



Korean Ladder Study Note

된소리 만들기

ㄱ · ㄷ · ㅂ를 혀와 성문으로 막는 느낌

Level	Topic	Focus
A1 · Beginner TOPIK 1	Pronunciation Consonants	된소리 만들기 ㄱ · ㄷ · ㅂ를 혀와 성문으로 막는 느낌

Study Links

Open this lesson on Korean Ladder

<https://www.koreanladder.com/lesson.html?id=KOR-A1-PRON-CNS-013>

Watch the full video on YouTube

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vsS_8C62UoA

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

<https://www.koreanladder.com>

Core Idea

Okay, confession. At a bakery in Seoul I asked for bread, and the clerk looked confused. She thought I said room. To me, those two words sound almost the same.

그 마음 알아요. 빵하고 방. English doesn't separate these sounds, so your ear blends them. And these pairs come up a lot in TOPIK listening too.

And it's not only bread. 꿀하고 굴. Honey and oyster. 딸하고 달. Daughter and moon. One sound changes the whole word.

이 소리를 된소리라고 해요. In English, we call it a tense consonant. 쌍기역, 쌍디귤, 쌍비읍.

Conversation Snapshot

Speaker	Korean	Meaning
Junho	이 빵 얼마예요? —	How much is this bread?



Speaker	Korean	Meaning
Hana	방이요? 방은 안 파는데요. —	A room? We don't sell rooms.
Junho	아니요, 빵이요. 먹는 빵이요. —	No, bread. Bread you eat.
Hana	아, 빵이요. 이 꿀빵은 삼천 원이에요. —	Oh, bread. This honey bread is 3,000 won.
Junho	그럼 꿀빵 두 개 주세요. 딸이 좋아해요. —	Then two honey breads, please. My daughter likes them.
Hana	네, 따님이 좋아하겠네요. —	Sure, your daughter will love them.

Vocabulary & Useful Expressions

Word	Meaning	Example
된소리: ㄱ · ㄷ · ㅌ doensori: kk · tt · pp	tense consonants	이 소리를 된소리라고 해요. In English, we call it a tense consonant. 쌍기역, 쌍디글, 쌍비읍.
가 · 카 · 까 ga · ka · kka	plain · aspirated · tense	한국어에는 소리가 세 가지씩 있어요. 예사소리, 거센소리, 된소리. Plain, breathy, and tense. 가, 카, 까.
굴 · 꿀 gul · kkul	ㄱ · ㄷ · ㅌ를 혀와 성문으로 막는 느낌	잘 들어 보세요. 굴. 꿀. 굴. 꿀. Oyster, then honey.
달 · 딸 dal · ttal	ㄱ · ㄷ · ㅌ를 혀와 성문으로 막는 느낌	이번에는 달, 딸. 달, 딸. The daughter word starts tighter and sharper.
방 · 빵 bang · ppang	ㄱ · ㄷ · ㅌ를 혀와 성문으로 막는 느낌	그리고 방, 빵. 방, 빵. Bread starts with a small, sharp pop and almost no air.
불 · 풀 · 뿔 bul · pul · ppul	ㄱ · ㄷ · ㅌ를 혀와 성문으로 막는 느낌	세 개 다 들어 볼까요? 불, 풀, 뿔. Fire, grass, horn. Plain, breathy, tense.
막고 + 조이고 + 터뜨려요 makgo + joigo + teotteuryeoyo	close + tighten + release	좋은 귀예요. Here's the secret. For 된소리, you close the mouth spot and tighten your throat at the same time. Then you release.
ㄱ = 혀 뒤쪽 + 목 kk = back of tongue + throat	back of tongue closes, throat tight	쌍기역은 혀 뒤쪽으로 막아요. The back of your tongue presses up against the soft roof of your mouth.



Grammar / Structure Notes

된소리: ㄱ · ㄷ · ㅂ

된소리: ㄱ · ㄷ · ㅂ — tense consonants

Doubled letter = tense, not long

가 · 카 · 까

가 · 카 · 까 — plain · aspirated · tense

Same mouth spot, different air and throat

가 · 카 · 까

가 · 카 · 까 — plain · aspirated · tense

Same mouth spot, different air and throat

막고 + 조이고 + 터뜨려요

막고 + 조이고 + 터뜨려요 — close + tighten + release

Tongue or lips close · throat squeezes

ㄱ = 혀 뒤쪽 + 목

ㄱ = 혀 뒤쪽 + 목 — back of tongue closes, throat tight

쌍기역은 혀 뒤쪽으로 막아요. The back of your tongue presses up against the soft roof of your mouth.

Pronunciation Loop

Phrase	How to practice
굴 · 꿀	gul · kkul
달 · 딸	dal · ttal
방 · 빵	bang · ppang
불 · 풀 · 뽕	bul · pul · ppul
풀 · 불 · 뽕	pul · bul · ppul
빵이요	bang · ppang
딸이 와요.	ttal
꿀 있어요?	kkul

Self-Check

- 1 Say 된소리 만들기 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
ㄷ / ㅌ / ㅌ The Three Korean D/T Sounds	A1 Pronunciation: compare ㄷ / ㅌ / ㅌ with this lesson so the boundary becomes clearer.	Open lesson https://www.koreanladder.com/lesson.html?id=KOR-A1-PRON-CNS-006
ㄹ 발음 The Korean R/L Sound at the Start and Middle of Words	A1 Pronunciation: compare ㄹ 발음 with this lesson so the boundary becomes clearer.	Open lesson https://www.koreanladder.com/lesson.html?id=KOR-A1-PRON-CNS-002
ㄴ / ㄷ / ㅎ The Soft Korean Consonants Beginners Overlook	A1 Pronunciation: compare ㄴ / ㄷ / ㅎ with this lesson so the boundary becomes clearer.	Open lesson https://www.koreanladder.com/lesson.html?id=KOR-A1-PRON-CNS-008
ㅁ · ㄴ · ㅇ 콧소리 자리 Feeling Where Korean Nasals Are Made	A1 Pronunciation: compare ㅁ · ㄴ · ㅇ 콧소리 자리 with this lesson so the boundary becomes clearer.	Open lesson https://www.koreanladder.com/lesson.html?id=KOR-A1-PRON-CNS-019

My Notes

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