



Korean Ladder Study Note

예능 / 개그 / 토크쇼

Beginner Words for Korean Variety TV

Level	Topic	Focus
A1 · Beginner TOPIK 1	Culture K-Drama & K-Pop	예능 / 개그 / 토크쇼 Beginner Words for Korean Variety TV

Study Links

Open this lesson on Korean Ladder

<https://www.koreanladder.com/lesson.html?id=KOR-A1-CULTURE-MED-005>

Watch the full video on YouTube

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=O-hAx8ljlkU>

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

<https://www.koreanladder.com>

Core Idea

Real question. I see Korean clips online, and people call everything 예능. Is 예능 just comedy? Or is it a talk show? I'm lost.

좋은 질문이에요. 예능은 comedy 하나만 뜻하지 않아요. In English, 예능 is a broad word for entertainment or variety TV shows.

오늘의 핵심 단어는 세 개예요. 예능, 개그, 토크쇼. Three starter words for watching Korean media.

So 예능 is the big bucket, and 개그 or 토크쇼 can be inside that bucket?

Conversation Snapshot

Speaker	Korean	Meaning
Hana	이거는 예능이에요? —	Is this a variety show?
Junho	네, 예능이에요. —	Yes, it is a variety show.



Speaker	Korean	Meaning
Hana	개그가 웃겨요. —	The gag is funny.
Junho	맞아요. 이 부분은 토크쇼 같아요. —	Right. This part feels like a talk show.

Vocabulary & Useful Expressions

Word	Meaning	Example
예능 yeneung	entertainment or variety TV	좋은 질문이에요. 예능은 comedy 하나만 뜻하지 않아요. In English, 예능 is a broad word for entertainment or variety TV shows.
예능 · 개그 · 토크쇼 yeneung · gaegeu · tokeusyo	variety entertainment · comedy gag · talk show	오늘의 핵심 단어는 세 개예요. 예능, 개그, 토크쇼. Three starter words for watching Korean media.
예능은 큰 범주예요 yeneung-eun keun beomjuyeyo	Variety entertainment is a big category.	맞아요. 예능은 큰 범주예요. In English, it is the bigger category: variety entertainment.
개그 gaegeu	gag, comedy bit	개그는 웃기는 말이나 행동, 또는 comedy bit를 말해요. 영어의 gag나 comedy routine에 가까워요.
토크쇼 tokeusyo	talk show	토크쇼는 사람들이 이야기하는 형식의 쇼예요. In English, a talk show.
이거는 예능이에요 igeo-neun yeneung-ieyo	This is a variety show.	먼저 아주 쉬운 문장으로 볼게요. 이거는 예능이에요. This is a variety entertainment show.
개그가 웃겨요 gaegeu-ga utgyeoyo	The gag is funny.	두 번째 문장입니다. 개그가 웃겨요. The comedy bit is funny.
토크쇼는 예능 전체가 아니예요 tokeusyo-neun yeneung jeonche-ga anieyo	A talk show is not all of variety entertainment.	중요한 구분이예요. 토크쇼는 예능 전체가 아니예요. A talk show is not the whole category of variety entertainment.



Grammar / Structure Notes

예능

예능 — entertainment or variety TV

A broad category on Korean TV and streaming

예능 · 개그 · 토크쇼

예능 · 개그 · 토크쇼 — variety entertainment · comedy gag · talk show

Three beginner media words

예능은 큰 범주예요

예능 + 은 + 큰 + 범주 + 예요 — Variety entertainment is a big category.

맞아요. 예능은 큰 범주예요. In English, it is the bigger category: variety entertainment.

개그

개그 — gag, comedy bit

A funny line, action, or comedy routine

토크쇼

토크쇼 — talk show

A show format built around conversation

Pronunciation Loop

Phrase	How to practice
이거는 예능이에요	igeo-neun yeneung-ieyo
예능	yeneung
개그	gaegeu
토크쇼	tokeusyo
예능, 개그, 토크쇼	yeneung · gaegeu · tokeusyo
개그가 웃겨요	gaegeu-ga utgyeoyo
이거는 토크쇼예요	igeo-neun tokeusyo-yeyo

Self-Check

- 1 Say 예능 / 개그 / 토크쇼 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
K-팝 첫걸음 아이돌 / 그룹 / 데뷔 for New Fans	A1 Culture: compare K-팝 첫걸음 with this lesson so the boundary becomes clearer.	Open lesson https://www.koreanladder.com/lesson.html?id=KOR-A1-CULTURE-MED-001
노래방 / Korea's Everyday '방' Hangout Culture	A1 Culture: compare 노래방 / with this lesson so the boundary becomes clearer.	Open lesson https://www.koreanladder.com/lesson.html?id=KOR-A1-CULTURE-MED-004
드라마 / 배우 / 명장면 한국 드라마 입문 단어	A1 Culture: compare 드라마 / 배우 / 명장면 with this lesson so the boundary becomes clearer.	Open lesson https://www.koreanladder.com/lesson.html?id=KOR-A1-CULTURE-MED-002
트로트 / 발라드 / 힙합 Korea's Music Genres for New Listeners	A1 Culture: compare 트로트 / 발라드 / 힙합 with this lesson so the boundary becomes clearer.	Open lesson https://www.koreanladder.com/lesson.html?id=KOR-A1-CULTURE-MED-003

My Notes

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