **네, 알겠습니다** ("yes, understood"). Away from the office the same characters switch to casual speech with friends. Students often say they **알바** ("part-time job") on the side.

Grammar Pointer

이에요/예요 is explained in Korean Grammar 1, chapter 5; the particle **에서** (where an action happens) in Korean Grammar 1, chapter 4; the polite endings and the respectful **-세요** in Korean Grammar 1, chapter 10; and how verbs like 일해요 are built in Korean Grammar 1, chapter 6.

✍️ Try It Yourself — 연습

Say each answer out loud first, then click to check.

1. Say "I'm a student" and "I'm a doctor" politely.

▼ Show answer

저는 학생이에요. and 저는 의사예요.

2. Ask a stranger what they do for a living (polite), and then a friend (casual).

▼ Show answer

무슨 일을 하세요? and 무슨 일 해?

3. Say "I work at a bank."

▼ Show answer

은행에서 일해요. (Eunhaeng-eseo ilhaeyo.)

4. Say "I'm a teacher and I teach English at a school."

▼ Show answer

저는 선생님이에요. 학교에서 영어를 가르쳐요.

5. How do you address Mr Kim, a department head, politely?

▼ Show answer

김 부장님 (surname + title + 님).

6. Choose 이에요 or 예요: 회사원___, 의사___, 선생님___, 개발자___.

▼ Show answer

회사원이에요, 의사예요, 선생님이에요, 개발자예요.

🗓️ Days, Dates & Telling the Time — 요일, 날짜, 시간

*This chapter has three parts: **Part 1** days of the week, months and dates; **Part 2** telling the time; **Part 3** making plans. The key rule is the one from Chapter 3: **dates and minutes use Sino-Korean numbers**, but **hours use native Korean numbers** (Korean Grammar 1, chapter 9).*

yo = ㅛ ("yo" in "yoga") **eo** = ㅓ (short, open "uh") **eu** = ㅡ (unrounded "oo")

[ ] = how the word is actually said, where it differs from the spelling

Part 1 · Days, Months & Dates — 요일, 월, 일

① What Day Is It? — 오늘이 무슨 요일이에요?

A:

오늘이 무슨 요일이에요?

Oneuri museun yoirieyo?

What day is it today?

B:

수요일이에요.

Suyoirieyo.

It's Wednesday.

A:

내일은요?

Naeireunyo?

And tomorrow?

B:

목요일이에요.

Mogyoirieyo.

It's Thursday.

② A Birthday — 생일이 언제예요?

A:

생일이 언제예요?

Saengiri eonjeyeyo?

When is your birthday?

B:

시월 팔 일이에요.

Siwol pal irieyo.

It's October 8th.

A:

오늘이 며칠이에요?

Oneuri myeochirieyo?

What's today's date?

B:

시월 오 일이에요. 곧이네요!

Siwol o irieyo. Gosineyo!

It's October 5th. Soon, then!

Days of the week — 요일

Each day is a one-syllable word plus **요일** ("day of the week"). Remember the two sound changes in the Say it column: the final consonant of the first syllable links to 요일.

DAY	KOREAN	SAY IT	MEANING OF FIRST SYLLABLE
Monday	월요일	*wo-ryo-il*	moon
Tuesday	화요일	*hwa-yo-il*	fire
Wednesday	수요일	*su-yo-il*	water
Thursday	목요일	*mo-gyo-il*	wood
Friday	금요일	*geu-myo-il*	metal; gold
Saturday	토요일	*to-yo-il*	earth
Sunday	일요일	*i-ryo-il*	sun

Months — 월

Sino-Korean number + **월**. Two months are irregular: June is **유월** (not 육월) and October is **시월** (not 십월).

MONTH	KOREAN	SAY IT	MONTH	KOREAN	SAY IT
January	일월	*i-rwol*	July	칠월	*chi-rwol*
February	이월	*i-wol*	August	팔월	*pa-rwol*
March	삼월	*sa-mwol*	September	구월	*gu-wol*
April	사월	*sa-wol*	October	시월	*si-wol*
May	오월	*o-wol*	November	십일월	*si-bi-rwol*
June	유월	*yu-wol*	December	십이월	*sip-i-wol*

Dates — 일

The day of the month is a Sino-Korean number + **일**: 오 일 (5th), 십오 일 (15th), 이십삼 일 (23rd). Ask "which month" with 몇 월 and "which day of the month" with 며칠 (never 몇일). Korean dates go from big to small: **year** → **month** → **day**, so 10 October 2026 is 이천이십육 년 시월 십 일.

Part 2 · Telling the Time — 시간

③ What Time Is It? — 지금 몇 시예요?

A:

실례합니다. 지금 몇 시예요?

Sillyehamnida. Jigeum myeot siyeyo?

Excuse me. What time is it now?

B:

세 시 십오 분이에요.

Se si sibo bunieyo.

It's 3:15.

A:

감사합니다.

Gamsahamnida.

Thank you.

④ Meeting Up — 몇 시에 만나요?

A:

내일 몇 시에 만나요?

Naeil myeot sie mannayo?

What time shall we meet tomorrow?

B:

오후 일곱 시 반에 만나요.

Ohu ilgop si bane mannayo.

Let's meet at 7:30 in the evening.

A:

좋아요. 내일 봐요!

Joayo. Naeil bwayo!

Great. See you tomorrow!

Hours — native numbers + 시

Four native numbers shorten before 시: **한, 두, 세, 네**. So 1 o'clock is 한 시, not 하나 시.

TIME	KOREAN	SAY IT	TIME	KOREAN	SAY IT
1:00	한 시	*han si*	7:00	일곱 시	*il-gop si*
2:00	두 시	*du si*	8:00	여덟 시	*yeo-deol si*

TIME	KOREAN	SAY IT	TIME	KOREAN	SAY IT
3:00	세 시	*se si*	9:00	아홉 시	*a-hop si*
4:00	네 시	*ne si*	10:00	열 시	*yeol si*
5:00	다섯 시	*da-seot si*	11:00	열한 시	*yeol-han si*
6:00	여섯 시	*yeo-seot si*	12:00	열두 시	*yeol-du si*

Minutes — Sino-Korean numbers + 분

TIME	KOREAN	SAY IT
3:05	세 시 오 분	*se si o bun*
3:10	세 시 십 분	*se si sip bun*
3:15	세 시 십오 분	*se si si-bo bun*
3:30	세 시 삼십 분 or 세 시 반	*se si sam-sip bun / se si ban*
3:45	세 시 사십오 분	*se si sa-si-bo bun*

반 means "half", so 세 시 반 is "half past three". Add **오전** (morning, a.m.) or **오후** (afternoon/evening, p.m.) in front when it is not clear from context: 오전 열 시 = 10 a.m., 오후 일곱 시 = 7 p.m. To say *at* a time, add **에**: 세 시에 만나요.

Part 3 · Making Plans — 약속

⑤ A Meeting (formal) — 회의 시간

A:

회의가 몇 시입니까?

Hoeuiga myeot siimnikka?

What time is the meeting?

⑥ Two Friends (casual) — 주말에 뭐 해?

A:

토요일에 시간 있어?

Toyoire sigan isseo?

Are you free on Saturday?

B:

금요일 오전 열 시 삼십 분입니다.

Geumyoil ojeon yeol si samsip bunimnida.

Friday at 10:30 a.m.

A:

알겠습니다. 감사합니다.

Algetseumnida. Gamsahamnida.

Understood. Thank you.

B:

응, 있어. 몇 시에 만나?

Eung, isseo. Myeot sie manna?

Yeah. What time do we meet?

A:

두 시에 만나자!

Du sie mannaja!

Let's meet at two!

