

Learn Korean Ep. 29: "Let's"

There are a few different ways to say "Let's" in Korean. In English, all we have to do is add "Let's" before a verb – "Let's go" or "Let's eat." Before going over these, I should point out that in general, **none of these are used in formal situations**, or when you're trying to be extra polite.

verb stem + 자

This form is for **casual speech** only. If you're talking with your close friends, this would be the most appropriate form to use.

Just take the verb stem and add "자."

공부하자.

"Let's study."

밥 먹자.

"Let's eat."

밖에서 놀자.

"Let's play outside."

"밖" means "outside."

같이 + "요" form

This form can be used with anyone you're well acquainted with, and is **fine even if they're older than you**. Although it's more polite than the first form, avoid using it with people you're not very close to.

Just add "같이" to the regular "요" form (in present tense). "같이" is an adverb that means "together."

같이 가요.

"Let's go together."

다 같이 밥 먹어요.

"Let's eat all together."

"다 같이" is an adverb that means "all together."

You can also remove the "요" when speaking with close friends in casual conversation.

verb stem + (읍/ㅁ) + 시다

This is the form most often taught in textbooks, but actually **should be avoided**. It can be used to close friends, or to people who are below you in status (such as a boss speaking to his or her employees). It doesn't have a polite feeling to it. Although I'm explaining this form to you, avoid using it. Instead, just be aware that it exists.

Take the verb stem and add "읍" if it ends in a consonant, or "ㅁ" if it ends in a vowel. Then add "시다."

시작합시다.

"Let's begin."

밥 먹읍시다.

"Let's eat."

Conclusion

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

