

Learn Korean Ep. 81: 모든 것 and 아무것도

In this lesson we'll learn about two important, common words – 모든 것 and 아무것도.

모든 것

모든 is an *adjective* that means "every" or "all."

것 is a *noun* that means "thing."

So literally, 모든 것 means "everything." It's straightforward to use.

모든 것이 좋아요.

"Everything is good."

You can use 모든 것 the same way you'd use any other noun.

모든 것이 맛있어요.

"Everything is delicious."

여기서 모든 것을 보고 싶어요.

"I want to see everything here."

And since I said that 모든 is an *adjective* that means "every" or "all," you can also use it separately if you want before other *nouns*.

모든 사람 → "everyone," or literally, "every person"

모든 생각 → "every idea" or "all ideas"

아무것도

아무 is an *adjective* that means "any."

것 means "thing."

도 means "even."

So literally, 아무것도 means "even anything." However, its usage is a bit different. 아무것도 is only used in *negative sentences*, meaning that it's only used in sentences which finish in a negative ending. Here's an example.

아무것도 안 먹었어요.

"I didn't eat anything."

안 먹다 is a *negative verb*, and means "to not eat."

However, if the sentence ended in simply 먹었어요 instead (아무것도 먹었어요), the sentence would no longer make sense grammatically and you could not use 아무것도.

Let's take a look at a few more examples.

아무것도 말하지 않았어요.

"I didn't say anything."

저도 **아무것도** 하지 않았어요.

"I didn't do anything either."

아무것도 못 봤어요.

"I couldn't see anything."

Advanced Notes

Since 아무 is an *adjective*, it can also be used with different nouns other than 것. It also does not need to be used in negative sentences – it can be used in both positive and negative sentences.

아무 색깔이나 상관없어요.

"It doesn't matter even if it's any color."

Also, 아무도 can be used by itself to mean "anyone" in negative sentences.

아무도 안 왔어요.

"Nobody came."

아무도 그렇게 생각하지 않아요.

"Nobody thinks that."

다 = "everything," "all"

Another common way to say everything is by using the *adverb* 다. Since it's an adverb, it's used directly before a verb. Depending on the sentence, it can translate as either "everything" or "all."

다 먹었어요.

"I ate everything."

"I ate it all."

다 했어요.

"I did everything."

"I did it all."

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!