🔑 Key Phrases — 중요한 표현

SITUATION	POLITE	CASUAL
What day is it?	오늘이 무슨 요일이에요? *oneuri museun yoirieyo?*	오늘 무슨 요일이야? *oneul museun yoiriya?*
What's the date?	오늘이 며칠이에요? *oneuri myeochirieyo?*	오늘 며칠이야? *oneul myeochiriya?*
When is ...?	...이/가 언제예요? *...i/ga eonjeyeyo?*	...이/가 언제야? *...i/ga eonjeya?*
What time is it?	지금 몇 시예요? *jigeum myeot siyeyo?*	지금 몇 시야? *jigeum myeot siya?*
What time shall we meet?	몇 시에 만나요? *myeot sie mannayo?*	몇 시에 만나? *myeot sie manna?*
Are you free?	시간 있어요? *sigan isseoyo?*	시간 있어? *sigan isseo?*

🔤 Three Verbs You Can Already Use — 동사

VERB	EVERYDAY POLITE (-요)	FORMAL (-ㅂ니다)	CASUAL
to meet (만나다)	만나요 *mannayo*	만납니다 *mannamnida*	만나 *manna*
to see (보다)	봐요 *bwayo*	봅니다 *bomnida*	봐 *bwa*
to have; to exist (있다)	있어요 *isseoyo*	있습니다 *itseumnida*	있어 *isseo*

📖 Vocabulary — 어휘

#	KOREAN	SAY IT	ENGLISH	TYPE
1	오늘	*o-neul*	today	noun
2	내일	*nae-il*	tomorrow	noun
3	어제	*eo-je*	yesterday	noun
4	지금	*ji-geum*	now	noun
5	요일	*yo-il*	day of the week	noun
6	주말	*ju-mal*	weekend	noun
7	생일	*saeng-il*	birthday	noun
8	월	*wol*	month	noun
9	일	*il*	day of the month	noun
10	시	*si*	o'clock; hour (of the clock)	noun
11	분	*bun*	minute	noun
12	반	*ban*	half; half past	noun

#	KOREAN	SAY IT	ENGLISH	TYPE
13	오전	*o-jeon*	a.m.; morning	noun
14	오후	*o-hu*	p.m.; afternoon	noun
15	시간	*si-gan*	time; free time; hours (duration)	noun
16	몇	*myeot*	how many; what (number)	question word
17	언제	*eon-je*	when	question word
18	며칠	*myeo-chil*	what day of the month	question word
19	만나다	*man-na-da*	to meet	verb
20	보다	*bo-da*	to see; to watch	verb

Two Number Systems in One Sentence

세 시 십오 분 uses both: **세** (native 3) for the hour and **십오** (Sino-Korean 15) for the minutes. The counter decides: 시 takes native numbers, while 분, 월 and 일 take Sino-Korean numbers. Sound check: 십오 is said "si-bo", and 시월 (October) has no ㅂ at all.

시 vs 시간

시 names a clock time (세 시, three o'clock); **시간** is an amount of time (세 시간, three hours) and also means free time (시간 있어요?). Mixing them up is a common learner slip.

As Heard in Dramas — 드라마에서

Two things you will hear all the time: **약속** ("an appointment, a promise to meet") as in 약속 있어요 ("I have plans"), and friends suggesting **-자**: 두 시에 만나자 ("let's meet at two"), as in dialog 6. Characters also say **몇 시야?** in a panic when they are late.

Grammar Pointer

> The two number systems and their counters are in Korean Grammar 1, chapter 9. The particle **에** for "at (a time)" is covered in Korean Grammar 1, chapter 4, and the copula **이에요/예요** in Korean Grammar 1, chapter 5.

✍️ Try It Yourself — 연습

Say each answer out loud first, then click to check.

1. Say "Today is Friday and tomorrow is Saturday."

▼ Show answer

오늘은 금요일이에요. 내일은 토요일이에요.

2. Say "June 6th" and "October 10th".

▼ Show answer

유월 육 일 and 시월 십 일.

3. Ask politely what time it is, then answer "It's 9:20".

▼ Show answer

지금 몇 시예요? — 아홉 시 이십 분이에요.

4. Say "Let's meet at half past seven (p.m.)".

▼ Show answer

오후 일곱 시 반에 만나요.

5. Which is right for 4:00: 네 시 or 사 시?

▼ Show answer

네 시. Hours use native numbers (and 4 shortens to 네).

6. Ask a friend casually whether they're free on Sunday.

▼ Show answer

일요일에 시간 있어?

☕ Ordering Food & Drink at a Café — 카페에서

*Cafés are everywhere in Korea, and ordering is one of the easiest ways to use Korean for real. The whole job comes down to one pattern: **[thing] + [number] + [counter] + 주세요** ("please give me..."). You will also learn the two counters **잔** (cups) and **개** (items), how to say whether you are staying or taking away, and how to pay.*

eo = ㅓ (short, open "uh") **eu** = ㅡ (unrounded "oo") **ae** = ㅐ (like the vowel in "bed")

[ ] = how the word is actually said, where it differs from the spelling

① The Basic Order — 아메리카노 한 잔 주세요

직원:

어서 오세요. 주문하시겠어요?

Eoseo oseyo. Jumunhasigesseoyo?

Welcome. Would you like to order?

손님:

아이스 아메리카노 한 잔 주세요.

Aiseu amerikano han jan juseyo.

One iced americano, please.

직원:

네. 또 필요하신 거 있으세요?

Ne. Tto piryohasin geo isseuseyo?

Yes. Anything else you need?

손님:

아니요, 괜찮아요.

Aniyo, gwaenchanayo.

No, that's fine.

② Here or To Go? — 여기서 드실 거예요?

직원:

여기서 드실 거예요?

Yeogiseo deusil geoyeyo?

Will you have it here?

손님:

아니요, 가져갈게요.

Aniyo, gajyeogalgeyo.

No, I'll take it with me.

직원:

따뜻한 거요, 차가운 거요?

Ttatteutan geoyo, chagaun geoyo?

Hot or cold?

손님:

따뜻한 라테로 주세요.

Ttatteutan latero juseyo.

A hot latte, please.

③ Drinks and Cake — 두 잔이랑 케이크 하나요

④ At the Kiosk — 키오스크가 어려워요

손님:

커피 두 잔이랑 케이크 한 개 주세요.

Keopi du janirang keikeu han gae juseyo.

Two coffees and one cake, please.

직원:

케이크는 무슨 맛으로 드릴까요?

Keikeuneun museun maseuro deurilkkayo?

Which flavour of cake would you like?

손님:

초콜릿 케이크로 주세요.

Chokollit keikeuro juseyo.

Chocolate cake, please.

손님:

저기요, 이거 어떻게 해요?

Jeogiyo, igeo eotteoke haeyo?

Excuse me, how do I do this?

직원:

메뉴를 누르고 카드로 계산하세요.

Menyureul nureugo kadeuro gyesanhaseyo.

Press the menu item and pay by card.

손님:

아, 고맙습니다.

A, gomapseumnida.

Ah, thank you.

⑤ Paying (formal) — 계산해 주세요

손님:

계산해 주세요.

Gyesanhae juseyo.

The bill, please.

직원:

카드로 하시겠습니까, 현금으로 하시겠습니까?

Kadeuro hasigetseumnikka, hyeongeumeuro hasigetseumnikka?

Would you like to pay by card or by cash?

손님:

카드로 할게요. 영수증도 주세요.

Kadeuro halgeyo. Yeongsujeungdo juseyo.

By card. And a receipt too, please.

⑥ Two Friends (casual) — 뭐 마셔?

A:

뭐 마셔? 내가 살게.

