

Common Mistakes Koreans Make: “Dutch Pay”

babo level: ★ ★ ★ ☆ ☆

"Let's go dutch pay" is a common mistake Koreans make when speaking English. "Going dutch" is an expression that must be worded right otherwise you'll sound like a babo!

In English this expression can be spoken several ways. The most common way is to attach "dutch" with "go". For example, "We should go dutch.", or "How about going dutch?" The konglish way of attaching "pay/paid" ("We should dutch pay.") sounds strange to native English speakers.

Incorrect

"Let's go to the movies and dutch pay."

"I always dutch pay with my girlfriend because we are students."

"My boyfriend and me paid dutch at dinner yesterday."

Correct

"Let's go to the movies. We can split the bill."

"I always go dutch with my girlfriend because we are students."

"My boyfriend and I went dutch for dinner last night."

Tips:

While "going dutch" is a common expression, it is much more common for native speakers to say: "split the bill." For instance, "The date went really well, but I was turned off when he asked to split the bill."

When referring to the past remember to replace "go" with "went". For example, say: "We went dutch." as opposed to saying: "We go dutch paid."

Daily Expressions & Idioms:

1.) "give up": Means to stop trying, or to quit.

"I thought I would be interested in guitar but I gave up after a few months since I didn't have the time or patience."

2.) "grow apart": To slowly end a relationship or friendship over time.

"My ex-girlfriend and I grew apart once I started working overtime. It was the main cause of our break up."