



Korean Ladder Study Note

김치찌개 / 비빔밥 / 불고기

Naming Korea's Most Ordered Dishes

Level	Topic	Focus
A1 · Beginner TOPIK 1	Vocabulary Food & Dining	김치찌개 / 비빔밥 / 불고기 Naming Korea's Most Ordered Dishes

Study Links

Open this lesson on Korean Ladder

<https://www.koreanladder.com/lesson.html?id=KOR-A1-VOCAB-FOO-004>

Watch the full video on YouTube

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=030Qn9zsFT8>

Visit koreanladder.com for all free lessons

<https://www.koreanladder.com>

Core Idea

Real question. If I know 고기 means meat and 밥 means rice, why do I still freeze when I see a Korean menu?

맞아요. 고기 and 밥 are useful words, but on a menu you usually need 음식 이름, the actual dish name.

Today we group six common dishes into simple menu zones: 찌개, 밥, 고기, and 면. Stew, rice, meat, and noodles.

첫 번째 핵심은 찌개예요. 찌개 is a Korean stew, usually hot, hearty, and served with rice.

Conversation Snapshot

Speaker	Korean	Meaning
Hana	뭐 먹을까요? —	What should we eat?
Junho	김치찌개 하나랑 비빔밥 하나 주세요. —	One kimchi stew and one bibimbap, please.



Speaker	Korean	Meaning
Hana	불고기도 주문할까요? —	Should we order bulgogi too?
Junho	네, 불고기도 주세요. —	Yes, bulgogi too, please.

Vocabulary & Useful Expressions

Word	Meaning	Example
찌개 · 밥 · 고기 · 면 jjigae · bap · gogi · myeon	stew · rice · meat · noodles	Today we group six common dishes into simple menu zones: 찌개, 밥, 고기, and 면. Stew, rice, meat, and noodles.
찌개 jjigae	Korean stew	첫 번째 핵심은 찌개예요. 찌개 is a Korean stew, usually hot, hearty, and served with rice.
김치찌개 gimchi-jjigae	kimchi stew	김치찌개는 kimchi stew. The name is simple: 김치 plus 찌개.
된장찌개 doenjang-jjigae	soybean paste stew	된장찌개는 soybean paste stew. 된장 is Korean soybean paste, and 찌개 is stew.
밥 bap	cooked rice; meal	두 번째 구역은 밥이에요. 밥 can mean cooked rice or a meal, but dish names are more specific.
비빔밥 bibimbap	mixed rice bowl	비빔밥 means mixed rice. 비빔 comes from 비비다, to mix, and 밥 is rice.
고기 gogi	meat	세 번째 구역은 고기예요. 고기 means meat, but Korean menus often use specific dish names.
불고기 bulgogi	marinated beef dish	불고기는 marinated beef, usually sweet-savory and cooked with sauce. Literally, 불 is fire and 고기 is meat, but the dish name is 불고기.



Grammar / Structure Notes

찌개 · 밥 · 고기 · 면

찌개 · 밥 · 고기 · 면 — stew · rice · meat · noodles

Menu zones for common Korean dishes

찌개

찌개 — Korean stew

Usually hot and served with rice

김치찌개

김치 + 찌개 — kimchi stew

김치찌개는 kimchi stew. The name is simple: 김치 plus 찌개.

된장찌개

된장 + 찌개 — soybean paste stew

된장찌개는 soybean paste stew. 된장 is Korean soybean paste, and 찌개 is stew.

밥

밥 — cooked rice; meal

In dish names, it often points to a rice-based meal

Pronunciation Loop

Phrase	How to practice
비빔밥	bibimbap
김치찌개 주세요	gimchi-jjigae juseyo
김치찌개	gimchi-jjigae
된장찌개 주세요	doenjang-jjigae juseyo
비빔밥 주세요	bibimbap juseyo

Self-Check

- 1 Say 김치찌개 / 비빔밥 / 불고기 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
군것질 / 간식 / 후식 Snacks, Nibbles, and Dessert	A1 Vocabulary: compare 군것질 / 간식 / 후식 with this lesson so the boundary becomes clearer.	Open lesson https://www.koreanladder.com/lesson.html?id=KOR-A1-VOCAB-FOO-005
물 / 커피 / 밥 Essential Food Words	A1 Vocabulary: compare 물 / 커피 / 밥 with this lesson so the boundary becomes clearer.	Open lesson https://www.koreanladder.com/lesson.html?id=KOR-A1-VOCAB-FOO-001
빵 / 과자 / 사탕 Your First Korean Snack Words	A1 Vocabulary: compare 빵 / 과자 / 사탕 with this lesson so the boundary becomes clearer.	Open lesson https://www.koreanladder.com/lesson.html?id=KOR-A1-VOCAB-FOO-003
우유 / 주스 / 차 The Drinks You Order Every Day	A1 Vocabulary: compare 우유 / 주스 / 차 with this lesson so the boundary becomes clearer.	Open lesson https://www.koreanladder.com/lesson.html?id=KOR-A1-VOCAB-FOO-002

My Notes

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