



Korean Ladder Study Note

그래도 / 하지만

Two More Ways to Say 'But' Between Sentences

Level	Topic	Focus
A1 · Beginner TOPIK 1	Grammar Connectors	그래도 / 하지만 Two More Ways to Say 'But' Between Sentences

Study Links

Open this lesson on Korean Ladder

<https://www.koreanladder.com/lesson.html?id=KOR-A1-GRAM-CON-002>

Watch the full video on YouTube

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

Visit koreanladder.com for all free lessons

<https://www.koreanladder.com>

Core Idea

Okay, wait. I already know 그런데 for 'but.' So why do I keep hearing 하지만 and 그래도 at the start of the next sentence?

좋은 질문이에요. You already know 그리고, 그래서, and 그런데 — those glue ideas together. Today we add two more sentence starters.

둘 다 'but' 느낌이에요. But they are not the same 'but.'

오늘은 문장 앞에 오는 그래도와 하지만을 배워요. In English, these are contrast words that start a new sentence.

Conversation Snapshot

Speaker	Korean	Meaning
Hana	오늘 비가 와요. —	It's raining today.



Speaker	Korean	Meaning
Junho	그래도 갈게요. —	Even so, I'll go.
Hana	길이 복잡해요. —	The roads are crowded.
Junho	하지만 기차가 빨라요. —	But the train is fast.
Hana	오늘 비가 와요. —	It's raining today.
Junho	그래도 갈게요. —	Even so, I'll go.
Hana	길이 복잡해요. —	The roads are crowded.
Junho	하지만 기차가 빨라요. —	But the train is fast.

Vocabulary & Useful Expressions

Word	Meaning	Example
그래도 / 하지만 geuraedo / hajiman	even so / but · however	오늘은 문장 앞에 오는 그래도와 하지만을 배워요. In English, these are contrast words that start a new sentence.
하지만 hajiman	but / however	하지만은 그냥 반대예요. Plain contradiction — 'but' or 'however.'
그래도 geuraedo	even so / still	그래도는 양보예요. Even so — the first fact stays true, and you still do the second thing.
하지만 ≠ 그래도 hajiman ≠ geuraedo	Both contrast — different attitude	Catch me before I mess this up. Can I just swap 하지만 and 그래도 every time, like English 'but'?



Grammar / Structure Notes

그래도 / 하지만

그래도 / 하지만 — even so / but · however

Start a new sentence; both contrast, but not the same way

하지만

하지만 — but / however

Sentence 1 is true. Sentence 2 pushes the opposite way.

그래도

그래도 — even so / still

Despite sentence 1, sentence 2 happens anyway

그래도 / 하지만

그래도 / 하지만 — even so / but · however

Start a new sentence; both contrast, but not the same way

비싸요. 하지만 살 거예요.

비싸요 + . + 하지만 + 살 + 거예요 + . — It's expensive. But I'm going to buy it.

먼저 하지만이에요. Listen to this pair.

Pronunciation Loop

Phrase	How to practice
비싸요. 하지만 살 거예요.	bissa-yo. hajiman sal geo-ye-yo.
피곤해요. 그래도 갈게요.	pigonhae-yo. geuraedo galge-yo.

Self-Check

- 1 Say 그래도 / 하지만 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
그리고 / 그래서 / 그런데 Connecting Two Sentences with Conjunctions	A1 Grammar: compare 그리고 / 그래서 / 그런데 with this lesson so the boundary becomes clearer.	Open lesson https://www.koreanladder.com/lesson.html?id=KOR-A1-GRAM-CON-001
아니면 / 또는 Saying 'Or' Between Choices	A1 Grammar: compare 아니면 / 또는 with this lesson so the boundary becomes clearer.	Open lesson https://www.koreanladder.com/lesson.html?id=KOR-A1-GRAM-CON-003
-(으)ㄴ / 는 탓에 / 덕분에 / 바람에 Assigning Blame, Credit, and Cause	C1 Grammar: compare -(으)ㄴ / 는 탓에 / 덕분에 / 바람에 with this lesson so the boundary becomes clearer.	Open lesson https://www.koreanladder.com/lesson.html?id=KOR-C1-GRAM-CON-002
-(으)ㄴ수록 The More X, the More Y	B2 Grammar: compare -(으)ㄴ수록 with this lesson so the boundary becomes clearer.	Open lesson https://www.koreanladder.com/lesson.html?id=KOR-B2-GRAM-CON-001

My Notes

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