



Korean Ladder Study Note

입

Minimal Pairs for Hearing Final Consonants

Level	Topic	Focus
A1 · Beginner TOPIK 1	Pronunciation Batchim	입 Minimal Pairs for Hearing Final Consonants

Study Links

Open this lesson on Korean Ladder

<https://www.koreanladder.com/lesson.html?id=KOR-A1-PRON-BAT-006>

Watch the full video on YouTube

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=U_exJYv8QmQ

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

<https://www.koreanladder.com>

Core Idea

Here is my problem. I hear a tiny sound at the end of Korean words, and sometimes I miss it completely. Like, is it 구 or 굴? And are 입 and 앞 different?

좋은 질문이에요. 받침은 syllable-final consonant예요. In English, it is the consonant sound that closes a Korean syllable.

오늘의 핵심은 두 가지입니다. First, hear whether there is a final consonant. Second, hear which final consonant it is.

그리고 중요한 사실이 하나 있어요. Some letters sound the same at the end of a word. So spelling and sound are not always one-to-one.

Conversation Snapshot

Speaker	Korean	Meaning
Hana	오늘 굴이 있어요. —	We have oysters today.



Speaker	Korean	Meaning
Junho	좋아요. 저는 안 굶어요. —	Good. I won't go hungry.
Hana	입이 데지 않게 조심하세요. —	Be careful not to burn your mouth.
Junho	네, 앞이 아니라 입이죠. —	Right, mouth, not leaf.

Vocabulary & Useful Expressions

Word	Meaning	Example
받침 batchim	final consonant at the bottom of a syllable	좋은 질문이에요. 받침은 syllable-final consonant예요. In English, it is the consonant sound that closes a Korean syllable.
받침 유무 + 받침 종류 batchim yumu + batchim jongnyu	whether there is batchim + what kind it is	오늘의 핵심은 두 가지입니다. First, hear whether there is a final consonant. Second, hear which final consonant it is.
끝소리 규칙 kkeutsori gyuchik	final-sound rule	그리고 중요한 사실이 하나 있어요. Some letters sound the same at the end of a word. So spelling and sound are not always one-to-one.
입 = 앞 ip = ip	Minimal Pairs for Hearing Final Consonants	For example, 입 and 앞 are pronounced the same when they stand alone: 입. You cannot reliably hear the spelling difference there.
입이 ibi	the mouth / mouth is	맞아요. Alone, they sound the same. But add a vowel, like 이, and the spelling comes alive: 입이, 앞이.
앞이 ipi	the leaf / leaf is	Now 앞이. The 피읊 links as a 피 sound: 앞이.
입이 / 앞이 ibi / ipi	Minimal Pairs for Hearing Final Consonants	입이, 앞이. Now you can hear the difference: 비 versus 피 after linking.
입이, 앞이 ibi, ipi	Minimal Pairs for Hearing Final Consonants	Let me try. 입이, 앞이.



Grammar / Structure Notes

받침

받침 — final consonant at the bottom of a syllable

It closes the syllable: 입, 굴, 밥, 밤

받침 유무 + 받침 종류

받침 유무 + 받침 종류 — whether there is batchim + what kind it is

No batchim: 구. Batchim: 굴.

끝소리 규칙

끝소리 규칙 — final-sound rule

At the end, several batchim letters share the same sound.

입이

입 + 이 — the mouth / mouth is

맞아요. Alone, they sound the same. But add a vowel, like 이, and the spelling comes alive: 입이, 잎이.

잎이

잎 + 이 — the leaf / leaf is

Now 잎이. The 피읺 links as a 피 sound: 잎이.

Pronunciation Loop

Phrase	How to practice
입	ip = ip
입이	ibi
입이, 잎이	ibi / ipi
입이 vs 잎이	ibi vs ipi
굴 / 굽	gul / gum
굴	gul
굽	gum
굴, 굽	gul, gum

Self-Check

- 1 Say 입 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
가 Hearing Whether a Syllable Ends in a Batchim	A1 Pronunciation: compare 가 with this lesson so the boundary becomes clearer.	Open lesson https://www.koreanladder.com/lesson.html?id=KOR-A1-PRON-BAT-003
받침 Final Consonants Made Simple	A1 Pronunciation: compare 받침 with this lesson so the boundary becomes clearer.	Open lesson https://www.koreanladder.com/lesson.html?id=KOR-A1-PRON-BAT-001
받침은 A Beginner's Map of the 7 Final Sounds	A1 Pronunciation: compare 받침은 with this lesson so the boundary becomes clearer.	Open lesson https://www.koreanladder.com/lesson.html?id=KOR-A1-PRON-BAT-002
사랑 / 공 / 방 Final ㅇ Without an English 'g' Kick	A1 Pronunciation: compare 사랑 / 공 / 방 with this lesson so the boundary becomes clearer.	Open lesson https://www.koreanladder.com/lesson.html?id=KOR-A1-PRON-BAT-005

My Notes

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