



Korean Ladder Study Note

형제 · 자매 있어요

Asking About Siblings When You Meet Someone

Level	Topic	Focus
A1 · Beginner TOPIK 1	Conversation Introductions	형제 · 자매 있어요 Asking About Siblings When You Meet Someone

Study Links

Open this lesson on Korean Ladder

<https://www.koreanladder.com/lesson.html?id=KOR-A1-CONV-INT-004>

Watch the full video on YouTube

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DVUGskgZi9o>

Visit koreanladder.com for all free lessons

<https://www.koreanladder.com>

Core Idea

After names and basic introductions, I want to ask, “Do you have siblings?” Is 형제자매 있어요? natural, or do I need a particle?

That is a very real next question. 네, 형제자매 있어요? sounds friendly and natural in a casual conversation.

오늘의 핵심은 형제자매가 있어요?예요. One simple follow-up like this makes an introduction feel warmer and more natural.

있어요 is the polite everyday form of 있다. Here, it means “there is,” or with a person, “I have.”

Conversation Snapshot

Speaker	Korean	Meaning
Hana	안녕하세요. 형제자매 있어요? —	Hello. Do you have siblings?



Speaker	Korean	Meaning
Junho	네, 있어요. —	Yes, I do.
Hana	몇 명 있어요? —	How many?
Junho	한 명 있어요. 여동생이에요. —	I have one. She's my younger sister.

Vocabulary & Useful Expressions

Word	Meaning	Example
있어요 isseoyo	there is; I have	있어요 is the polite everyday form of 있다. Here, it means “there is,” or with a person, “I have.”
여동생이 있어요 / 누나가 있어요 yeodongsaeng-i isseoyo / nunaga isseoyo	There is a younger sister / There is an older sister	After a consonant, use the particle 이. 여동생 ends in a consonant sound, so say 여동생이 있어요. After a vowel, use 가. For example, 누나가 있어요.
이/가 있어요 i/ga isseoyo	there is; have	를 marks a direct object. But 있다 works like “exists,” so use 이 or 가: 형제자매가 있어요?



Grammar / Structure Notes

형제자매 있어요?

형제자매 있어요? — Do you have siblings?

Friendly spoken version

형제자매가 있어요?

형제자매 + 가 + 있어요? — Do you have siblings?

For the full beginner pattern, say 형제자매가 있어요? It means, “Do you have any siblings?”

형제자매가 있어요?

형제자매가 있어요? — Do you have siblings?

The full polite everyday question

있어요

있어요 — there is; I have

A polite everyday form of 있다

형제자매가 있어요?

형제자매가 있어요? — Do you have siblings?

So I am not literally saying, “siblings are?” I use 있어요 for the idea of having siblings.

Pronunciation Loop

Phrase	How to practice
형제자매가 있어요?	hyeongje jamaega isseoyo?
있어요?	isseoyo?
네, 한 명 있어요.	ne, han myeong isseoyo.
몇 명 있어요?	myeot myeong isseoyo?

Self-Check

- 1 Say 형제·자매 있어요 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
몇 살이에요 Basic Questions After You Meet	A1 Conversation: compare 몇 살이에요 with this lesson so the boundary becomes clearer.	Open lesson https://www.koreanladder.com/lesson.html?id=KOR-A1-CONV-INT-002
어느 나라 사람이에요 Asking and Saying Nationality	A1 Conversation: compare 어느 나라 사람이에요 with this lesson so the boundary becomes clearer.	Open lesson https://www.koreanladder.com/lesson.html?id=KOR-A1-CONV-INT-003
제 이름은 / 만나서 반갑습니다 Introducing Yourself in Korean	A1 Conversation: compare 제 이름은 / 만나서 반갑습니다 with this lesson so the boundary becomes clearer.	Open lesson https://www.koreanladder.com/lesson.html?id=KOR-A1-CONV-INT-001
면접 자기소개 Introducing Yourself in a Job Interview	B2 Conversation: compare 면접 자기소개 with this lesson so the boundary becomes clearer.	Open lesson https://www.koreanladder.com/lesson.html?id=KOR-B2-CONV-INT-001

My Notes

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