



Korean Ladder Study Note

□ · ㄴ · ㅇ 콧소리 자리

Feeling Where Korean Nasals Are Made

Level	Topic	Focus
A1 · Beginner TOPIK 1	Pronunciation Consonants	□ · ㄴ · ㅇ 콧소리 자리 Feeling Where Korean Nasals Are Made

Study Links

Open this lesson on Korean Ladder

<https://www.koreanladder.com/lesson.html?id=KOR-A1-PRON-CNS-019>

Watch the full video on YouTube

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cLd4ZdfemzQ>

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

<https://www.koreanladder.com>

Core Idea

I can hear that 공 and 곤 are different, but my mouth makes both endings feel like an n sound. What am I missing?

You are missing the mouth address. Korean nose sounds use different places in the mouth, and your nose does the airflow.

오늘은 미음, 니은, 그리고 받침 이음의 자리를 느껴 볼 거예요. Today we train the lip, tongue-tip, and tongue-back positions.

이 차이를 알면 감, 간, 강처럼 비슷한 단어도 더 또렷하게 말할 수 있어요. This matters because one final sound can change the word.

Conversation Snapshot

Speaker	Korean	Meaning
Hana	이건 공이에요? —	Is this a ball?



Speaker	Korean	Meaning
Junho	네, 공이에요. —	Yes, it is a ball.
Hana	곰이 아니에요? —	It is not a bear?
Junho	아니요, 공이에요. —	No, it is a ball.

Vocabulary & Useful Expressions

Word	Meaning	Example
ㄱ · ㄴ · ㅇ 받침 —	Three Korean nasal positions	오늘은 미음, 니은, 그리고 받침 이음의 자리를 느껴 볼 거예요. Today we train the lip, tongue-tip, and tongue-back positions.
감 · 간 · 강 gam · gan · gang	persimmon · liver · river	이 차이를 알면 감, 간, 강처럼 비슷한 단어도 더 또렷하게 말할 수 있어요. This matters because one final sound can change the word.
입술을 닫고 코로 공기를 내보내요 ipsureul datgo koro gonggireul naebonaeyo	Close your lips and let air out through your nose.	먼저 미음이에요. 입술을 닫고 코로 공기를 내보내요. Close both lips, then let the air leave through your nose.
혀끝을 윗잇몸 뒤쪽에 대요 hyeokkeuteul winnimmom dwijjoge daeyo	Place your tongue tip behind the upper gums.	다음은 니은이에요. 혀끝을 윗잇몸 뒤쪽에 대요. Put your tongue tip just behind your upper gums.
혀 뒤쪽을 여린입천장에 대요 hye dwijjogeul yeorinipcheongjange daeyo	Place the back of your tongue against the soft palate.	마지막은 받침 이음이에요. 혀 뒤쪽을 여린입천장에 대요. Lift the back of your tongue to the soft palate.
ㄱ = 입술 · ㄴ = 혀끝 · ㅇ 받침 = 혀 뒤쪽 —	ㄱ = lips · ㄴ = tongue tip · final ㅇ = tongue back	셋 다 콧소리예요. All three send air through the nose. The difference is where your mouth closes the air path.
코로 공기 + 다른 막는 자리 —	Nasal airflow + a different closure place	So my nose can stay involved every time, but my lips or tongue make a different stop.
감이에요 gam-ieyo	It is a persimmon.	맞아요. 먼저 감을 들어 보세요. 감이에요. The lips close right at the end.



Grammar / Structure Notes

ㄱ · ㄴ · ㅇ 받침

ㄱ · ㄴ · ㅇ 받침 — Three Korean nasal positions

Feel where the closure happens.

감 · 간 · 강

감 · 간 · 강 — persimmon · liver · river

Same vowel, different final place.

입술을 닫고 코로 공기를 내보내요

입술 + 을 + 닫 + 고 + 코 + 로 + 공기 + 를 + 내보내 + 요 — Close your lips and let air out through your nose.

먼저 미음이에요. 입술을 닫고 코로 공기를 내보내요. Close both lips, then let the air leave through your nose.

혀끝을 윗잇몸 뒤쪽에 대요

혀끝 + 을 + 윗잇몸 + 뒤쪽 + 에 + 대 + 요 — Place your tongue tip behind the upper gums.

다음은 니음이예요. 혀끝을 윗잇몸 뒤쪽에 대요. Put your tongue tip just behind your upper gums.

혀 뒤쪽을 여린입천장에 대요

혀 뒤쪽 + 을 + 여린입천장 + 에 + 대 + 요 — Place the back of your tongue against the soft palate.

마지막은 받침 이음이예요. 혀 뒤쪽을 여린입천장에 대요. Lift the back of your tongue to the soft palate.

Pronunciation Loop

Phrase	How to practice
감, 간, 강	gam · gan · gang
공	gong
공 ≠ 곤	gong ≠ gon
공이에요	gong-ieyo

Self-Check

- 1 Say ㄱ · ㄴ · ㅇ 콧소리 자리 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 / ㄸ The Three Korean D/T Sounds	A1 Pronunciation: compare ㄷ / ㅌ / ㄸ 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 / ㄸ The Soft Korean Consonants Beginners Overlook	A1 Pronunciation: compare ㄴ / ㄷ / ㄸ with this lesson so the boundary becomes clearer.	Open lesson https://www.koreanladder.com/lesson.html?id=KOR-A1-PRON-CNS-008
ㅂ · ㅅ · ㅈ · ㅊ Feeling Korea's Four Lip Consonants	A1 Pronunciation: compare ㅂ · ㅅ · ㅈ · ㅊ with this lesson so the boundary becomes clearer.	Open lesson https://www.koreanladder.com/lesson.html?id=KOR-A1-PRON-CNS-016

My Notes

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