

week

2

Korean language class in MUNI

■ Endings

Since the stems of verbs and adjectives cannot be used alone, they are always used with endings. These endings carry various grammatical information and roles (e.g., tense, aspect, speech levels, and so forth). The endings can be categorized into two types: pre-final endings and final endings, depending on where they are placed in the verb or adjective.

1. Pre-final endings are inflectional elements that come between the stem and the final ending. They include the honorific suffix -(으)시 [(eu)si], past tense marker 았/았 [eot/at] (*we will learn next time), and so on.

1) The honorific suffix -(으)시 makes a predicate form honorific. It is added after the stem that ends in a consonant, as in 찾으시다(찾+으시+다) [cha-jeu-si-da] “look for,” and 시 [si] is added after a stem that ends in a vowel, as in 가시다(가+시+다) [ga-si-da] “go”.

2) The suffix 겠 [get] is used to indicate two things. First, it expresses the speaker’s intention or asks the listener’s intention, and it corresponds to “will” in English. E.g. 열심히 공부하겠습니다 [yeol-ssim-hi gong-bu-ha-get-sseum-ni-da] “(I) will study hard” / 어디로 가시겠습니까? [eo-di-ro ga-si-get-sseum-ni-gga] “Where will (you) go?”

Second, the suffix 겠 indicates the speaker’s conjecture or asks the listener’s idea regarding the topic in question. It is corresponding to “I guess/think” or “do you think that . . .” in English. E.g. 내일 시험이 어렵겠어요 [nae-il si-heo-mi eo-ryeop-gge-sseo-yo] “(I guess that) tomorrow’s test will be difficult” / 내일 시험이 어렵겠어요? [nae-il si-heo-mi eo-ryeop-gge-sseo-yo] “(Do you think that) tomorrow’s test will be difficult?”

Exercise 1. Which of the following inflectional word using -(으)시 is NOT true?

- ① 가르치시다 [ga-reu-chi-si-da] “teach”
- ② 보시다 [bo-si-da] “see”
- ③ 먹으시다 [meu-geu-si-da] “eat”
- ④ 건너으시다 [geon-neo-eu-si-da] “cross”
- ⑤ 있으시다 [i-sseu-si-da] “be”

Exercise 2. Which of the following translation of the Korean sentences is NOT true?

- ① 음식이 맛있겠습니까? [eum·si·gi ma·sit·kktet·sseum·ni·kka] “(Do you think that) the food will delicious?”
- ② 영화를 보시겠습니까? [yeong·hwa·reul bo·si·get·sseum·ni·kka] “(Do you think that) the movie will be fun?”
- ③ 길이 좁겠어요? [gi·ri jop·kke·sseo·yo] “(Do you think that) the road will be narrow?”
- ④ 꼭 담배를 끊겠습니다. [kkok dam·be·reul kkeun·ket·sseum·ni·da] “Surely, (I) will quit smoking.”
- ⑤ 매일 요가를 하겠습니다. [mae·il yo·ga·reul ha·get·sseum·ni·da] “(I) will do yoga everyday.”

2. There are two types of final endings: one that ends a verb or an adjective but not the sentence (non-sentence-final endings), and one that ends both the verb and the sentence (sentence-final endings). Non-sentence final endings include various clausal conjunctives such as -고 [go] “and then,” -어/아서 [eo/a-seo] “because,” -으면서 [eu-myeon-seo] “while,” -지만 [gi-man] “although,” -도록 [do-rok] “in order to,” and so on.

Exercise 3. Translate the following into English.

밥을 먹으면서 티브이를 봐요 [ba·beul meo·geu·myeon·seo ti·beu·i·reul bwa·yo]

커피를 마시고 아이스크림을 먹어요 [keo·pi·reul ma·si·go a·i·seu·keu·ri·meul meo·geo·yo]

3. The typical examples of sentence-final endings are various speech-level endings. These speech-level endings indicate the speaker’s interpersonal relationship with the addressees or attitude toward them (e.g., social meanings such as intimacy and formality of the situation). Korean has six speech levels, but in this course we will learn four speech levels as shown below.

Speech level	Declarative (statement)	Interrogative (question)	Imperative (command/ request)	Propositive (suggestion)
Deferential	-습니다 [seum·ni·da]/ ㅂ니다	-습니까 [seum·ni·kka]/ ㅂ니까	-(으)십시오 [(eu)sip·ssi·o]	-(으)십시오 [(eu)sip·ssi·da]
Polite	-어요 [eo·yo]/ 아요 [a·yo]	-어요/ -아요	-어요/ 아요	-어요/-아요
Intimate	-어 [eo]/ -아 [a]	-어/-아	-어/-아	-어/-아
Plain	-(ㄴ)다 [(neu)n·da]	-(으)니 [ni]/ -냐 [nya]	-어라 [eo·ra]/ -아라 [a·ra]	-자 [ja]

The deferential speech level is the highest among the four, followed by the polite speech level and so on. In addition, each speech level has four endings that indicate the type of sentence: declarative (statement), interrogative (question), imperative (command/request), and propositive (suggestion).

Let us apply four of the endings above to the verb stem 먹 [muk] “eat.” When saying “(someone) eats,” one needs to use one of the four interrogative endings (-습니까, -어요, -어, and -냐).

Level	Conjugation	Possible social settings
Deferential	먹습니까 [muk·seum·ni·kka]? “(Someone) eats?”	e.g., in a formal situation
Polite	먹어요 [meo·geo·yo]? —	e.g., to an adult colleague
Intimate	먹어 [meo·keo]? —	e.g., to an adolescent friend
Plain	먹냐 [meong·nya]? —	e.g., to a child

Exercise 4. Apply four propositive endings (-ㅂ시다, -아요, -아 and -자) to the stem of 앉다 [an·tta] “seat”

Deferential _____

Polite _____

Intimate _____

Plain _____

■ Conversation 2

종업원: 주문하시겠어요?

