



## Korean Ladder Study Note

# 알람이 안 울려요

## Asking for Help With a Basic Phone Alarm

| Level                    | Topic                          | Focus                                                 |
|--------------------------|--------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|
| A1 · Beginner<br>TOPIK 1 | Conversation<br>Phone & Online | 알람이 안 울려요<br>Asking for Help With a Basic Phone Alarm |

## Study Links

Open this lesson on Korean Ladder

<https://www.koreanladder.com/lesson.html?id=KOR-A1-CONV-PHN-011>

Watch the full video on YouTube

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-s0ISOHqJ1k>

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

<https://www.koreanladder.com>

## Core Idea

My alarm didn't ring this morning. Can I say 알람이 안 울려요, or does that sound like it's happening now?

좋은 질문이에요. For a missed alarm this morning, say 알람이 안 울렸어요. That means, 'The alarm didn't ring.'

문제를 말하고, 확인을 부탁드립니다. State the problem, then ask for a check. Our two useful pieces are 안 울렸어요 and 확인해 주세요.

알람이 안 울려요 means 'The alarm isn't ringing' or 'The alarm doesn't ring.' 알람이 안 울렸어요 means 'The alarm didn't ring.' Use that second version for this morning.

## Conversation Snapshot

| Speaker | Korean                  | Meaning                             |
|---------|-------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Hana    | 오늘 아침에 알람이 안 울렸어요.<br>— | The alarm didn't ring this morning. |
| Junho   | 알람이 켜져 있어요?<br>—        | Is the alarm on?                    |



| Speaker | Korean                 | Meaning                                        |
|---------|------------------------|------------------------------------------------|
| Hana    | 네. 알람 설정 좀 봐 주세요.<br>— | Yes. Please take a look at the alarm settings. |
| Junho   | 네. 소리가 너무 작아요.<br>—    | Okay. The volume is too low.                   |
| Hana    | 소리 좀 키워 주세요.<br>—      | Please turn up the volume.                     |
| Junho   | 네. 다시 확인해 볼게요.<br>—    | Okay. I'll check again.                        |

## Vocabulary & Useful Expressions

| Word                  | Meaning                                    | Example                                                                                                                                                    |
|-----------------------|--------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 안 울려요 → 안 울렸어요<br>—   | isn't ringing / doesn't ring → didn't ring | 알람이 안 울려요 means 'The alarm isn't ringing' or 'The alarm doesn't ring.' 알람이 안 울렸어요 means 'The alarm didn't ring.' Use that second version for this morning. |
| 울렸어요 → 안 울렸어요<br>—    | rang → didn't ring                         | 울렸어요 is already past tense. 안 makes it negative, but it doesn't make it past. Keep 울렸어요 when you're reporting what happened.                               |
| 알람 소리 크기 / 알람 설정<br>— | alarm volume / alarm settings              | Then 알람 소리 크기 is the alarm volume, and 알람 설정 is the alarm settings. I can say which part needs checking.                                                   |
| 알람 소리 크기<br>—         | alarm volume                               | 알람 소리 크기라고 말하면 더 분명해요. Saying 'alarm volume' makes the request clearer. On some phones, media volume and alarm volume are separate.                        |
| 문제 → 부탁<br>—          | Problem → request                          | 정확해요. That's right. The first sentence reports what happened. The second tells the helper what you'd like them to do.                                      |



## Grammar / Structure Notes

### 알람이 안 울렸어요.

알람이 안 울렸어요. — The alarm didn't ring.

Report a past event.

### 알람이 안 울렸어요. 확인해 주세요.

알람이 안 울렸어요. 확인해 주세요. — The alarm didn't ring. Please check.

Problem first, request second.

### 안 울려요 → 안 울렸어요

안 울려요 → 안 울렸어요 — isn't ringing / doesn't ring → didn't ring

A current or recurring problem versus a past event.

### 오늘 아침에 알람이 안 울렸어요.

오늘 아침 + 에 + 알람 + 이 + 안 + 울렸어요 + . — The alarm didn't ring this morning.

오늘 아침에 알람이 안 울렸어요. 'The alarm didn't ring this morning.' 오늘 아침에 tells us when it happened.

### 알람 소리 크기 좀 확인해 주세요.

알람 소리 크기 좀 확인해 주세요. — Please check the alarm volume.

소리 크기 = volume; literally, sound size

## Pronunciation Loop

| Phrase              | How to practice                                                               |
|---------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 알람이 안 울렸어요.         | Listen closely to the past-tense verb 울렸어요.                                   |
| 알람이 안 울려요.          | This describes a current or recurring problem, not specifically a past event. |
| 안 울렸어요.             | Keep the past-tense form 울렸어요.                                                |
| 알람 설정 좀 봐 주세요.      | Practice the request in two comfortable chunks.                               |
| 알람 소리 크기 좀 확인해 주세요. | Keep the name of the thing together, then add the request.                    |

## Self-Check

- 1 Say 알람이 안 울려요 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                                                                                                                                                         |
|------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| QR 코드 찍어도 돼요?<br>Asking About QR Codes<br>and App Check-In       | A1 Conversation: compare QR 코드 찍어도<br>돼요? with this lesson so the boundary<br>becomes clearer.         | Open lesson<br><a href="https://www.koreanladder.com/lesson.html?id=KOR-A1-CONV-PHN-009">https://www.koreanladder.com/lesson.html?id=KOR-A1-CONV-PHN-009</a> |
| 문자 보냈어요<br>Following Up After You<br>Send a Text                 | A1 Conversation: compare 문자 보냈어요 with<br>this lesson so the boundary becomes clearer.                  | Open lesson<br><a href="https://www.koreanladder.com/lesson.html?id=KOR-A1-CONV-PHN-004">https://www.koreanladder.com/lesson.html?id=KOR-A1-CONV-PHN-004</a> |
| 배터리가 없어요 / 충전해야<br>해요<br>When Your Phone Dies<br>Mid-Day         | A1 Conversation: compare 배터리가 없어요 /<br>충전해야 해요 with this lesson so the boundary<br>becomes clearer.    | Open lesson<br><a href="https://www.koreanladder.com/lesson.html?id=KOR-A1-CONV-PHN-007">https://www.koreanladder.com/lesson.html?id=KOR-A1-CONV-PHN-007</a> |
| 스피커폰으로 들을게요 /<br>이어폰 길게요<br>Managing Call Audio as a<br>Beginner | A1 Conversation: compare 스피커폰으로<br>들을게요 / 이어폰 길게요 with this lesson so the<br>boundary becomes clearer. | Open lesson<br><a href="https://www.koreanladder.com/lesson.html?id=KOR-A1-CONV-PHN-006">https://www.koreanladder.com/lesson.html?id=KOR-A1-CONV-PHN-006</a> |

## My Notes

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