Mwo masyeo? Naega salge.

What are you drinking? I'll buy.

B:

나는 녹차. 고마워!

Naneun nokcha. Gomawo!

Green tea for me. Thanks!

A:

케이크도 먹을래?

Keikeudo meogeullae?

Want some cake too?

B:

응, 좋아!

Eung, joa!

Yes, sure!

🔑 Key Phrases — 중요한 표현

Use the polite column with staff and strangers. The casual column is for friends your own age or younger, and for understanding what you hear.

SITUATION	POLITE	CASUAL
One … please	… 한 잔 주세요 *… han jan juseyo*	… 한 잔 줘 *… han jan jwo*
I'll order	주문할게요 *jumunhalgeyo*	주문할게 *jumunhalge*
Having it here	여기서 먹을게요 *yeogiseo meogeulgeyo*	여기서 먹을게 *yeogiseo meogeulge*
Taking it with me	가져갈게요 / 포장해 주세요 *gajyeogalgeyo / pojanghae juseyo*	포장해 줘 *pojanghae jwo*
Hot / iced	따뜻한 거 / 아이스로 주세요 *ttatteutan geo / aiseuro juseyo*	따뜻한 걸로 / 아이스로 줘 *ttatteutan geollo / aiseuro jwo*
Paying	계산해 주세요 *gyesanhae juseyo*	계산해 줘 *gyesanhae jwo*
Calling the staff	저기요 / 여기요 *jeogiyo / yeogiyo*	(same)

🔢 Counters: 잔 and 개 — 단위

To ask for a number of things, put the **native number** and then the **counter** after the thing: 커피 두 잔 ("two cups of coffee"). **잔** counts cups and glasses; **개** counts general items (cakes, cookies, sandwiches). Remember **한, 두, 세, 네** for 1–4 (Chapter 7); **다섯** is five.

NUMBER	WITH 잔 (CUPS)	WITH 개 (ITEMS)
1	한 잔 *han jan*	한 개 *han gae*
2	두 잔 *du jan*	두 개 *du gae*

NUMBER	WITH 잔 (CUPS)	WITH 개 (ITEMS)
3	세 잔 *se jan*	세 개 *se gae*
4	네 잔 *ne jan*	네 개 *ne gae*
5	다섯 잔 *daseot jan*	다섯 개 *daseot gae*

🍰 The Menu — 메뉴

ENGLISH	KOREAN	SAY IT
americano	아메리카노	*a-me-ri-ka-no*
latte	라테	*ra-te*
coffee	커피	*keo-pi*
green tea	녹차	*nok-cha*
juice	주스	*ju-seu*
cake	케이크	*ke-i-keu*
cookie	쿠키	*ku-ki*
sandwich	샌드위치	*saen-deu-wi-chi*
water	물	*mul*

🔤 Three Verbs You Can Already Use — 동사

VERB	EVERYDAY POLITE (-요)	FORMAL (-ㅂ니다)	CASUAL
to give (주다)	줘요 / 주세요 (please) *jwoyo / juseyo*	줍니다 *jumnida*	줘 *jwo*

VERB	EVERYDAY POLITE (-요)	FORMAL (-ㅂ니다)	CASUAL
to eat (먹다)	먹어요 *meogeoyo*	먹습니다 *meokseumnida*	먹어 *meogeo*
to drink (마시다)	마셔요 *masyeoyo*	마십니다 *masimnida*	마셔 *masyeo*

📖 Vocabulary — 어휘

#	KOREAN	SAY IT	ENGLISH	TYPE
1	카페	*ka-pe*	café	noun
2	주문	*ju-mun*	order	noun
3	메뉴	*me-nyu*	menu	noun
4	잔	*jan*	cup; glass (counter)	counter
5	개	*gae*	item (counter)	counter
6	아이스	*a-i-seu*	iced	adj.
7	따뜻한	*tta-tteu-tan*	warm; hot (drink)	adj.
8	여기	*yeo-gi*	here	noun
9	포장	*po-jang*	packing; takeaway	noun
10	계산	*gye-san*	paying; the bill	noun
11	카드	*ka-deu*	card	noun
12	현금	*hyeon-geum*	cash	noun
13	영수증	*yeong-su-jeung*	receipt	noun

#	KOREAN	SAY IT	ENGLISH	TYPE
14	맛	*mat*	taste; flavour	noun
15	주다	*ju-da*	to give	verb
16	먹다	*meok-tta*	to eat	verb
17	마시다	*ma-si-da*	to drink	verb
18	가져가다	*ga-jyeo-ga-da*	to take (with you)	verb
19	괜찮다	*gwaen-chan-ta*	to be fine; to be OK	adj.
20	또	*tto*	also; again; more	adverb

주세요 Does Everything

주세요 ("please give me") is the most useful word in a café. Name the thing, add the number and counter if you want more than one, and finish with **주세요**: 라테 한 잔 주세요. For the type of drink, add **로** to say "as/in the form of": 아이스로 주세요 ("iced, please"). **이랑** (after a consonant) / **랑** (after a vowel) joins two items: 커피 두 잔이랑 케이크.

Here or To Go

Staff usually ask **여기서 드실 거예요?** (note **드시다**, the respectful word for "eat/drink", used for the customer). You answer **네, 여기서 먹을게요** or **아니요, 가져갈게요** / **포장이에요**. The ending **-(으)ㄹ게요** announces what you will do ("I'll have it here"). Look for a **셀프** ("self-service") sign: many cafés expect you to fetch water and cutlery yourself.

As Heard in Dramas — 드라마에서

Drama characters live in cafés, and the first thing you hear is **어서 오세요** ("welcome"). Between friends you get **내가 살게** ("I'll treat you") and **고마워** ("thanks"), as in dialog 6. A character who wants a quiet talk often says **커피 한잔할래요?** ("fancy a coffee?"), which can really mean "let's talk".

Grammar Pointer

> The object particle 을/를 and the particle 로 are explained in Korean Grammar 1, chapter 4; native numbers with counters in Korean Grammar 1, chapter 9; and the polite request 주세요 and the respectful 드시다 in Korean Grammar 1, chapter 10.

✍️ Try It Yourself — 연습

Say each answer out loud first, then click to check.

1. Order one iced americano.

▼ Show answer

아이스 아메리카노 한 잔 주세요.

2. Order three lattes and two cookies.

▼ Show answer

라테 세 잔이랑 쿠키 두 개 주세요.

3. The staff ask whether you're having it here. Say you'll take it with you.

▼ Show answer

아니요, 가져갈게요. or 포장이에요.

4. Ask for a hot green tea.

▼ Show answer

따뜻한 녹차 한 잔 주세요.

5. Say you'll pay by card, and ask for a receipt.

▼ Show answer

카드로 할게요. 영수증도 주세요.

6. Offer to buy a friend a drink, casually.

▼ Show answer

내가 살게. (Or ask: 뭐 마셔?)

🛍️ Shopping & Prices — 쇼핑

*In this chapter you learn to ask how much something costs, understand a price in **won (원)**, point at things with **이거 / 그거 / 저거**, talk about size and colour, and ask for a discount at a market. Prices use **Sino-Korean numbers**, the same ones as in Chapter 3 and for minutes in Chapter 7.*

eo = ㅓ (short, open "uh") **eu** = ㅡ (unrounded "oo") **ae** = ㅐ (like the vowel in "bed")

[ ] = how the word is actually said, where it differs from the spelling

① How Much Is It? — 이거 얼마예요?

손님:

저기요, 이거 얼마예요?

Jeogiyo, igeo eolmayeyo?

Excuse me, how much is this?

점원:

삼천 원이에요.

Samcheon wonieyo.

It's 3,000 won.

