

Learn Korean Ep. 108: I hope, I wish

Disclaimer: Previously I made a lesson about how to say 'should' in Korean (episode 58 in this series). The form we'll learn in this lesson will look slightly similar, but is not the same form.

Verb Stem + (으)면 좋겠다

This form can be used to say that you "hope" or "wish" that something happens. Literally, since this form uses the (으)면 form ("if" and "when") and 좋겠다 ("it would be good") it means "It would be good if (something happens)."

To use this form, take a verb stem (action verb or descriptive verb) and attach 으면 if it ends in a consonant, or attach 면 if it ends in a vowel. Then conjugate the verb 좋겠다, which originally comes from 좋다 meaning "to be good." This could become 좋겠어요, 좋겠는데, or 좋겠죠, among many other possible conjugations. Here are some examples:

빨리 하면 좋겠어요.

I hope you'll do it quickly.

다 잘되면 좋겠어요.

I hope it all goes well.

다 is an adverb that means "all."

다음 주에 다시 일을 할 수 있으면 좋겠어요.

I hope I can work again next week.

내일 안 더우면 좋겠어요.

I hope tomorrow isn't hot.

Notice how 덥다 becomes 더우면. Verb stems ending with ㅁ will remove the ㅁ and add 우 whenever using the (으)면 form. Here's one more example of this.

김치가 매우면 좋겠어요.
I hope the kimchi is spicy.

Present Tense or Past Tense?

This form can be used with both present tense and past tense verb stems. For example, you could use 오면 or 왔으면 from the verb 오다. Both the present tense and past tense verb stems will have the same meaning, but using the past tense shows a bit more of a **stronger** hope that it would happen.

빨리 봄이 오면 좋겠어요.
빨리 봄이 왔으면 좋겠어요.
I hope that spring comes quickly.

저를 도와주면 좋겠어요.
저를 도와줬으면 좋겠어요.
I hope you'll help me.

Conclusion

If you have any questions, feel free to send me a message through my web site or on YouTube. Good luck in your studies!

