

Learn Korean Ep. 89: 주세요

This episode will teach the most basic way to ask for things in Korean.

Noun + (을/를) 주세요

The most basic phrase that you can use to ask for something in Korean is 주세요.

To use it, take a noun (what it is that you're asking for), and attach the Object Marker. The Object Marker will be 을 after a *consonant*, or 를 after a *vowel*. Then use 주세요.

주세요 literally means "Give me...," but it's a *polite* command and can more naturally translate as "Please give me...."

In English, when we ask for things we might commonly use sentences like this:

"Could you get me some..."

"Can I have..."

"Could I get..."

"Could you pass me the..."

... and more.

In Korean, none of that is necessary. Instead, using 주세요 is perfectly acceptable in most situations.

For example, if you're at a restaurant and want to see a menu, you can say 메뉴를 주세요 ("Please give me a menu."). You don't need to say "Do you think that I could please get one of the menus?" or anything long like that in Korean. Or if you need water, you can say 물을 주세요 ("Please give me some water."). You don't need to ask "Could I please get a glass of water?"

더 – "more"

You can use 더 together with 주세요 to mean "Please give me more...."

물을 더 주세요.

"Please give me more water."

많이 – "a lot"

You can use 많이 in the same way to mean that you want "a lot" of something.

김치를 많이 주세요.

"Please give me a lot of kimchi."

조금 – "a little"

Or you can use 조금 to ask for "a little" of something.

밥을 조금 주세요.

"Please give me a little (bit of) rice."

조금 더 – "a little more"

You can combine 조금 and 더 to ask for "a little more" of something.

고기를 조금 더 주세요.

"Please give me a little (bit) more meat."

However, you can't combine 많이 with 더 – 많이 더 is incorrect. Instead, simply use 많이 ("a lot") or 더 ("more") on its own.

Advanced Notes

You can use 주세요 anywhere in public (such as in a restaurant), but you'll want a more casual way to ask for things between *friends*.

Noun + (을/를) 줘(요)

You can use the same form, but using 줘(요) instead of 주세요. Use 줘요 when talking to a friend who's older than you, and use 줘 when talking to a friend who's younger than you or the same age as you.

빨리 돈 줘.

"Quick, give me the money."

Noun + (을/를) 주실 수 있으세요?

If you'd like an extra polite way of asking for something, you can use this form in the same way. This form is longer, and literally means "Are you able to give me...?" It's much more polite, so you won't need it as often, but it can be useful in a *formal* setting. For example, you can use this form to ask a special favor from someone.

더 많이

Although you can't combine 많이 with 더 to become 더 많이, you *can* combine it the other way around. 더 많이 can be used to mean "a lot more."

더 많이 주세요!

"Please give me a lot more!"

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!