손님:

그럼 두 개 주세요.

Geureom du gae juseyo.

Then two, please.

점원:

육천 원입니다.

Yukcheon wonimnida.

That's 6,000 won.

② Too Expensive? — 좀 비싸요

손님:

이 가방 얼마예요?

I gabang eolmayeyo?

How much is this bag?

점원:

삼만 오천 원이에요.

Samman ocheon wonieyo.

35,000 won.

손님:

좀 비싸요. 더 싼 거 있어요?

Jom bissayo. Deo ssan geo isseoyo?

That's a bit expensive. Do you have a cheaper one?

점원:

네, 이건 이만 원이에요.

Ne, igeon iman wonieyo.

Yes, this one is 20,000 won.

③ Size and Colour — 다른 색 있어요?

④ At the Market — 깎아 주세요

손님:

이 티셔츠, 다른 색 있어요?

I tisyeocheu, dareun saek isseoyo?

This T-shirt: do you have another colour?

점원:

검은색이랑 흰색 있어요.

Geomeunsaegirang huinsaek isseoyo.

We have black and white.

손님:

흰색으로 주세요. 좀 커요. 작은 거 있어요?

Huinsaegeuro juseyo. Jom keoyo. Jageun geo isseoyo?

White, please. It's a bit big. Do you have a smaller one?

손님:

사과 얼마예요?

Sagwa eolmayeyo?

How much are the apples?

상인:

한 봉지에 오천 원이에요.

Han bongjie ocheon wonieyo.

5,000 won a bag.

손님:

두 봉지 살게요. 좀 깎아 주세요.

Du bongji salgeyo. Jom kkakka juseyo.

I'll buy two bags. Please give me a little discount.

상인:

그럼 구천 원에 드릴게요.

Geureom gucheon wone deurilgeyo.

Then I'll give them to you for 9,000.

⑤ Paying (formal) — 카드로 계산해도 돼요?

손님:

카드로 계산해도 돼요?

Kadeuro gyesanhaedo dwaeyo?

May I pay by card?

점원:

네, 됩니다. 봉투 필요하십니까?

Ne, doemnida. Bongtu piryohasimnikka?

Yes, you can. Do you need a bag?

손님:

네, 주세요. 영수증도 부탁합니다.

Ne, juseyo. Yeongsujeungdo butakhamnida.

Yes, please. And a receipt, please.

⑥ Two Friends (casual) — 이거 어때?

A:

이거 어때? 예쁘지?

Igeo eottae? Yeppeuji?

How about this? Pretty, isn't it?

B:

응, 예뻐. 얼마야?

Eung, yeppeo. Eolmaya?

Yeah, it's pretty. How much is it?

A:

만 원이야. 싸다!

Man woniya. Ssada!

10,000 won. Cheap!

💴 Money and Prices — 원

The Korean currency is the **won (원)**. A price is a **Sino-Korean number** + **원**. The important big units are **천** (1,000) and **만** (10,000). Korean counts in units of 10,000, not 1,000: 100,000 is **십만** ("ten ten-thousands"). Say 1,000 as **천** and 10,000 as **만** (not "일천" or "일만").

PRICE	KOREAN	SAY IT
500 won	오백 원	*o-baek won*
1,000 won	천 원	*cheon won*
3,500 won	삼천오백 원	*sam-cheon-o-baek won*
5,000 won	오천 원	*o-cheon won*
10,000 won	만 원	*man won*
15,000 won	만 오천 원	*man o-cheon won*
35,000 won	삼만 오천 원	*sam-man o-cheon won*
100,000 won	십만 원	*sim-man won*

👉 This, That, and That Over There — 이거 · 그거 · 저거

MEANING	KOREAN	BEFORE A NOUN	WHERE
this (near me)	이거 *igeo*	이 가방 *i gabang*	여기 here
that (near you)	그거 *geugeo*	그 가방 *geu gabang*	거기 there
that over there (far from both)	저거 *jeogeo*	저 가방 *jeo gabang*	저기 over there

이거, **그거** and **저거** are the everyday short forms of 이것, 그것 and 저것.

🎨 Colours and Sizes — 색, 크기

ENGLISH	KOREAN	SAY IT	ENGLISH	KOREAN	SAY IT
black	검은색	*geo-meun-saek*	big	커요	*keo-yo*
white	흰색	*hin-saek*	small	작아요	*ja-ga-yo*
red	빨간색	*ppal-gan-saek*	expensive	비싸요	*bi-ssa-yo*
blue	파란색	*pa-ran-saek*	cheap	싸요	*ssa-yo*
yellow	노란색	*no-ran-saek*	pretty	예뻐요	*ye-ppeo-yo*

🔑 Key Phrases — 중요한 표현

SITUATION	POLITE	CASUAL
How much is this?	이거 얼마예요? *igeo eolmayeyo?*	이거 얼마야? *igeo eolmaya?*
Too expensive	좀 비싸요 *jom bissayo*	좀 비싸다 *jom bissada*
Do you have another/cheaper one?	다른 거 / 더 싼 거 있어요? *dareun geo / deo ssan geo isseoyo?*	다른 거 있어? *dareun geo isseo?*
A little discount, please	좀 깎아 주세요 *jom kkakka juseyo*	좀 깎아 줘 *jom kkakka jwo*
May I pay by card?	카드로 계산해도 돼요? *kadeuro gyesanhaedo dwaeyo?*	카드 돼? *kadeu dwae?*
I'll take it	이거 살게요 *igeo salgeyo*	이거 살게 *igeo salge*

🔤 Three Verbs You Can Already Use — 동사

VERB	EVERYDAY POLITE (-요)	FORMAL (-ㅂ니다)	CASUAL
to buy (사다)	사요 *sayo*	삽니다 *samnida*	사 *sa*
to need (필요하다)	필요해요 *piryohaeyo*	필요합니다 *piryohamnida*	필요해 *piryohae*
to be OK; to become (되다)	돼요 *dwaeyo*	됩니다 *doemnida*	돼 *dwae*

📖 Vocabulary — 어휘

#	KOREAN	SAY IT	ENGLISH	TYPE
1	얼마	*eol-ma*	how much	question word
2	원	*won*	won (Korean currency)	noun
3	천	*cheon*	thousand	number
4	만	*man*	ten thousand	number
5	가격	*ga-gyeok*	price	noun
6	시장	*si-jang*	market	noun
7	편의점	*pyeo-nui-jeom*	convenience store	noun
8	가방	*ga-bang*	bag	noun
9	봉투	*bong-tu*	(shopping) bag; envelope	noun
10	색	*saek*	colour	noun

#	KOREAN	SAY IT	ENGLISH	TYPE
11	이거	*i-geo*	this (thing)	pronoun
12	그거	*geu-geo*	that (thing)	pronoun
13	저거	*jeo-geo*	that over there	pronoun
14	비싸다	*bi-ssa-da*	to be expensive	adj.
15	싸다	*ssa-da*	to be cheap	adj.
16	크다	*keu-da*	to be big	adj.
17	작다	*jak-tta*	to be small	adj.
18	사다	*sa-da*	to buy	verb
19	깎다	*kkak-tta*	to cut; to give a discount	verb
20	다른	*da-reun*	other; different	adj.

When You May Bargain

좀 깎아 주세요 ("a little discount, please") works at traditional markets and street stalls, especially if you buy several items, and is much more welcome with a smile. In department stores, malls and chain shops prices are fixed, so do not try it there. Buying more helps: 두 개 사면 할인돼요? ("is there a discount if I buy two?"). You can repeat a price back to check it: 삼만 원이요? ("30,000 won?").

