



## Korean Ladder Study Note

# 국수 / 라면 / 칼국수 / 냉면

## Your First Korean Noodle Words

| Level                    | Topic                       | Focus                                                |
|--------------------------|-----------------------------|------------------------------------------------------|
| A1 · Beginner<br>TOPIK 1 | Vocabulary<br>Food & Dining | 국수 / 라면 / 칼국수 / 냉면<br>Your First Korean Noodle Words |

## Study Links

Open this lesson on Korean Ladder

<https://www.koreanladder.com/lesson.html?id=KOR-A1-VOCAB-FOO-006>

Watch the full video on YouTube

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=P6MT7r9nN3Y>

Visit koreanladder.com for all free lessons

<https://www.koreanladder.com>

## Core Idea

Here is my real question. In English, I say ramen for almost anything with noodles. Can I just say 라면 for every noodle dish in Korean?

좋은 질문이에요. 라면 is one kind of noodle dish, usually instant ramyeon. It is not the general word for all noodles.

The broader word is 국수. 국수 can mean noodles, or a noodle dish, especially in Korean food settings.

Today's ordering pattern is simple. Food name plus 하나 주세요. In English, please give me one.

## Conversation Snapshot

| Speaker | Korean           | Meaning                      |
|---------|------------------|------------------------------|
| Hana    | 뭐 드실래요?<br>—     | What would you like to eat?  |
| Junho   | 칼국수 하나 주세요.<br>— | Please give me one kalguksu. |



| Speaker | Korean           | Meaning                      |
|---------|------------------|------------------------------|
| Hana    | 네, 칼국수 하나요.<br>— | Okay, one kalguksu.          |
| Hana    | 뭐 드실래요?<br>—     | What would you like to eat?  |
| Junho   | 칼국수 하나 주세요.<br>— | Please give me one kalguksu. |

## Vocabulary & Useful Expressions

| Word                               | Meaning                         | Example                                                                                            |
|------------------------------------|---------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 국수<br>guksu                        | noodles; a noodle dish          | The broader word is 국수. 국수 can mean noodles, or a noodle dish, especially in Korean food settings. |
| ___ 하나 주세요<br>___ hana juseyo      | Please give me one ____.        | Today's ordering pattern is simple. Food name plus 하나 주세요. In English, please give me one.         |
| 국수 하나 주세요<br>guksu hana juseyo     | Please give me one noodle dish. | So I can put the noodle word in the blank.<br>국수 하나 주세요.                                           |
| 라면<br>ramyeon                      | instant ramyeon; ramen          | Next, 라면. 라면 usually means instant ramyeon, the kind you often see at convenience stores.          |
| 라면 하나 주세요<br>ramyeon hana juseyo   | Please give me one ramyeon.     | 라면 하나 주세요. Please give me one ramyeon.                                                             |
| 칼국수<br>kalguksu                    | knife-cut noodle soup           | Third, 칼국수. 칼 means knife, and 국수 means noodles. 칼국수 is a warm noodle soup with knife-cut noodles. |
| 칼국수 하나 주세요<br>kalguksu hana juseyo | Please give me one kalguksu.    | 칼국수 하나 주세요. Please give me one kalguksu.                                                           |
| 냉면<br>naengmyeon                   | cold noodles                    | Fourth, 냉면. 냉 means cold, and 면 means noodles. 냉면 is cold noodles, often eaten in summer.          |



## Grammar / Structure Notes

### 국수

국수 — noodles; a noodle dish

The broad noodle word.

### \_\_\_ 하나 주세요

\_\_\_ 하나 주세요 — Please give me one \_\_\_.

Use it to order one item politely.

### 국수 하나 주세요

국수 + 하나 + 주세요 — Please give me one noodle dish.

So I can put the noodle word in the blank. 국수 하나 주세요.

### 국수 하나 주세요

국수 + 하나 + 주세요 — Please give me one noodle dish.

맞아요. 주세요 is the polite ordering word here. It can feel like please give me, or I'll have.

### 국수

국수 — noodles; noodle dish

Broad and useful.

## Pronunciation Loop

| Phrase    | How to practice        |
|-----------|------------------------|
| 국수 하나 주세요 | guksu hana juseyo      |
| 라면 하나 주세요 | ramyeon hana juseyo    |
| 냉면 하나 주세요 | naengmyeon hana juseyo |

## Self-Check

- 1 Say 국수 / 라면 / 칼국수 / 냉면 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<br>Snacks, Nibbles, and Dessert          | A1 Vocabulary: compare 군것질 / 간식 / 후식 with this lesson so the boundary becomes clearer.    | Open lesson<br><a href="https://www.koreanladder.com/lesson.html?id=KOR-A1-VOCAB-FOO-005">https://www.koreanladder.com/lesson.html?id=KOR-A1-VOCAB-FOO-005</a> |
| 김치찌개 / 비빔밥 / 불고기<br>Naming Korea's Most Ordered Dishes | A1 Vocabulary: compare 김치찌개 / 비빔밥 / 불고기 with this lesson so the boundary becomes clearer. | Open lesson<br><a href="https://www.koreanladder.com/lesson.html?id=KOR-A1-VOCAB-FOO-004">https://www.koreanladder.com/lesson.html?id=KOR-A1-VOCAB-FOO-004</a> |
| 물 / 커피 / 밥<br>Essential Food Words                     | A1 Vocabulary: compare 물 / 커피 / 밥 with this lesson so the boundary becomes clearer.       | Open lesson<br><a href="https://www.koreanladder.com/lesson.html?id=KOR-A1-VOCAB-FOO-001">https://www.koreanladder.com/lesson.html?id=KOR-A1-VOCAB-FOO-001</a> |
| 빵 / 과자 / 사탕<br>Your First Korean Snack Words           | A1 Vocabulary: compare 빵 / 과자 / 사탕 with this lesson so the boundary becomes clearer.      | Open lesson<br><a href="https://www.koreanladder.com/lesson.html?id=KOR-A1-VOCAB-FOO-003">https://www.koreanladder.com/lesson.html?id=KOR-A1-VOCAB-FOO-003</a> |

## My Notes

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