

Korean Cheatsheet

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1 Basic Korean

Three Basic rules

1. Every Korean sentence must end in either a verb or an adjective
2. Every Korean verb and adjective ends with 다 in the dictionary form
3. A lot of verbs and adjectives end with 하다. To get the noun of these words simply 하다 has to be removed.
e.g.: 행복하다 = happy 행복 = happiness

1.1 sentence ending with a verb

The Structure of a sentence ending with a verb is:

Subject - object - verb

1.1.1 subject marker

subject particle 은, 는

Vowel: **는**: 나는, 자는
Consonant: **은**: 집은, 책은

subject particle 이, 가

Vowel: **가**: 고양이가 집 뒤에 있다
Consonant: **이**: 책이 집 뒤에 있다

The difference between 이,가/은,는 is very small. The meaning changes in the context.

고양이 **는** 집 뒤에 있다 = The cat is behind the house.

고양이 **가** 집 뒤에 있다 = The cat is behind the house.

는,은 have the role of being compared to something else. It means when we say there's a cat behind the house, other things are **not** behind the house. So the translation could change to: It is the cat that is behind the house. But it's like in other languages. The difference lays more in the feeling which one to use.

1.1.2 objectmarker

object particle 를, 을

Vowel: **를**: 나를, 저를
Consonant: **을**: 집을, 책을

1.2 sentence ending with an adjective

The Structure of a sentence ending with an adjective is:

subject - adjective

The difference between a sentence ending with a verb and an adjective is the following. adjective cannot act on an object

1.2.1 subjectmarker

subject particle 은, 는

Vowel: **는**: 나는, 자는
Consonant: **은**: 집은, 책은

1.2.2 nounmarker

noun particle 이, 가

Vowel: **가**: 나는 자가 있다 = I have a new car

Consonant: **이**: 나는 편이 있다 = I have a pen

There are some "irregular adjectives"

이다: to be acts like an adjective

있다: to have acts like an adjective

1.3 particles

1.3.1 Particle for place or time

The Particle to describe time or a place is **에**: I는 3pm **에** went

To specify the exact position: position words are in **front** of **에**

학교 **앞에**. = in front of the school.

사람 **뒤**다. = behind the person.

some position words:

안 = inside 위 = on top 밑 = below

옆 = beside 뒤 = behind 앞 = in front

1.3.2 this and that

There are three words for this and that, **이**, **저**, **그**

이: something is in touching distance

그: talking from previous sentence

저: speaking about something far away

using this/that with **이다**(to be): The sentence **begins** with this particle

그사람은 남자이다 = that person is a man

1.4 To be in a location

있다 has another meaning than to have. It can also mean to **be in a location**.

To recognize this meaning **에** is often used in a sentence with **있다**.

나는 학교**에** 있다. = I am at school.

나는 학교가 있다 = I have a school

1.5 Possessive Particle

의 is a particle that indicates that one is the owner/possessor of another object. It has to be placed **at the end** of the word, which is **possessor**.

저의 책 = my book

나는 선생님의 차를 원하다 = I want the teacher's car.

그 여자의 눈은 예쁘다. = That women's eyes are beautiful.

1.6 good, like

좋다 is an **adjective** that means **good**.

이 음식은 좋다 = this food is good. 그 선생님은 좋다 = that teacher is good.

There is a **verb** 좋아하다 which meaning is **like**.

나는 이 음식을 좋아하다 = I like this food.

나는 그 선생님을 좋아하다 = I like that teacher.