Hear a Price

Staff often speak fast and drop the 원: 삼만 오천 is already "35,000". Listen for the big words **천** and **만** first, then the numbers around them. A common trap is 30,000 versus 3,000: 삼만 vs 삼천.

As Heard in Dramas — 드라마에서

Characters shopping together say **이거 어때?** ("how about this?") and **예쁘다!**. Someone paying for everyone says **내가 낼게** ("I'll pay"). A shopkeeper might call a customer **손님** and an older woman

customer **어머님** (literally "mother"); a stall owner you want a discount from is a good time for an **사장님**, as in Chapter 6.

Grammar Pointer

The Sino-Korean numbers and 원 are covered in Korean Grammar 1, chapter 9. The -아/어요 verb endings (사요, 필요해요) are in Korean Grammar 1, chapter 6, and -(으)ㄹ게요 and the permission pattern -아/어도 돼요? are touched on in Korean Grammar 1, chapter 10.

✍️ Try It Yourself — 연습

Say each answer out loud first, then click to check.

1. Ask how much "this" costs, politely.

▼ Show answer

이거 얼마예요?

2. Read these prices aloud: 2,000 won; 12,000 won; 45,000 won.

▼ Show answer

이천 원; 만 이천 원; 사만 오천 원.

3. Say "That's a bit expensive. Do you have a cheaper one?"

▼ Show answer

좀 비싸요. 더 싼 거 있어요?

4. At a market, ask for a little discount.

▼ Show answer

좀 깎아 주세요.

5. Ask if you may pay by card.

▼ Show answer

카드로 계산해도 돼요?

6. Which would you use to point at something far from both of you: 이거, 그거 or 저거?

▼ Show answer

저거.

🧭 Asking for Directions — 길 묻기

*You will learn to ask where a place is, to understand the main answers (**straight, left, right, at the crossing**), and to say where something is in relation to something else (**in front of, behind, next to, above, below**). In Korean cities the subway is the usual landmark, so you will also use **exit numbers**.*

eo = ㅓ (short, open "uh") **eu** = ㅡ (unrounded "oo") **ae** = ㅐ (like the vowel in "bed")

[ ] = how the word is actually said, where it differs from the spelling

① Where Is It? — 어디에 있어요?

A:

실례합니다. 지하철역이 어디에 있어요?

Sillyehamnida. Jihacheollyeogi eodie isseoyo?

Excuse me. Where is the subway station?

B:

저기에 있어요. 쭉 가세요.

Jeogie isseoyo. Jjuk gaseyo.

It's over there. Go straight.

A:

멀어요?

Meoreoyo?

Is it far?

B:

아니요, 가까워요. 오 분쯤 걸려요.

Aniyo, gakkawoyo. O bunjjeum geollyeoyo.

No, it's close. It takes about five minutes.

② Turn Left, Turn Right — 오른쪽으로 가세요

A:

저기요, 은행이 어디예요?

Jeogiyo, eunhaengi eodiyeyo?

Excuse me, where's the bank?

B:

쭉 가세요. 사거리에서 오른쪽으로 가세요.

Jjuk gaseyo. Sageorieseo oreunjjogeuro gaseyo.

Go straight. At the crossroads, go right.

A:

오른쪽이요? 감사합니다!

Oreunjjogiyo? Gamsahamnida!

To the right? Thank you!

③ Next To, In Front Of — 편의점 옆에 있어요

A:

화장실이 어디에 있어요?

Hwajangsiri eodie isseoyo?

Where is the toilet?

B:

편의점 옆에 있어요.

Pyeonuijeom yeope isseoyo.

It's next to the convenience store.

A:

이 건물 안에는 없어요?

I geonmul aneneun eopseoyo?

There isn't one inside this building?

B:

네, 건물 밖에 있어요.

Ne, geonmul bakke isseoyo.

No, it's outside the building.

④ Subway Exit — 몇 번 출구예요?

A:

서울역에 어떻게 가요?

Seoulyeoge eotteoke gayo?

How do I get to Seoul Station?

B:

지하철을 타세요. 일 호선이에요.

Jihacheoreul taseyo. Il hoseonieyo.

Take the subway. It's Line 1.

A:

몇 번 출구로 나가요?

Myeot beon chulguro nagayo?

Which exit do I take?

B:

두 번 출구로 나가세요.

Du beon chulguro nagaseyo.

Go out through exit 2.

⑤ Formal Directions — 길을 안내해 드리겠습니다

A:

호텔은 어디에 있습니까?

Hotereun eodie itseumnikka?

Where is the hotel?

B:

앞으로 쭉 가십시오. 왼쪽에 있습니다.

Apeuro jjuk gasipsio. Oenjjoge itseumnida.

Go straight ahead. It's on the left.

A:

감사합니다.

Gamsahamnida.

Thank you.

⑥ Two Friends (casual) — 어디야?

A:

너 지금 어디야?

Neo jigeum eodiya?

Where are you now?

B:

카페 앞이야. 너는?

Kape apiya. Neoneun?

In front of the café. And you?

A:

나는 지하철역 안이야. 금방 가!

Naneun jihacheollyeok ani-ya. Geumbang ga!

I'm inside the subway station. I'll be right there!

🔑 Key Phrases — 중요한 표현

SITUATION	POLITE	CASUAL
Where is ...?	...이/가 어디에 있어요? *...i/ga eodie isseoyo?*	...이/가 어디에 있어? *...i/ga eodie isseo?*
Where is ...? (short)	...이/가 어디예요? *...i/ga eodiyeyo?*	...이/가 어디야? *...i/ga eodiya?*
How do I get to ...?	...에 어떻게 가요? *...e eotteoke gayo?*	...에 어떻게 가? *...e eotteoke ga?*
Go straight	쭉 가세요 *jjuk gaseyo*	쭉 가 *jjuk ga*
Go right / left	오른쪽 / 왼쪽으로 가세요 *oreunjjok / oenjjogeuro gaseyo*	오른쪽 / 왼쪽으로 가 *oreunjjok / oenjjogeuro ga*
It's over there	저기에 있어요 *jeogie isseoyo*	저기 있어 *jeogi isseo*
Is it far?	멀어요? *meoreoyo?*	멀어? *meoreo?*

📍 Position Words — 위치

Put the position word after the place and add **에**: 편의점 옆에 있어요 ("It's next to the convenience store").

ENGLISH	KOREAN	SAY IT
in front of	앞	*ap*
behind	뒤	*dwi*
next to; beside	옆	*yeop*

ENGLISH	KOREAN	SAY IT
above; on top	위	*wi*
below; under	아래 / 밑	*a-rae / mit*
inside	안	*an*
outside	밖	*bak*
right	오른쪽	*o-reun-jjok*
left	왼쪽	*oen-jjok*
straight	똑바로 / 쭉	*ttok-ba-ro / jjuk*

🔤 Three Verbs You Can Already Use — 동사

VERB	EVERYDAY POLITE (-요)	FORMAL (-ㅂ니다)	CASUAL
to go (가다)	가요 / 가세요 *gayo / gaseyo*	갑니다 *gamnida*	가 *ga*
to be (located); to have (있다)	있어요 *isseoyo*	있습니다 *itseumnida*	있어 *isseo*
to take (a vehicle); to ride (타다)	타요 / 타세요 *tayo / taseyo*	탑니다 *tamnida*	타 *ta*

📖 Vocabulary — 어휘

#	KOREAN	SAY IT	ENGLISH	TYPE
1	길	*gil*	road; way	noun
2	지하철역	*ji-ha-cheol-lyeok*	subway station	noun

#	KOREAN	SAY IT	ENGLISH	TYPE
3	출구	*chul-gu*	exit	noun
4	사거리	*sa-geo-ri*	crossroads	noun
5	건물	*geon-mul*	building	noun
6	화장실	*hwa-jang-sil*	toilet; restroom	noun
7	은행	*eun-haeng*	bank	noun
8	호텔	*ho-tel*	hotel	noun
9	어디	*eo-di*	where	question word
10	어떻게	*eo-tteo-ke*	how	question word
11	저기	*jeo-gi*	over there	noun
12	앞	*ap*	front; in front of	noun
13	옆	*yeop*	side; next to	noun
14	오른쪽	*o-reun-jjok*	right	noun
15	왼쪽	*oen-jjok*	left	noun
16	가다	*ga-da*	to go	verb
17	타다	*ta-da*	to take; to ride	verb
18	멀다	*meol-da*	to be far	adj.
19	가깝다	*ga-kkap-tta*	to be close	adj.
20	쭉	*jjuk*	straight on; all the way	adverb

Two Ways to Ask "Where?"

