

## Learn Korean Ep. 129: ~군, ~구나, ~구먼 "Oh my!"

In this lesson you'll learn several forms that all have the same overall usage – to mean that you've just *realized* something.

The forms that you'll learn are ~군(요), ~구나, ~구먼(요), and ~구만.

### Descriptive Verb Stem + 군(요)

### Action Verb Stem + 는군(요)

The way to use ~군(요) will depend on whether you're using a Descriptive Verb or an Action Verb.

For Descriptive Verbs, take the stem and attach ~군, or ~군요 when speaking politely.

For Action Verbs, take the stem and attach 는군 or 는군요.

Note that the 는 is only attached when using Action Verbs, and also only when the Action Verb is used in the Present Tense.

For all other tenses, simply use ~군(요) regardless of the type of verb.

Also note that if the Action Verb stem ends with ㄹ, remove it before attaching 는 (this is the same thing that happens when using any grammar form that starts with ㄴ).

답다 → 답군(요)

하다 → 하는군(요)

Again, this form is used to show that you've realized something – whether you personally experienced it, or for just something that you realized because you heard it.

Since this form shows that you've realized something, you can translate it in the following ways:

- "Oh..."
- "I see..."
- "So (then)..."
- "I didn't realize..."

그렇군요.

"Oh, I see."

맛있군요.

"I see (that) it tastes good."

원숭이도 나무에서 떨어지는군요.

"So monkeys do fall from trees."

This expression is used to mean that even a master can make mistakes.

### **Descriptive Verb Stem + 구나**

### **Action Verb Stem + 는구나**

The form ~구나 is used in the same way as ~군(요), but without the 요 – it also has the same meaning as 군.

Again, only add the 는 when using an Action Verb stem that's in the present tense.

Note that since there is no 요 at the end, ~구나 is only used in casual speech – such as in regular conversations with your close friends.

In addition, ~구나 is more commonly used than ~군(요) when it can be. Therefore I recommend using ~구나 instead of ~군 whenever you're speaking casually.

그렇구나!

"Oh, I see!"

드디어 눈이 오는구나!

"Oh, it's finally snowing!"

영희도 많이 바쁘구나.

"Oh, I see Yung-hee is also very busy."

### **Descriptive Verb Stem + 구먼(요)**

### **Action Verb Stem + 는구먼(요)**

For beginners, ~군(요) and ~구나 are the most standard ways to express that you've realized something. But there are also two more ways you might hear, which are more for intermediate level learners.

~구먼 is an older style version of ~군 – in fact, ~군 originally comes from ~구먼.

The usage is the same as ~군(요) or ~구나.

Note that 구먼 is casual speech, but you might also see 구먼요 for more polite speech.

However, since ~구먼(요) is an older style of ~군(요), it is not commonly used nowadays.

You may occasionally see it in novels, or used among older Koreans.

그렇구먼!

"Oh, I see!"

### **Descriptive Verb Stem + 구만**

### **Action Verb Stem + 는구만**

Technically ~구만 is an incorrect version of ~구먼; it should be avoided when writing essays, news articles, or when you want to show that you have a perfect understanding of Korean grammar.

However, ~구만 is more commonly used than ~구먼, and you might encounter it often.

In addition, ~구만 can have a more playful and casual feel, and can almost sound sarcastic at times.

Note that if you're going to use ~구만, only use ~구만 – don't use ~구만요, which sounds like a dialect.

그렇구만!

"Oh, I see!"

### Advanced Notes

#### ~더군(요) & Using 더

You may also see some of these forms combined with 더.

더 appears in many grammar forms, and means something that happened in the Past Tense, and something that you personally have experienced or heard – it's used for conveying your own experiences from the past.

You may find 더 used in verb endings such as ~더군(요), ~더구나, ~더구먼, or ~더구만.

These are used to express something that you realized, but that happened in the past, and that you have personal experience with (you experienced or heard about it personally).

### 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!

