



Korean Ladder Study Note

배고파요 / 목말라요 / 피곤해요

Everyday Physical Feelings

Level	Topic	Focus
A1 · Beginner TOPIK 1	Vocabulary Feelings	배고파요 / 목말라요 / 피곤해요 Everyday Physical Feelings

Study Links

Open this lesson on Korean Ladder

<https://www.koreanladder.com/lesson.html?id=KOR-A1-VOCAB-EMO-002>

Watch the full video on YouTube

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

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

<https://www.koreanladder.com>

Core Idea

Here's my beginner problem. If I need water, food, or rest, do I have to build a whole sentence in Korean first?

좋은 질문이에요. 한국어에서는 짧게 말해도 괜찮아요. 배고파요, 목말라요, 피곤해요처럼요.

You can voice a basic need with one polite phrase. The subject, like 저는, is often understood from context.

오늘의 패턴은 상태를 요로 공손하게 말하기예요. In English, we're saying a physical feeling politely.

Conversation Snapshot

Speaker	Korean	Meaning
Hana	준호 씨, 배고파요? —	Junho, are you hungry?
Junho	네, 배고파요. 그리고 목말라요. —	Yes, I'm hungry. And I'm thirsty.



Speaker	Korean	Meaning
Hana	물 드세요. 저는 조금 추워요. —	Please have some water. I'm a little cold.
Junho	그럼 따뜻한 차 마실까요? —	Then shall we drink warm tea?

Vocabulary & Useful Expressions

Word	Meaning	Example
상태 + 아요/어요 sangtae + ayo/eoyo	state + polite ending	오늘의 패턴은 상태를 요로 공손하게 말하기예요. In English, we're saying a physical feeling politely.
배고파요 baegopayo	I'm hungry	So instead of building a full "I am hungry," I can just say 배고파요?
저는 배고파요 jeo-neun baegopayo	As for me, I'm hungry.	맞아요. And if you want to be extra clear, you can add 저는 in front: 저는 배고파요.
저는 목말라요 jeo-neun mongmallayo	As for me, I'm thirsty.	은과 는은 주제를 표시해요. In English, it feels like "as for me." But in daily speech, you can often drop 저는.
목말라요 mongmallayo	I'm thirsty	목말라요. 물이 필요할 때 말해요. In English, "I'm thirsty."
피곤해요 pigonhaeyo	I'm tired	피곤해요. 몸이 지치고 에너지가 없을 때예요. In English, "I'm tired."
졸려요 jollyeoyo	I'm sleepy	졸려요. 잠이 오고 눈이 감길 때 말해요. In English, "I'm sleepy."
추워요 chuwoyo	I'm cold	추워요. 몸이 차갑게 느껴질 때예요. In English, "I'm cold."



Grammar / Structure Notes

배고파요.

배고파요. — I'm hungry. / Someone is hungry.

In context, it usually means "I'm hungry."

상태 + 아요/어요

상태 + 아요/어요 — state + polite ending

Use it for bodily states and feelings.

배고파요

배고파요 — I'm hungry

So instead of building a full "I am hungry," I can just say 배고파요?

저는 배고파요

저 + 는 + 배고파요 — As for me, I'm hungry.

맞아요. And if you want to be extra clear, you can add 저는 in front: 저는 배고파요.

저는 목말라요

저 + 는 + 목말라요 — As for me, I'm thirsty.

은과 는은 주제를 표시해요. In English, it feels like "as for me." But in daily speech, you can often drop 저는.

Pronunciation Loop

Phrase	How to practice
배고파요	baegopayo
목말라요	mongmallayo
피곤해요 / 졸려요	pigonhaeyo / jollyeoyo
피곤해요. 졸려요.	pigonhaeyo. jollyeoyo.

Self-Check

- 1 Say 배고파요 / 목말라요 / 피곤해요 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
좋아요 / 싫어요 / 무서워요 Your First Korean Feeling Words	A1 Vocabulary: compare 좋아요 / 싫어요 / 무서워요 with this lesson so the boundary becomes clearer.	Open lesson https://www.koreanladder.com/lesson.html?id=KOR-A1-VOCAB-EMO-001
기분이 좋아요 / 기분 나빠요 / 심심해요 Talking About Your Mood	A2 Vocabulary: compare 기분이 좋아요 / 기분 나빠요 / 심심해요 with this lesson so the boundary becomes clearer.	Open lesson https://www.koreanladder.com/lesson.html?id=KOR-A2-VOCAB-EMO-001
놀라다 / 걱정되다 / 신나다 Everyday Feeling Verbs Beyond 좋아요	A2 Vocabulary: compare 놀라다 / 걱정되다 / 신나다 with this lesson so the boundary becomes clearer.	Open lesson https://www.koreanladder.com/lesson.html?id=KOR-A2-VOCAB-EMO-002
속상하다 / 답답하다 / 뿌듯하다 Saying How You Really Feel	B1 Vocabulary: compare 속상하다 / 답답하다 / 뿌듯하다 with this lesson so the boundary becomes clearer.	Open lesson https://www.koreanladder.com/lesson.html?id=KOR-B1-VOCAB-EMO-001

My Notes

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