The short **…이/가 어디예요?** ("where is …?") is enough in most situations: even 화장실 어디예요? with no particle is understood. **…이/가 어디에 있어요?** ("where is … located?") is a little fuller. Use **이** after a consonant and **가** after a vowel (지하철역이, 은행이 vs 호텔이, 화장실이). To ask *how* to get somewhere, use **…에 어떻게 가요?**.

Landmarks and Exits

Korean directions lean on landmarks: a **사거리** (crossroads), a convenience store, a café, or a **지하철역**. For the subway, stations have numbered exits, so people say 두 번 출구 ("exit number 2") or, with Sino-Korean numbers, a line number: 일 호선 (Line 1). When you hear **-(으)로** after a direction (오른쪽으로), it means "towards". A map app on your phone is perfectly normal, and a passer-by will often point and say 저기요.

As Heard in Dramas — 드라마에서

In dramas, one character phones another with **너 어디야?** ("where are you?"), answered by **지금 가고 있어** ("I'm on my way") or **거의 다 왔어** ("I'm almost there"). The honorific request **-세요** (쭉 가세요) is the polite way strangers give directions, and in dramas taxi drivers get **기사님** and a place to stop: 여기서 세워 주세요 ("please stop here").

Grammar Pointer

The location particle **에** and the direction particle **(으)로** are explained in Korean Grammar 1, chapter 4; **있다** as "to be (located)" and the polite requests with **-세요** in Korean Grammar 1, chapter 10.

✍️ Try It Yourself — 연습

Say each answer out loud first, then click to check.

1. Ask politely where the toilet is.

▼ Show answer

화장실이 어디예요? or 화장실이 어디에 있어요?

2. Ask how to get to Seoul Station.

▼ Show answer

서울역에 어떻게 가요?

3. Tell someone "Go straight, then turn left at the crossroads."

▼ Show answer

쭉 가세요. 사거리에서 왼쪽으로 가세요.

4. Say "The bank is next to the café."

▼ Show answer

은행은 카페 옆에 있어요.

5. Ask which exit number to take.

▼ Show answer

몇 번 출구로 나가요?

6. Text a friend: "Where are you now?"

▼ Show answer

너 지금 어디야?

🏨 Booking a Hotel — 호텔 예약

*In this chapter you learn to check in with a booking, ask whether a room is free, say how many nights you are staying, choose a room type, and ask about breakfast, Wi-Fi and check-out. You will also meet two typically Korean places to stay: the **한옥** (traditional house) and the **온돌** (heated-floor) room.*

eo = ㅓ (short, open "uh") **eu** = ㅡ (unrounded "oo") **ae** = ㅐ (like the vowel in "bed")

[ ] = how the word is actually said, where it differs from the spelling

① Checking In — 예약했어요

손님:

안녕하세요. 체크인 하려고 하는데요.

Annyeonghaseyo. Chekeuin haryeogo haneundeyo.

Hello. I'd like to check in.

직원:

네, 예약하셨어요?

Ne, yeyakhasyeosseoyo?

Yes, have you made a booking?

손님:

네, 예약했어요. 이름은 스미스예요.

Ne, yeyakhaesseoyo. Ireumeun seumiseuyeyo.

Yes, I've booked. The name is Smith.

직원:

잠시만 기다려 주세요.

Jamsiman gidaryeo juseyo.

Please wait a moment.

② No Booking — 방 있어요?

손님:

예약 안 했어요. 오늘 방 있어요?

Yeyak an haesseoyo. Oneul bang isseoyo?

I haven't booked. Do you have a room tonight?

직원:

네, 있어요. 며칠 묵으실 거예요?

Ne, isseoyo. Myeochil mugeusil geoyeyo?

Yes, we do. How many days will you stay?

손님:

이 박이요. 싱글룸 하나 주세요.

I bagiyo. Singgullum hana juseyo.

Two nights. A single room, please.

③ Room Type — 온돌방도 있어요?

손님:

온돌방도 있어요?

Ondolbangdo isseoyo?

Do you have a heated-floor room too?

직원:

네, 있어요. 침대 방과 온돌방 중에 어떤 방이 좋으세요?

Ne, isseoyo. Chimdae banggwa ondolbang junge eotteon bangi joeuseyo?

Yes. Which would you prefer, a bed room or a heated-floor room?

손님:

온돌방으로 할게요.

Ondolbangeuro halgeyo.

I'll take the heated-floor room.

④ Breakfast and Wi-Fi — 아침 식사 포함이에요?

손님:

아침 식사 포함이에요?

Achim siksa pohamieyo?

Is breakfast included?

직원:

네, 일곱 시부터 열 시까지예요. 일 층 식당이에요.

Ne, ilgop sibuteo yeol sikkajiyeyo. Il cheung sikdang-ieyo.

Yes, from 7 to 10. It's the restaurant on the ground floor.

손님:

와이파이 비밀번호가 뭐예요?

Waipai bimilbeonhoga mwoyeyo?

What's the Wi-Fi password?

⑤ Check-out (formal) — 체크아웃 하겠습니다

손님:

체크아웃 하겠습니다. 열쇠 여기 있습니다.

Chekeuaut hagetseumnida. Yeolsoe yeogi itseumnida.

I'd like to check out. Here is the key.

직원:

감사합니다. 방은 어떠셨습니까?

Gamsahamnida. Bangeun eotteosyeotseumnikka?

Thank you. How was your room?

손님:

아주 좋았습니다. 감사합니다.

Aju joatseumnida. Gamsahamnida.

⑥ Two Friends (casual) — 한옥 어때?

A:

이번 여행 한옥에서 잘까?

Ibeon yeohaeng hanogeseo jalkka?

Shall we stay in a hanok for this trip?

B:

좋아! 온돌방이 따뜻하고 좋대.

Joa! Ondolbangi ttatteuthago jotdae.

Sure! I hear the heated-floor rooms are warm and nice.

A:

그럼 내가 예약할게.

Geureom naega yeyakhalge.

Then I'll book it.

It was very good. Thank you.

🔑 Key Phrases — 중요한 표현

SITUATION	POLITE	CASUAL
I'd like to check in	체크인 하려고 하는데요 / 체크인 하고 싶어요 *chekeuin haryeogo haneundeyo / chekeuin hago sipeoyo*	체크인 할래 *chekeuin hallae*
I have a booking	예약했어요 *yeyakhaesseoyo*	예약했어 *yeyakhaesseo*
Booked under [name]	예약한 [이름]입니다 *yeyakhan [name] imnida*	(not used)
Do you have a room?	방 있어요? *bang isseoyo?*	방 있어? *bang isseo?*
The key, please	열쇠 주세요 *yeolsoe juseyo*	열쇠 줘 *yeolsoe jwo*
I'd like to check out	체크아웃 하고 싶어요 *chekeuaut hago sipeoyo*	체크아웃 할래 *chekeuaut hallae*
Please wait a moment	잠시만 기다려 주세요 *jamsiman gidaryeo juseyo*	잠깐만 기다려 *jamkkanman gidaryeo*

🌙 Counting Nights — 박

A hotel stay is counted in **nights** with the counter **박**, using **Sino-Korean numbers**: 일 박 (1 night), 이 박 (2 nights), 삼 박 (3 nights). Trips are often written as nights and days: 이 박 삼 일 (2 nights, 3 days), the standard way to say a short break.

