KR

KOREAN LESSON

Basic Conversation 1 · Chapter 10 · Directions

Korean Basic Conversation 1

Chapter 10 · Asking for Directions

🧭 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?