



Korean Ladder Study Note

웃다 / 벗다 / 씻다

Regular Verbs That Look Irregular but Aren't

Level	Topic	Focus
A1 · Beginner TOPIK 1	Grammar Verb Conjugation	웃다 / 벗다 / 씻다 Regular Verbs That Look Irregular but Aren't

Study Links

Open this lesson on Korean Ladder

<https://www.koreanladder.com/lesson.html?id=KOR-A1-GRAM-CNJ-010>

Watch the full video on YouTube

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=acp_kfbAoKM

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

<https://www.koreanladder.com>

Core Idea

I learned that some Korean verbs lose their final consonant. So when I see 웃다, should I drop the 시웃 too?

아니요. 웃어요가 맞아요. No. The correct form is 웃어요. Here, we keep the 시웃.

같은 받침이어도 활용은 다를 수 있어요. Verbs with the same final consonant can conjugate differently. The last letter alone doesn't tell you everything.

오늘은 규칙 활용을 연습해요. Today we're practicing regular conjugation. These three verbs follow the regular pattern: keep the stem-final 시웃 and add 어요.

Conversation Snapshot

Speaker	Korean	Meaning
Hana	집에 오면 뭐 해요? —	What do you do when you get home?
Junho	신발을 벗어요. —	I take off my shoes.



Speaker	Korean	Meaning
Hana	그다음에는요? —	And after that?
Junho	손을 씻어요. —	I wash my hands.

Vocabulary & Useful Expressions

Word	Meaning	Example
웃다 → 웃어요 —	to laugh → laugh / laughs	아니요. 웃어요가 맞아요. No. The correct form is 웃어요. Here, we keep the 시옷.
웃다 · 벗다 · 씻다 —	to laugh · to take off · to wash	오늘은 규칙 활용을 연습해요. Today we're practicing regular conjugation. These three verbs follow the regular pattern: keep the stem-final 시옷 and add 어요.
웃어요 · 벗어요 · 씻어요 —	laugh · take off · wash	웃어요, 벗어요, 씻어요. These are polite everyday forms. You can use them to describe what you do.
웃다 → 웃 벗다 → 벗 씻다 → 씻 —	Remove 다 to find each stem.	먼저 다를 빼세요. First, remove 다 from the dictionary form. That gives us the stem.
웃 + 어요 벗 + 어요 씻 + 어요 —	Use 어요 with these three stems.	오늘 세 동사는 모두 어요를 붙여요. All three take 어요. Their last stem vowels are not 아 or 오.
웃 + 어요 → 웃어요 —	laugh / laughs	웃에 어요를 붙이면 웃어요예요. Add 어요 to the stem 웃, and you get 웃어요. Keep the 시옷 in the spelling.
벗 + 어요 → 벗어요 —	take off / takes off	Then 벗다 becomes 벗어요. I remove 다, not the 시옷.
씻 + 어요 → 씻어요 —	wash / washes	맞아요. 씻다도 씻어요가 돼요. Right. 씻다 becomes 씻어요 too. The same steps work.



Grammar / Structure Notes

웃다 → 웃어요

웃다 → 웃어요 — to laugh → laugh / laughs

Keep ㅅ.

웃다 · 벗다 · 씻다

웃다 · 벗다 · 씻다 — to laugh · to take off · to wash

These three keep their stem-final ㅅ before 어요.

웃어요 · 벗어요 · 씻어요

웃어요 · 벗어요 · 씻어요 — laugh · take off · wash

Everyday polite forms

자주 웃어요.

자주 + 웃 + 어요 + . — I laugh often.

자주 웃어요. I laugh often. 웃다 means to laugh or smile.

신발을 벗어요.

신발 + 을 + 벗 + 어요 + . — I take off my shoes.

신발을 벗어요. I take off my shoes. 벗다 means to take off something you're wearing.

Pronunciation Loop

Phrase	How to practice
웃어요	useoyo
벗어요	beoseoyo
씻어요	ssiseoyo

Self-Check

- 1 Say 웃다 / 벗다 / 씻다 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
공부해요 / 운동해요 Turning 하다 Nouns into Verbs	A1 Grammar: compare 공부해요 / 운동해요 with this lesson so the boundary becomes clearer.	Open lesson https://www.koreanladder.com/lesson.html?id=KOR-A1-GRAM-CNJ-002
길다 / 짧다 / 멀다 / 가깝다 Conjugating Length and Distance Adjectives	A1 Grammar: compare 길다 / 짧다 / 멀다 / 가깝다 with this lesson so the boundary becomes clearer.	Open lesson https://www.koreanladder.com/lesson.html?id=KOR-A1-GRAM-CNJ-005
먹다 / 마시다 / 사다 Conjugating Everyday Action Verbs	A1 Grammar: compare 먹다 / 마시다 / 사다 with this lesson so the boundary becomes clearer.	Open lesson https://www.koreanladder.com/lesson.html?id=KOR-A1-GRAM-CNJ-004
받다 / 닫다 / 믿다 Regular ㄷ-Batchim Verbs Before the Irregular Ones	A1 Grammar: compare 받다 / 닫다 / 믿다 with this lesson so the boundary becomes clearer.	Open lesson https://www.koreanladder.com/lesson.html?id=KOR-A1-GRAM-CNJ-008

My Notes

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