STAY	KOREAN	SAY IT
1 night	일 박	*il bak*
2 nights	이 박	*i bak*
3 nights	삼 박	*sam bak*
5 nights	오 박	*o bak*
2 nights, 3 days	이 박 삼 일	*i bak sam il*

🛏️ Rooms and Places to Stay — 방, 숙소

ENGLISH	KOREAN	SAY IT
single room	싱글룸	*sing-geul-lum*
double room	더블룸	*deo-beul-lum*
twin room	트윈룸	*teu-win-rum*
heated-floor room (ondol)	온돌방	*on-dol-bang*
traditional Korean house	한옥	*ha-nok*
guesthouse	게스트하우스	*ge-seu-teu-ha-u-seu*
hotel	호텔	*ho-tel*

🔤 Three Verbs You Can Already Use — 동사

VERB	EVERYDAY POLITE (-요)	FORMAL (-ㅂ니다)	CASUAL
to book (예약하다)	예약해요 *yeyakhaeyo*	예약합니다 *yeyakhamnida*	예약해 *yeyakhae*

VERB	EVERYDAY POLITE (-요)	FORMAL (-ㅂ니다)	CASUAL
to wait (기다리다)	기다려요 *gidaryeoyo*	기다립니다 *gidarimnida*	기다려 *gidaryeo*
to stay; to sleep (묵다 / 자다)	묵어요 / 자요 *mugeoyo / jayo*	묵습니다 / 잡니다 *mukseumnida / jamnida*	묵어 / 자 *mugeo / ja*

📖 Vocabulary — 어휘

#	KOREAN	SAY IT	ENGLISH	TYPE
1	예약	*ye-yak*	reservation; booking	noun
2	체크인	*che-keu-in*	check-in	noun
3	체크아웃	*che-keu-a-ut*	check-out	noun
4	방	*bang*	room	noun
5	박	*bak*	night (of a stay)	counter
6	이름	*i-reum*	name	noun
7	열쇠	*yeol-soe*	key	noun
8	침대	*chim-dae*	bed	noun
9	아침 식사	*a-chim sik-ssa*	breakfast	noun
10	포함	*po-ham*	included	noun
11	와이파이	*wa-i-pa-i*	Wi-Fi	noun
12	비밀번호	*bi-mil-beon-ho*	password	noun
13	층	*cheung*	floor; storey	counter

#	KOREAN	SAY IT	ENGLISH	TYPE
14	짐	*jim*	luggage; baggage	noun
15	예약하다	*ye-yak-ha-da*	to book	verb
16	기다리다	*gi-da-ri-da*	to wait	verb
17	묵다	*muk-tta*	to stay (overnight)	verb
18	자다	*ja-da*	to sleep	verb
19	따뜻하다	*tta-tteu-ta-da*	to be warm	adj.
20	잠시만	*jam-si-man*	just a moment	adverb

Checking In

Staff expect the polite -요 or formal -ㅂ니다 endings. The simplest check-in line is **체크인 하고 싶어요** ("I want to check in"); **체크인 하려고 하는데요** sounds softer. Then give your booking: **예약했어요** ("I've booked") and **예약한 [name]입니다**. The ending **-는데요** trails off politely, inviting the other person to answer. If you have no booking, **오늘 방 있어요?** works ("have you a room today?").

Hanok and Ondol

A **한옥** is a traditional Korean house, and many are now guesthouses. The traditional **온돌** system heats the floor, so an **온돌방** is a room where you sleep on a mattress on the warm floor rather than in a bed. Many hotels offer both types, so you can ask **온돌방 있어요?**. A **게스트하우스** is the modern budget guesthouse; the older word **여관** means a cheap inn and is not quite the same thing.

As Heard in Dramas — 드라마에서

Drama characters on a trip often say **여행 가자!** ("let's go on a trip!") and **방 하나 더 잡아 줘** ("book one more room"). A hanok stay is a favourite romantic scene, and you will hear **이 박 삼 일** for a short trip. Staff always use polite forms, while the friends talk casually to each other.

Grammar Pointer

The past tense in **예약했어요** (-았/었어요) is covered in Korean Grammar 1, chapter 7; the wish pattern **-고 싶어요** and the polite requests with **-세요** in Korean Grammar 1, chapter 10; and Sino-Korean numbers with counters such as 박 in Korean Grammar 1, chapter 9.

✍️ Try It Yourself — 연습

Say each answer out loud first, then click to check.

1. Say "I'd like to check in. I've booked."

▼ Show answer

체크인 하고 싶어요. 예약했어요.

2. Ask if they have a room tonight.

▼ Show answer

오늘 방 있어요?

3. Say you want a double room for three nights.

▼ Show answer

삼 박, 더블룸 하나 주세요.

4. Ask whether breakfast is included.

▼ Show answer

아침 식사 포함이에요?

5. Ask for the Wi-Fi password.

▼ Show answer

와이파이 비밀번호가 뭐예요?

6. Say "I'd like to check out. Here's the key."

▼ Show answer

체크아웃 하고 싶어요. 열쇠 여기 있어요.

🚇 Getting Around — 교통

*The last chapter puts your Korean to work on the move. You will buy and top up a **T-money** card, ask which line and which exit, change lines, board a bus, and buy a train ticket. At the end there is a recap of the whole course.*

eo = ㅓ (short, open "uh") **eu** = ㅡ (unrounded "oo") **ae** = ㅐ (like the vowel in "bed")

[ ] = how the word is actually said, where it differs from the spelling

① A T-money Card — 티머니 카드 주세요

손님:

티머니 카드 하나 주세요.

Timeoni kadeu hana juseyo.

One T-money card, please.

점원:

네. 얼마 충전해 드릴까요?

Ne. Eolma chungjeonhae deurilkkayo?

Sure. How much shall I load on it?

손님:

만 원 충전해 주세요.

Man won chungjeonhae juseyo.

Please put 10,000 won on it.

② Which Line? — 몇 호선이에요?

A:

실례합니다. 명동역은 몇 호선이에요?

Sillyehamnida. Myeongdongyeogeun myeot hoseonieyo?

Excuse me. Which line is Myeong-dong station on?

B:

사 호선이에요. 여기서 환승해야 해요.

Sa hoseonieyo. Yeogiseo hwanseunghaeya haeyo.

It's Line 4. You need to transfer here.

A:

어디서 환승해요?

Eodiseo hwanseunghaeyo?

Where do I transfer?

B:

다음 역에서 갈아타세요.

Daeum yeogeseo garataseyo.

Change at the next station.

③ On the Bus — 이 버스 가요?

A:

이 버스 서울역에 가요?

I beoseu Seoulyeoge gayo?

Does this bus go to Seoul Station?

B:

네, 가요. 타세요.

Ne, gayo. Taseyo.

Yes, it does. Get on.

A:

내릴 때 말씀해 주세요.

Naeril ttae malsseumhae juseyo.

Please tell me when to get off.

④ Train Tickets — 표 한 장 주세요

손님:

부산 가는 표 한 장 주세요.

Busan ganeun pyo han jang juseyo.

One ticket to Busan, please.