Waiter: Would you like to order?

서연: 네. 파스타랑 스테이크 주문할게요.

SeoYeon: Yes. I'd like to order pasta and steak.

민준: 시키는 김에 새우 샐러드도 같이 시키자.

MinJun: Let's order a shrimp salad while we're ordering.

서연: 나 새우 알레르기 있어서 못 먹어.

SeoYeon: I'm allergic to shrimp, so I can't eat it.

민준: 그래? 그럼 버섯 샐러드는 어때?

MinJun: Really? Then how about a mushroom salad?

서연: 좋아. 그러면 샐러드까지 총 세 개 시킬게요.

SeoYeon: Good. Then I'll order three in total, including salad.

종업원: 네 알겠습니다.

Waiter: Yes, sir.

종업원: 주문하시겠어요^[1]?

jong·eo·bwon: ju·mun·ha·si·ge·sseo·yo?

[1] 주문하(stem of the verb) + 시(pre-final endings: the honorific suffix) + 겠(pre-final endings: asking the listener's intention) + 어요(final-endings: Interrogative ending of polite level)

서연: 네. 파스타랑^[2] 스테이크 주문할게요^[3].

SeoYeon: ne. pa·seu·ta·rang seu·te·i·keu ju·mun·hal·kke·yo.

[2] The particle (이)랑 tends to be used for more informal and/or colloquial settings. 이랑 is used with a noun that ends in a consonant, and 랑 is used with a noun that ends in a vowel.

민준: 시키는 김에^[4] 새우 샐러드도^[5] 같이 시키자^[6].

MinJun: si·ki·neun gi·me sae·u sael·reo·deu·do ga·chi si·ki·ja?

서연: 나 새우 알레르기 있어서^[7] 못^[8] 먹어^[9].

SeoYeon: na sae·u al·re·reu·gi i·sseo·seo mot meo·geo.

[3] The -(으)ㄹ게요 ending indicates the speaker's promise or willingness to do something for the listener's interest. The ending is used only for first person subject and only with the verbs not with the adjectives.

민준: 그래? 그럼^[10] 버섯 샐러드는 어때^[11]?

MinJun: geu·rae? geu·reom beo·seot sael·reo·deu·nun eo·ttae?

서연: 좋아. 그러면^[10] 샐러드까지^[12] 총 세 개 시킬게요.

SeoYeon: jo·a. geu·reo·myeon sael·reo·deu·kka·ji chong se gae si·kil·kke·yo.

[4] -는 김에 is to indicate that while already doing one action, the person can take that opportunity to do the

종업원: 네 알겠습니다!¹³.

jong·eo·bwon: ne. al·ket·sseum·ni·da.

next action.

[5] The one-form special particle **도** adds the meaning of “also,” “too,” or “even” to the noun it attaches to.

[6] Using “-자” which is the propositive ending of plain level.

[7] One of the non-sentence final endings “-어서” which means “because”.

[8] **못** is a negation adverb and it is usually used for verbs because it means 'cannot'.

[9] Using “-어” which is the declarative ending of intimate level.

[10] **그러면** is often used to ask or offer an alternative or in explaining what action should take place in the case or condition in the proceeding sentence. This can be translated in English as if “that's the case”, “in that case”, “then or therefore”. **그럼** is the contracted form of **그러면**.

[11] **어때?** Means “how about...?” and it is the irregular conjugation of the verb **어떻다** [eo·tteo·ta] which means “be how”.

[12] The particle **까지** indicates an ending point, and it corresponds to “to,” “up to,” “until” or “as far as” in English.

[13] Using “-습니다” which is the declarative ending of deferential level.

■ Vocabulary

음식 [eum·sik] n. food

맛있다 [ma·sit·tta] adj. delicious

영화 [yeong·hwa] n. movie

길 [gil] n. road

좁다 [jop·tta] adj. narrow

꼭 [kkok] adv. surely

담배 [dam·bae] n. cigarette

꽤다 [kkeun·ta] v. quite

매일 [mae·il] adv. everyday

요가 [yo·ga] n. yoga

하다 [ha·da] v. do

티브이 [ti·be·ui] n. television, telly

커피 [keo·pi] n. coffee

마시다 [ma·si·da] v. drink

아이스크림 [a·i·seu·keu·rim]
n. ice-cream

주문하다 [ju·mun·ha·da] v. order

스테이크 [seu·te·i·keu] n. steak

시키다 [si·ki·da] v. make, get,
order

~하는 김에 [ha·neun gi·me] while
you're at it

새우 [sae·u] n. shrimp

샐러드 [sael·reo·deu] n. salad

알레르기 [al·re·reu·gi] n. allergic

그래 [geu·rae] yes, okay

버섯 [beo·seot] n. mushroom

어떻다 [eo·tteo·ta] adj. be how

총 [chong] pren. total

개 [gae] n. piece, unit

■ Answer

Exercise 1. ④

건너 is stem of 건너다 and it ends in a vowel, so 건너시다(건너+시+다) [geon-neo-si-da] is right.

Exercise 2. ②

영화를 보시겠습니까? "Will (you) watch the movie?"

Exercise 3.

(I) watch TV, while eating meal

(I) drink coffee, and then eat ice cream

Exercise 4.

Deferential: 앉읍시다 [an-jeup-ssi-da]

Polite: 앉아요 [an-ja-yo]

Intimate: 앉아 [an-ja]

Plain: 앉자 [an-jja]