



Korean Ladder Study Note

열린 음절

Timing Open and Closed Korean Syllables

Level	Topic	Focus
A1 · Beginner TOPIK 1	Pronunciation Batchim	열린 음절 Timing Open and Closed Korean Syllables

Study Links

Open this lesson on Korean Ladder

<https://www.koreanladder.com/lesson.html?id=KOR-A1-PRON-BAT-012>

Watch the full video on YouTube

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kfOzkahjnz8>

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

<https://www.koreanladder.com>

Core Idea

When I see 밥, I rush the vowel to make room for the last consonant. Does that consonant need its own beat?

아니요. 받침도 같은 음절 안에 있어요. No. The final consonant belongs inside the same syllable. Don't give it another vowel or a separate beat.

오늘은 열린 음절과 닫힌 음절을 연습해요. Today we practice open and closed syllables: a vowel ending, then a consonant ending.

받침은 음절 끝의 자음이에요. Batchim means the consonant at the end of a syllable. In 밥, the bottom 비읍 closes the syllable.

Conversation Snapshot

Speaker	Korean	Meaning
Hana	이게 뭐예요? —	What's this?



Speaker	Korean	Meaning
Junho	밥이에요. —	It's rice.

Vocabulary & Useful Expressions

Word	Meaning	Example
바 → 밥 —	Open syllable → closed syllable	오늘은 열린 음절과 닫힌 음절을 연습해요. Today we practice open and closed syllables: a vowel ending, then a consonant ending.
밥 —	Cooked rice; a meal	받침은 음절 끝의 자음이에요. Batchim means the consonant at the end of a syllable. In 밥, the bottom 비읍 closes the syllable.
모음 → 받침 —	Clear vowel → final closure	모음을 너무 짧게 줄이지 마세요. Don't squeeze the vowel down just because a final consonant follows. Let the vowel sound clear, then close.
편안한 박자 —	A comfortable practice beat	이건 연습용 박자예요. This is a practice rhythm, not a rule that every Korean syllable lasts exactly the same time. Natural speech has small timing changes.
가 → 감 —	Timing Open and Closed Korean Syllables	가. 감. Here the vowel stays clear, and 감 ends with a brief nasal sound through closed lips. 감 means persimmon.
아 → 안 —	Timing Open and Closed Korean Syllables	아. 안. 안에서는 혀끝으로 마무리해요. In 안, finish with your tongue tip touching the ridge just behind your upper teeth, with a brief nasal sound.
감 —	One syllable: vowel followed by its ending	So the vowel doesn't disappear. In 감, I hear the vowel first, and then the ending.
감 / 밥 —	Nasal ending / stop ending	So 감 and 밥 both finish with closed lips, but only 감 has that little nasal sound.



Grammar / Structure Notes

바 → 밥

바 → 밥 — Open syllable → closed syllable

CV → CVC: consonant, vowel, then final consonant.

밥

밥 — Cooked rice; a meal

Final ㅁ is the batchim.

모음 → 받침

모음 → 받침 — Clear vowel → final closure

Keep a comfortable vowel length in this practice.

편안한 박자

편안한 박자 — A comfortable practice beat

Steady practice does not mean mechanically equal speech.

감

감 — One syllable: vowel followed by its ending

Do not rush past the vowel.

Pronunciation Loop

Phrase	How to practice
바 → 밥	Keep the vowel clear. Close the lips at the end of 밥.
가 → 감	Final ㅁ: closed lips with a brief nasal sound.
아 → 안	Final ㄴ: tongue-tip contact with a brief nasal sound.
감	One gentle tap for the complete syllable.
밥	ㅁ: stop at the lips. No hum and no audible release.
바비예요	Pronunciation guide: ㅁ links into the following 이. The spelling stays 밥이예요.

Self-Check

- 1 Say 열린 음절 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
갓·갈·갸·간 Hearing Near-Identical Batchim in Minimal Sets	A1 Pronunciation: compare 갓·갈·갸·간 with this lesson so the boundary becomes clearer.	Open lesson https://www.koreanladder.com/lesson.html?id=KOR-A1-PRON-BAT-010
달·단·담 Minimal Pairs for ㄹ, ㄴ, and ㅁ Finals	A1 Pronunciation: compare 달·단·담 with this lesson so the boundary becomes clearer.	Open lesson https://www.koreanladder.com/lesson.html?id=KOR-A1-PRON-BAT-008
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

My Notes

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