



Korean Ladder Study Note

그러니까

Turning a Reason into Everyday 'So...'

Level	Topic	Focus
A1 · Beginner TOPIK 1	Grammar Connectors	그러니까 Turning a Reason into Everyday 'So...'

Study Links

Open this lesson on Korean Ladder

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

Watch the full video on YouTube

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wpws21tA83w>

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

<https://www.koreanladder.com>

Core Idea

I hear 그래서 for “so,” but then Koreans also say 그러니까. Are they the same, or am I missing the vibe?

좋은 질문이에요. 그래서 is often a simple result. 그러니까 feels more spoken: because of that, here is my point, my conclusion, or my advice.

Today, we use 그러니까 to turn a reason into a natural next thought. It is very common in conversation.

패턴은 이거예요. 이유를 말하고, 그러니까, 결론을 말해요. In English: give the reason, then say “so,” then your point.

Conversation Snapshot

Speaker	Korean	Meaning
Hana	커피가 너무 뜨거워요. —	The coffee is too hot.
Junho	그러니까 천천히 마세요. —	So drink it slowly.



Speaker	Korean	Meaning
Hana	네, 조금 기다릴게요. —	Okay, I'll wait a little.
Hana	커피가 너무 뜨거워요. —	The coffee is too hot.
Junho	그러니까 천천히 마세요. —	So drink it slowly.
Hana	네, 조금 기다릴게요. —	Okay, I'll wait a little.

Vocabulary & Useful Expressions

Word	Meaning	Example
그러니까 geureonikka	so / that's why / I mean	So it's not just a result. It's like, "Here's why, so here's what I'm saying."
그러니까 + 결론 / 조언 / 설명 geureonikka + gyeollon / joeon / seolmyeong	so + conclusion / advice / explanation	맞아요. 그러니까 often points to what we should think, do, or understand next.
그래서 = result 그러니까 = reason → point geuraeseo / geureonikka	그래서: so, as a result 그러니까: so, that means / so, here's my point	English speakers may want to say 그래서 here. 그래서 is possible in some situations, but 그러니까 makes the speaker's conclusion clearer.
결과 vs 결론 gyeolgwa vs gyeollon	result vs conclusion	Okay. 그래서 is more "this happened, so that happened." 그러니까 is "this is the reason, so here's the point."
그런데 geureonde	but / however / by the way	Now contrast with 그런데. 그런데 means "but," "however," or "by the way." It turns or shifts the conversation.
그러니까: 조언 그런데: 문제 / 대조 geureonikka: joeon / geureonde: munje / daejo	그러니까: advice 그런데: problem / contrast	맞아요. 비가 와요. 그러니까 우산을 가져가세요 sounds natural. 비가 와요. 그런데 우산이 없어요 also sounds natural, but the meaning is different.
그러니까 + 해요 / 하세요 geureonikka + haeyo / haseyo	so let's do it / so please do it	좋습니다. One small note: if you are directly asking someone politely, 문을 닫으세요 is also possible. But 문을 닫아요 can sound like "let's close it" in a simple friendly lesson context.



Grammar / Structure Notes

A. 그러니까 B.

A. 그러니까 B. — A. So / that's why, B.

Use it after a reason to introduce the conclusion.

이유. 그러니까 결론.

이유. 그러니까 결론. — Reason. So, conclusion.

Spoken and natural.

그러니까

그러니까 — so / that's why / I mean

A spoken bridge to the point.

비가 와요. 그러니까 우산을 가져가세요.

비 + 가 + 와요 + . + 그러니까 + 우산 + 을 + 가져가세요 + . — It's raining. So please take an umbrella.

맞아요. For example: 비가 와요. 그러니까 우산을 가져가세요.

비가 와요. 그러니까 우산을 가져가세요.

비 + 가 + 와요 + . + 그러니까 + 우산 + 을 + 가져가세요 + . — It's raining. So please take an umbrella.

여기서 그러니까는 “because it is raining, my advice is this.” So please take an umbrella.

Pronunciation Loop

Phrase	How to practice
그러니까	geureonikka

Self-Check

- 1 Say 그러니까 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
그래도 / 하지만 Two More Ways to Say 'But' Between Sentences	A1 Grammar: compare 그래도 / 하지만 with this lesson so the boundary becomes clearer.	Open lesson https://www.koreanladder.com/lesson.html?id=KOR-A1-GRAM-CON-002
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

My Notes

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