



Korean Ladder Study Note

와 / 과 / 하고

Linking Two Nouns with 'And'

Level	Topic	Focus
A1 · Beginner TOPIK 1	Grammar Particles	와 / 과 / 하고 Linking Two Nouns with 'And'

Study Links

[Open this lesson on Korean Ladder](https://www.koreanladder.com/lesson.html?id=KOR-A1-GRAM-PRT-007)

<https://www.koreanladder.com/lesson.html?id=KOR-A1-GRAM-PRT-007>

[Watch the full video on YouTube](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lnpL_MntBS0)

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lnpL_MntBS0

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Core Idea

Okay, real question. I tried to say 'coffee and water' and I just froze. Is there one little word for 'and' in Korean, or what?

Good question. There IS a little word — actually three of them, and which one you pick depends on the sound at the end of the first noun.

Three? For one tiny word? That feels like a trap.

It's not a trap, I promise. There's a simple rule, and one of them works after anything. Let me show you the pattern.

Conversation Snapshot

Speaker	Korean	Meaning
Hana	사과와 바나나 사요. —	Let's buy apples and bananas.



Speaker	Korean	Meaning
Junho	네, 그리고 빵과 우유도 사요. —	Sure, and let's also buy bread and milk.
Hana	물하고 커피는요? —	What about water and coffee?
Junho	좋아요, 물하고 커피도 사요. —	Good, let's get water and coffee too.
Junho	빵과 우유 —	bread and milk (consonant → 과)
Hana	물하고 커피 —	water and coffee (casual → 하고)

Vocabulary & Useful Expressions

Word	Meaning	Example
명사 + 와 / 과 myeongsa + wa / gwa	noun + 'and' (links two nouns)	여기 핵심이 있어요. Here's the core. After a noun that ends in a vowel, you use 와. After a noun that ends in a consonant, you use 과.
받침 없음 → 와 / 받침 있음 → 과 batchim eopseum → wa / batchim isseum → gwa	no final consonant → 와 · final consonant → 과	받침이 없으면 와, 받침이 있으면 과. If there's no final consonant, 와. If there's a final consonant — a 받침 — then 과.
커피와 물 keopi-wa mul	coffee and water	커피와 물. Coffee and water. 커피 ends in the vowel 이, so we use 와.
물과 커피 mul-gwa keopi	water and coffee	이제 받침 예시예요. Now a consonant example. 물과 커피. Water and coffee. 물 ends in the consonant 리을, so we use 과.
책과 연필 chaek-gwa yeonpil	a book and a pencil	하나 더. One more. 책과 연필. A book and a pencil. 책 ends in the consonant 기역, so it takes 과.
[A]와/과 [B] [A]-wa/gwa [B]	A and B — particle attaches to A	So the particle sticks to the FIRST noun, and it changes based on how that first noun ends. The second noun just sits there.
명사 + 하고 myeongsa + hago	noun + 'and' (works after any noun)	맞아요. And here's the friendly part. There's a third option, 하고. 하고 is the most casual, most colloquial one — and the best news is it attaches to anything, vowel or consonant.



Word	Meaning	Example
커피하고 물 · 물하고 커피 keopi-hago mul · mul-hago keopi	coffee and water · water and coffee	그래서 회화에서 아주 편해요. So in conversation it's very easy — you never have to check the ending. 커피하고 물, 물하고 커피. Both fine.

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Grammar / Structure Notes

명사 + 와 / 과

명사 + 와 / 과 — noun + 'and' (links two nouns)

와 after a vowel · 과 after a consonant

받침 없음 → 와 / 받침 있음 → 과

받침 없음 → 와 / 받침 있음 → 과 — no final consonant → 와 · final consonant → 과

받침 = the final consonant of a syllable

받침 없음 → 와 / 받침 있음 → 과

받침 없음 → 와 / 받침 있음 → 과 — no final consonant → 와 · final consonant → 과

Wait, so it's the same rule as 은 versus 는, kind of? The sound at the end decides it?

받침 없음 → 와 / 받침 있음 → 과

받침 없음 → 와 / 받침 있음 → 과 — no final consonant → 와 · final consonant → 과

정확해요. Exactly the same idea. The ending sound chooses the particle. Let me give you real examples.

커피와 물

커피 + 와 + 물 — coffee and water

커피와 물. Coffee and water. 커피 ends in the vowel 이, so we use 와.

Pronunciation Loop

Phrase	How to practice
커피와 물	keopi-wa mul
사과와 바나나	sagwa-wa banana
책과 연필	chaek-gwa yeonpil

Self-Check

- 1 Say 와 / 과 / 하고 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
도 Saying 'Also', 'Too', and 'Even' in Korean	A1 Grammar: compare 도 with this lesson so the boundary becomes clearer.	Open lesson https://www.koreanladder.com/lesson.html?id=KOR-A1-GRAM-PRT-006
에 The Korean Particle for Place and Time	A1 Grammar: compare 에 with this lesson so the boundary becomes clearer.	Open lesson https://www.koreanladder.com/lesson.html?id=KOR-A1-GRAM-PRT-004
에서 Where the Action Happens	A1 Grammar: compare 에서 with this lesson so the boundary becomes clearer.	Open lesson https://www.koreanladder.com/lesson.html?id=KOR-A1-GRAM-PRT-005
은 / 는 The Korean Topic Marker	A1 Grammar: compare 은 / 는 with this lesson so the boundary becomes clearer.	Open lesson https://www.koreanladder.com/lesson.html?id=KOR-A1-GRAM-PRT-001

My Notes

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