

Learn Korean Ep. 32: "Wanna"

We went over how to say "want" and "want to" in Episode 3 (using "원하다" for "to want," and "verb stem + 고 싶다" for "want to"); check out that episode, if you already haven't, before moving onto today's new episode.

This lesson will go over how to say a more casual version of "want to" (as in "I want to eat."). In English, we can also say "wanna" (as in "I wanna eat."), and there's a similar way to say this in Korean too.

verb stem + ㄹ/을 + 래(요)

Take the verb stem, then add "을" if it ends in a consonant, or just "ㄹ" if it ends in a vowel. Then attach 래, and if you want to be a bit more polite, also attach a "요" to the end.

This form is used in **casual situations**, but by adding a "요" it can be acceptable even when speaking with people who are older than you are. Still, it's best to avoid this form with people whom you aren't close with, in any formal situation, or when trying to be extra polite.

김치를 **먹을래요**.

"I wanna eat kimchi."

집에 **갈래요**.

"I wanna go home."

다이어트를 **시작할래**.

"I wanna start a diet."

"다이어트" means "a diet," and "시작하다" means "to start" or "to begin."

내일 우리 집에 와서 **놀래요?**

"Do you wanna come to our house tomorrow and play?"

Since the verb "놀다" (which means "to play" or "to hang out") already ends in a "ㄹ," it simply becomes "놀래(요)" when used in this form.

This form works with sentences in the negative as well. You can check out Episode 7 to learn more about how to make negative sentences.

안 할래.

"I don't wanna do it."

This sentence would only be used in a casual situation with a close friend.

같이 여행 가지 않을래?

"Don't you wanna go on a trip together?"

"여행(을) 가다" means "to go on a trip."

Advanced Notes

The grammar form is used to express something that the speaker wants to do, or *intends* to do. However, the "intent" is not as strong as when using the form "verb stem +려고 해요." To keep things simple, just consider this 래(요) form as meaning "wanna" and you'll be alright.

In addition, this form can only be used in the 1st and 2nd person, and *not in the 3rd person* (meaning that it cannot be used to talk about someone besides *the speaker* and *the listener*); like all descriptions of feeling or emotion in Korean, this form can only be used for referring to yourself or the person who you're talking to.

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!

