

Learn Korean Ep. 27: Verb endings (Part 1)

In Korean, you can attach different endings to verbs in order to add extra meaning to the sentence. There are actually a **lot** of these, but this lesson will cover two of the most common ones.

v.s. + 지/죠

Take the verb stem and add “지” if your sentence is casual, or “죠” if your sentence is polite. Using this ending is like adding “**right?**” or “**isn’t it?**” or “**aren’t you?**” (etc) to the end of your sentence. You can use it to **request confirmation from the listener**.

맛있지?

“It’s good, right?”

“맛(이) 있다” means “to be delicious,” but can be translated as just “good” (used for food).

어제 학교에 안 갔죠?

“You didn’t go to school yesterday, did you?”

조금 더 빨리 먹지?

“Eat a little faster, okay?”

“조금 더” means “a little more” (adverb).

고양이는 물을 싫어하죠?

“Cats hate water, don’t they?”

“싫어하다” means “to hate.”

v.s. + 네/네요

Take the verb stem and add “네” if your sentence is casual, or “네요” if your sentence is polite. Using this makes your sentence almost like an **exclamation**, so you can **use it for things that you’re impressed with or surprised about**. In English, if we want to emphasize

something we'd simply change our intonation, but Korean can also use this verb ending as well.

맛있네!

"It's really good!"

한국말을 아주 잘 하네요!

"You're very good at Korean!"

몰랐네요.

"I didn't know that."

열심히 공부했네!

"You studied really hard!"

"열심히" means "diligently," or "hard" (adverb).

Conclusion

As always, practice what you're studying in order to really learn these concepts well. Our next lesson will also cover two more important verb endings in Korean.

