



## Korean Ladder Study Note

# 가

## Hearing Whether a Syllable Ends in a Batchim

| Level                    | Topic                    | Focus                                             |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------------------------------|
| A1 · Beginner<br>TOPIK 1 | Pronunciation<br>Batchim | 가<br>Hearing Whether a Syllable Ends in a Batchim |

## Study Links

Open this lesson on Korean Ladder

<https://www.koreanladder.com/lesson.html?id=KOR-A1-PRON-BAT-003>

Watch the full video on YouTube

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UtONwmlz47I>

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

<https://www.koreanladder.com>

## Core Idea

Okay, honest question — when Koreans say 각, I only hear 가. Am I dropping the ending?

Exactly that feeling. English speakers often miss the last consonant — or invent one that isn't there.

Today's pattern is open syllable versus closed syllable. Open means no batchim. Closed means a batchim finishes the beat.

받침 is the final consonant under a Hangul block. In English, think of it as the lid that closes the syllable.

## Conversation Snapshot

| Speaker | Korean          | Meaning         |
|---------|-----------------|-----------------|
| Hana    | 나 갈게요.<br>—     | I'll go.        |
| Junho   | 난 여기 있을게요.<br>— | I'll stay here. |



| Speaker | Korean                | Meaning                         |
|---------|-----------------------|---------------------------------|
| Hana    | 오, 진짜요?<br>—          | Oh, really?                     |
| Junho   | 응, 난 옥상에서 기다릴게요.<br>— | Yeah, I'll wait on the rooftop. |
| Hana    | 나 갈게요.<br>—           | I'll go.                        |
| Junho   | 난 여기 있을게요.<br>—       | I'll stay here.                 |
| Hana    | 오, 진짜요?<br>—          | Oh, really?                     |
| Junho   | 응, 난 옥상에서 기다릴게요.<br>— | Yeah, I'll wait on the rooftop. |

## Vocabulary & Useful Expressions

| Word                                                   | Meaning                               | Example                                                                                                                   |
|--------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 받침 있음 vs 받침 없음<br>batchim isseum vs<br>batchim eopseum | with a final consonant vs without one | Today's pattern is open syllable versus closed syllable. Open means no batchim. Closed means a batchim finishes the beat. |
| 받침<br>batchim                                          | final consonant under a syllable      | 받침 is the final consonant under a Hangul block. In English, think of it as the lid that closes the syllable.              |
| 가 / 각<br>ga / gak                                      | open ga · closed gak                  | So 가 is open, and 각 is closed because of that 기역 under it?                                                                |
| 가<br>ga                                                | open syllable — no batchim            | Right. Look at 가 — just ㄱ and ㅏ. No lid. Now 각 — same start, plus 기역 as batchim.                                          |
| 각<br>gak                                               | closed syllable — batchim ㄱ           | And 각 adds the batchim. Say it with me in your head — 가, then 각. Feel that stop at the end of 각.                          |
| 나 / 난<br>na / nan                                      | open na · closed nan                  | Same idea with 나 and 난. 나는 open. 난 closes with 니은.                                                                        |
| 나<br>na                                                | I (casual) — open                     | 나 means 'I' in casual talk. 난 is 나는 shortened — still the same person, but you hear the 니은 close it.                      |
| 난<br>nan                                               | I (short for 나는) — closed             | 난 — hear the nose touch at the end. That is the batchim working.                                                          |



## Grammar / Structure Notes

### 받침 있음 vs 받침 없음

받침 있음 vs 받침 없음 — with a final consonant vs without one

open = no batchim · closed = batchim

### 받침

받침 — final consonant under a syllable

it closes the beat

### 가 / 각

가 / 각 — open ga · closed gak

ㄱ on the card; say 기억 out loud

### 가

가 — open syllable — no batchim

Right. Look at 가 — just ㄱ and ㅏ. No lid. Now 각 — same start, plus 기억 as batchim.

### 각

각 — closed syllable — batchim ㄱ

And 각 adds the batchim. Say it with me in your head — 가, then 각. Feel that stop at the end of 각.

## Pronunciation Loop

| Phrase   | How to practice   |
|----------|-------------------|
| 가, 나, 오  | ga · na · o       |
| 각, 난, 옥  | gak · nan · ok    |
| 나, 난, 옥상 | na / nan / oksang |
| 가        | ga                |
| 각        | gak               |
| 나        | na                |
| 난        | nan               |
| 오        | o                 |

## Self-Check

1 Say 가 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                                                                                                                                                         |
|----------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 받침<br>Final Consonants Made Simple                       | A1 Pronunciation: compare 받침 with this lesson so the boundary becomes clearer.                | Open lesson<br><a href="https://www.koreanladder.com/lesson.html?id=KOR-A1-PRON-BAT-001">https://www.koreanladder.com/lesson.html?id=KOR-A1-PRON-BAT-001</a> |
| 받침은<br>A Beginner's Map of the 7 Final Sounds            | A1 Pronunciation: compare 받침은 with this lesson so the boundary becomes clearer.               | Open lesson<br><a href="https://www.koreanladder.com/lesson.html?id=KOR-A1-PRON-BAT-002">https://www.koreanladder.com/lesson.html?id=KOR-A1-PRON-BAT-002</a> |
| 있어요 / 없어요<br>Hearing and Saying the ㅅ Batchim            | A1 Pronunciation: compare 있어요 / 없어요 with this lesson so the boundary becomes clearer.         | Open lesson<br><a href="https://www.koreanladder.com/lesson.html?id=KOR-A1-PRON-BAT-004">https://www.koreanladder.com/lesson.html?id=KOR-A1-PRON-BAT-004</a> |
| 겹받침 ㄱ / ㄴ / ㄷ / ㄹ<br>Pronouncing Double Final Consonants | B2 Pronunciation: compare 겹받침 ㄱ / ㄴ / ㄷ / ㄹ with this lesson so the boundary becomes clearer. | Open lesson<br><a href="https://www.koreanladder.com/lesson.html?id=KOR-B2-PRON-BAT-001">https://www.koreanladder.com/lesson.html?id=KOR-B2-PRON-BAT-001</a> |

## My Notes

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