



Korean Ladder Study Note

저요

Claiming 'That's Me' the Humble Way

Level	Topic	Focus
A1 · Beginner TOPIK 1	Honorifics Humble Forms	저요 Claiming 'That's Me' the Humble Way

Study Links

Open this lesson on Korean Ladder

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

Watch the full video on YouTube

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Hsw6ZXYVbiY>

Visit koreanladder.com for all free lessons

<https://www.koreanladder.com>

Core Idea

If someone calls my name in Korea, can I just say 나? Or should I say 저요?

공손한 자리에서는 나보다 저를 쓰는 게 좋아요. In a polite setting, 저 is the humble way to say I or me.

오늘은 누가 내 이름을 부르거나 나를 가리킬 때, 공손하게 '저예요' 또는 '저요'라고 말하는 법을 배워 볼게요. Today we will politely claim, "That's me."

저 is a humble first-person pronoun. 저 means I or me, but it shows respect toward the listener.

Conversation Snapshot

Speaker	Korean	Meaning
Hana	누가 먼저 발표할까요? —	Who will present first?
Junho	제가 먼저 발표할게요. —	I'll present first.



Speaker	Korean	Meaning
Hana	고마워요. —	Thank you.

Vocabulary & Useful Expressions

Word	Meaning	Example
저 jeo	I, me — humble and polite	오늘은 누가 내 이름을 부르거나 나를 가리킬 때, 공손하게 ‘저예요’ 또는 ‘저요’라고 말하는 법을 배워 볼게요. Today we will politely claim, “That’s me.”
저 + 가 → 제가 jeo + ga → jega	저 + subject marker 가 = 제가	제가 comes from 저 plus the subject marker 가. 저에 주격 조사 가를 붙이면 제가 돼요. Add subject marker 가 to 저, and it becomes 제가.
제가 jega	Claiming ‘That’s Me’ the Humble Way	발음도 잠깐 들어 볼게요. Let’s make 제가 smooth and connected.



Grammar / Structure Notes

저

저 — I, me — humble and polite

공손한 자리에서 나 대신 써요.

저

저 — I, me — humble and polite

공손한 자리에서 나 대신 써요.

네, 저요.

네, + 저요. — Yes, that's me.

이름을 확인할 때 이렇게 말할 수 있어요. ‘민수 씨?’ ‘네, 저요.’ Someone calls Min-su's name, and he says, “Yes, that's me.”

네, 저요.

네, + 저요. — Yes, that's me.

네 means yes. Then 저요 is a short, polite answer meaning “me” or “that's me.”

누가 먼저 발표할까요?

누가 먼저 발표할까요? — Who will present first?

Now imagine a teacher asks, ‘누가 먼저 발표할까요?’ That means, “Who will present first?”

Pronunciation Loop

Phrase	How to practice
네, 저요.	ne, jeoyo.
제가 먼저 발표할게요.	jega meonjeo balpyohalgeyo.
제가	jega

Self-Check

- 1 Say 저요 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
먼저 가볼게요 / 신세 졌습니다 Humble Leave-Takings After Receiving Help	A1 Honorifics: compare 먼저 가볼게요 / 신세 졌습니다 with this lesson so the boundary becomes clearer.	Open lesson https://www.koreanladder.com/lesson.html?id=KOR-A1-HON-HUM-004
잘 받을게요 / 감사합니다하고 받기 Accepting Something Handed to You Humbly	A1 Honorifics: compare 잘 받을게요 / 감사합니다하고 받기 with this lesson so the boundary becomes clearer.	Open lesson https://www.koreanladder.com/lesson.html?id=KOR-A1-HON-HUM-005
저한테 / 저에게 / 저를 Humbling Yourself in Particle Choice	A1 Honorifics: compare 저한테 / 저에게 / 저를 with this lesson so the boundary becomes clearer.	Open lesson https://www.koreanladder.com/lesson.html?id=KOR-A1-HON-HUM-003
제가 도와드릴게요 / 들어 드릴게요 Offering Help to Elders the Humble Way	A1 Honorifics: compare 제가 도와드릴게요 / 들어 드릴게요 with this lesson so the boundary becomes clearer.	Open lesson https://www.koreanladder.com/lesson.html?id=KOR-A1-HON-HUM-002

My Notes

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