



Korean Ladder Study Note

오늘 저녁 어때요

Making Spontaneous Same-Day Plans

Level	Topic	Focus
A1 · Beginner TOPIK 1	Conversation Appointments	오늘 저녁 어때요 Making Spontaneous Same-Day Plans

Study Links

Open this lesson on Korean Ladder

<https://www.koreanladder.com/lesson.html?id=KOR-A1-CONV-APT-009>

Watch the full video on YouTube

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jSNgqb-K9vg>

Visit [koreanladder.com](https://www.koreanladder.com) for all free lessons

<https://www.koreanladder.com>

Core Idea

If someone asks to meet right now, how do I say, 'Not now, but tonight,' without sounding like I don't want to see them?

지금은 좀 어려워요. 오늘 저녁 어때요? That means, 'Now is a little difficult. How about this evening?' You turn a no into another possibility.

오늘 저녁 어때요? means 'How about this evening?' Put a time before 어때요 to suggest it.

지금 가능해요? means 'Is now possible?' Use it when the other person already knows what you're trying to arrange.

Conversation Snapshot

Speaker	Korean	Meaning
Junho	지금 가능해요? —	Does now work?



Speaker	Korean	Meaning
Hana	지금은 좀 어려워요. 오늘 저녁 어때요? —	Now doesn't really work. How about this evening?
Junho	좋아요. 몇 시에 만날까요? —	Sounds good. What time shall we meet?
Hana	일곱 시 어때요? —	How about seven?
Junho	네, 좋아요. 일곱 시에 만나요. —	Yes, sounds good. See you at seven.

Vocabulary & Useful Expressions

Word	Meaning	Example
제안 → 확인 → 조정 —	Suggest → check → adjust	So I can suggest a time, check whether it works, and offer another time if it doesn't.
오늘 저녁 —	This evening	Does 저녁 mean evening or dinner? Am I accidentally inviting someone to a meal?
지금은 —	As for now	Here, 지금은 highlights 'as for now.' The particle 은 helps contrast now with another time that might work.
지금은 / 일곱 시는 —	As for now / As for seven	맞아요. Exactly. 일곱 시는 contrasts seven with your alternative, eight. After 시, use the particle 는 for that contrast.



Grammar / Structure Notes

___ 어때요?

___ 어때요? — How about [time]?

A simple way to suggest a time.

지금 가능해요?

지금 가능해요? — Is now possible?

The meeting or activity should already be understood.

제안 → 확인 → 조정

제안 → 확인 → 조정 — Suggest → check → adjust

All today's phrases use everyday polite speech.

오늘 저녁 어때요?

오늘 + 저녁 + 어때요? — How about this evening?

오늘 저녁 어때요? How about this evening? Imagine we've already been talking about getting coffee.

좋아요. 몇 시에 만날까요?

좋아요. 몇 시에 만날까요? — Sounds good. What time shall we meet?

Accept, then ask for the time.

Pronunciation Loop

Phrase	How to practice
오늘 저녁 어때요?	oneul jeonyeok eottaeyo?
오늘 저녁 어때?	Learner attempt: understandable, but casual rather than polite.
지금은 좀 어려워요.	jigeumeun jom eoryeowoyo.
지금은 좀 어려워요. 오늘 저녁 어때요?	Pause after the refusal, then offer another time.

Self-Check

- 1 Say 오늘 저녁 어때요 three times: slow, natural, then inside a short sentence.
- 2 Write one original sentence that was not in the video.
- 3 Rewatch the YouTube lesson and pause when the same pattern appears.

Related / Subsequent Studies



Lesson	Why study it next	Link
끝나는 시간이 몇 시예요 Asking When a Class, Shift, or Appointment Ends	A1 Conversation: compare 끝나는 시간이 몇 시예요 with this lesson so the boundary becomes clearer.	Open lesson https://www.koreanladder.com/lesson.html?id=KOR-A1-CONV-APT-005
내일로 미룰까요 Postponing a Simple Plan	A1 Conversation: compare 내일로 미룰까요 with this lesson so the boundary becomes clearer.	Open lesson https://www.koreanladder.com/lesson.html?id=KOR-A1-CONV-APT-004
다음에 연락할게요 / 그때 봐요 Closing Plans With a Soft Follow-Up	A1 Conversation: compare 다음에 연락할게요 / 그때 봐요 with this lesson so the boundary becomes clearer.	Open lesson https://www.koreanladder.com/lesson.html?id=KOR-A1-CONV-APT-003
도착했어요 / 앞에서 기다릴게요 Checking In When You Arrive	A1 Conversation: compare 도착했어요 / 앞에서 기다릴게요 with this lesson so the boundary becomes clearer.	Open lesson https://www.koreanladder.com/lesson.html?id=KOR-A1-CONV-APT-006

My Notes

Your ladder to fluent Korean. This PDF, the website, and the video lessons are free for personal study.