직원:

편도예요, 왕복이에요?

Pyeondoyeyo, wangbogieyo?

One-way or return?

손님:

왕복으로 주세요. 몇 시 기차예요?

Wangbogeuro juseyo. Myeot si gichayeyo?

A return, please. What time is the train?

⑤ Formal Announcement — 안내 방송

방송:

이번 역은 서울역입니다.

Ibeon yeogeun Seoulyeogimnida.

This station is Seoul Station.

방송:

내리실 문은 왼쪽입니다.

Naerisil muneun oenjjogimnida.

The doors to exit are on the left.

⑥ Two Friends (casual) — 지하철 탈까?

A:

지하철 타고 갈까, 버스 탈까?

Jihacheol tago galkka, beoseu talkka?

Shall we go by subway, or take the bus?

B:

지하철이 빨라. 지하철 타자!

Jihacheori ppalla. Jihacheol taja!

The subway is faster. Let's take the subway!

🔑 Key Phrases — 중요한 표현

SITUATION	POLITE	CASUAL
A T-money card, please	티머니 카드 주세요 *timeoni kadeu juseyo*	티머니 카드 줘 *timeoni kadeu jwo*

SITUATION	POLITE	CASUAL
Top up my card	충전해 주세요 *chungjeonhae juseyo*	충전해 줘 *chungjeonhae jwo*
Which line?	몇 호선이에요? *myeot hoseonieyo?*	몇 호선이야? *myeot hoseoniya?*
Where do I transfer?	어디서 환승해요? *eodiseo hwanseunghaeyo?*	어디서 환승해? *eodiseo hwanseunghae?*
Does this go to …?	이거 …에 가요? *igeo …e gayo?*	이거 …에 가? *igeo …e ga?*
One ticket, please	표 한 장 주세요 *pyo han jang juseyo*	표 한 장 줘 *pyo han jang jwo*
One-way / return	편도 / 왕복이요 *pyeondo / wangbogiyo*	(same)
Which exit?	몇 번 출구예요? *myeot beon chulguyeyo?*	몇 번 출구야? *myeot beon chulguya?*

🎟️ Counting Tickets — 장

Tickets are counted with **장** (for flat things such as tickets and paper) and **native numbers**: 한 장 (1), 두 장 (2), 세 장 (3), 네 장 (4). The line and exit numbers use **Sino-Korean numbers**: 이 호선 (Line 2), 삼 번 출구 (Exit 3).

🔤 Three Verbs You Can Already Use — 동사

VERB	EVERYDAY POLITE (-요)	FORMAL (-ㅂ니다)	CASUAL
to take; to ride (타다)	타요 / 타세요 *tayo / taseyo*	탑니다 *tamnida*	타 *ta*

VERB	EVERYDAY POLITE (-요)	FORMAL (-ㅂ니다)	CASUAL
to get off (내리다)	내려요 / 내리세요 *naeryeoyo / naeriseyo*	내립니다 *naerimnida*	내려 *naeryeo*
to transfer (환승하다)	환승해요 *hwanseunghaeyo*	환승합니다 *hwanseunghamnida*	환승해 *hwanseunghae*

📖 Vocabulary — 어휘

#	KOREAN	SAY IT	ENGLISH	TYPE
1	지하철	*ji-ha-cheol*	subway	noun
2	버스	*beo-seu*	bus	noun
3	기차	*gi-cha*	train	noun
4	역	*yeok*	station	noun
5	표	*pyo*	ticket	noun
6	장	*jang*	sheet; ticket (counter)	counter
7	호선	*ho-seon*	(subway) line number	counter
8	출구	*chul-gu*	exit	noun
9	티머니	*ti-meo-ni*	T-money (transport card)	noun
10	충전	*chung-jeon*	charging; topping up	noun
11	환승	*hwan-seung*	transfer	noun
12	편도	*pyeon-do*	one-way	noun
13	왕복	*wang-bok*	return; round trip	noun

#	KOREAN	SAY IT	ENGLISH	TYPE
14	다음	*da-eum*	next	adj.
15	타다	*ta-da*	to take; to ride	verb
16	내리다	*nae-ri-da*	to get off	verb
17	환승하다	*hwan-seung-ha-da*	to transfer	verb
18	갈아타다	*ga-ra-ta-da*	to change (trains/buses)	verb
19	빠르다	*ppa-reu-da*	to be fast	adj.
20	충전하다	*chung-jeon-ha-da*	to top up; to charge	verb

Tap In, Tap Out

A **티머니** card works on subways and buses: tap it on the reader at the gate (and again when you leave); on a bus tap when you get on and when you get off. You can buy one at a convenience store, with 티머니 카드 주세요, and top it up with **충전**. A transfer between a bus and the subway is cheaper when you use the same card. Ask 어디서 환승해요? ("where do I transfer?") if you are unsure.

One-way or Return

편도 means one-way and **왕복** means a return (round trip). For long-distance trains you will see **KTX** (the fast train) and slower intercity trains; buy at the counter or a machine with 표 한 장 주세요, adding your destination and the time (몇 시 기차예요?). Station announcements are formal: 이번 역은 …입니다 ("this station is…").

As Heard in Dramas — 드라마에서

Journeys are classic drama scenes: **막차** ("the last train/bus") and **첫차** ("the first one") carry a lot of emotion. You will also hear **택시!** and **기사님, 여기서 내려 주세요** ("driver, please let me out here"). Between friends, **-ㄹ까?** and **-자** make suggestions, as in dialog 6.

Grammar Pointer

The particle **에** for "to" and 에서 for "at/from" are in Korean Grammar 1, chapter 4; the counter-with-number system in Korean Grammar 1, chapter 9; and the polite requests **-세요** and **-아/어 주세요** in Korean Grammar 1, chapter 10.

✍️ Try It Yourself — 연습

Say each answer out loud first, then click to check.

1. Ask for a T-money card and ask them to put 10,000 won on it.

▼ Show answer

티머니 카드 주세요. 만 원 충전해 주세요.

2. Ask which line Myeong-dong station is on.

▼ Show answer

명동역은 몇 호선이에요?

3. Ask where to transfer.

▼ Show answer

어디서 환승해요?

4. Ask if this bus goes to Seoul Station.

▼ Show answer

이 버스 서울역에 가요?

5. Buy two return tickets.

▼ Show answer

왕복 표 두 장 주세요.

6. Suggest to a friend: "Let's take the subway."

▼ Show answer

지하철 타자!

🎓 Course Complete — 수고하셨습니다!

You have finished Korean Basic Conversation 1. Here is what each chapter gave you.

#	CHAPTER	YOU CAN NOW…
1	Greetings & Goodbyes	greet, thank, apologise and say goodbye, bowing and all
2	Introducing Yourself	give your name and say you're pleased to meet someone
3	Numbers, Age & Contact Details	count with both number systems and give a phone number
4	Where You're From	say countries, nationalities and where you live
5	Your Family	name relatives and ask about someone's family
6	Your Job	ask and say what you do, and use work titles with 님
7	Days, Dates & Time	give the day, the date and the time
8	At the Café	order food and drink and pay
9	Shopping & Prices	ask a price, choose size and colour, and bargain at a market
10	Directions	ask where a place is and follow simple directions
11	Booking a Hotel	check in, ask about rooms, breakfast and check-out
12	Getting Around	use a T-money card, change lines and buy a train ticket

Where Next?

Korean Basic Conversation 2 continues from here with the next set of everyday situations. Meanwhile keep watching your Korean TV shows: you now recognise the polite endings, the casual 반말 between friends, and the titles and kinship words that drama characters use all the time. Korean Grammar 1 explains the "why" behind every pattern you have met in these twelve chapters.