



Korean Ladder Study Note

국물 / 건더기 / 육수

Broth Words You'll Hear at Every Korean Table

Level	Topic	Focus
A1 · Beginner TOPIK 1	Vocabulary Food & Dining	국물 / 건더기 / 육수 Broth Words You'll Hear at Every Korean Table

Study Links

Open this lesson on Korean Ladder

<https://www.koreanladder.com/lesson.html?id=KOR-A1-VOCAB-FOO-007>

Watch the full video on YouTube

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=p7jUeLuVxG4>

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

<https://www.koreanladder.com>

Core Idea

I keep hearing 국물, 건더기, and 육수. Are they all just broth words, or am I mixing up the bowl and the kitchen?

오늘은 한국 식탁에서 자주 듣는 국물 관련 단어를 배워요. In English, we are sorting broth words you will actually hear at meals.

국이나 찌개, 라면 이야기할 때 바로 쓰는 말들이에요. The key is: what is liquid, what is solid, and what is used for cooking.

건더기는 국물 속에 있는 고형 재료예요. Meat, tofu, vegetables, rice cakes, or toppings. In ramen, noodles are usually called 면.

Conversation Snapshot

Speaker	Korean	Meaning
Hana	이 찌개 국물이 시원해요. —	This stew broth tastes refreshing.



Speaker	Korean	Meaning
Junho	네, 건더기도 많아요. —	Yes, there are lots of solid pieces too.
Hana	육수를 잘 냈나 봐요. —	Looks like the stock was made well.
Junho	맞아요. 국물이 정말 맛있어요. —	Right. The broth is really delicious.

Vocabulary & Useful Expressions

Word	Meaning	Example
국물 / 건더기 / 육수 gungmul / geondeogi / yuksu	broth or soup liquid / solid bits / stock	오늘은 한국 식당에서 자주 듣는 국물 관련 단어를 배워요. In English, we are sorting broth words you will actually hear at meals.
액체 · 고형 재료 · 요리용 국물 aekche · gohyeong jaeryo · yoriyong gungmul	liquid · solid ingredients · cooking stock	국이나 찌개, 라면 이야기할 때 바로 쓰는 말들이에요. The key is: what is liquid, what is solid, and what is used for cooking.
국물이 있어요 gungmuri isseoyo	There is broth.	먼저 국물이에요. 국물은 그릇 안에 있는 마시는 액체예요. In English, it is the broth or soup liquid in the bowl.
건더기 geondeogi	solid pieces in soup or stew	건더기는 국물 속에 있는 고형 재료예요. Meat, tofu, vegetables, rice cakes, or toppings. In ramen, noodles are usually called 면.
육수 yuksu	stock; cooking broth made for flavor	육수는 맛을 내려고 재료를 끓여 만든 국물이에요. In English, 육수 is stock, the flavor base used in cooking.
국물이 맛있어요 gungmuri masisseoyo	The broth tastes good.	맞아요. 예를 들어, 국물이 맛있어요. It means, the broth tastes good.
국물이 시원해요 gungmuri siwonhaeyo	The broth tastes refreshing and satisfying.	또 이렇게 말해요. 국물이 시원해요. For Korean food, 시원해요 can mean the broth tastes clean, refreshing, and satisfying.
국물이 많아요 gungmuri manyo	There is a lot of broth.	그리고 양을 말할 때는 국물이 많아요. That means there is a lot of broth.



Grammar / Structure Notes

국물 / 건더기 / 육수

국물 / 건더기 / 육수 — broth or soup liquid / solid bits / stock

Three useful food words, three different jobs.

액체 · 고형 재료 · 요리용 국물

액체 · 고형 재료 · 요리용 국물 — liquid · solid ingredients · cooking stock

Think by role, not by English translation.

국물이 있어요

국물 + 이 + 있어요 — There is broth.

먼저 국물이예요. 국물은 그릇 안에 있는 마시는 액체예요. In English, it is the broth or soup liquid in the bowl.

건더기

건더기 — solid pieces in soup or stew

Ramen noodles are usually 면, not the safest example of 건더기.

육수

육수 — stock; cooking broth made for flavor

Often used before the finished dish reaches the table.

Pronunciation Loop

Phrase	How to practice
궁무리 맛있어요	gungmuri masisseoyo
궁무리 시원해요	gungmuri siwonhaeyo
건더기가 많아요	geondeogiga manyo
육수	yuksu

Self-Check

- 1 Say 국물 / 건더기 / 육수 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
국수 / 라면 / 칼국수 / 냉면 Your First Korean Noodle Words	A1 Vocabulary: compare 국수 / 라면 / 칼국수 / 냉면 with this lesson so the boundary becomes clearer.	Open lesson https://www.koreanladder.com/lesson.html?id=KOR-A1-VOCAB-FOO-006
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
김치찌개 / 비빔밥 / 불고기 Naming Korea's Most Ordered Dishes	A1 Vocabulary: compare 김치찌개 / 비빔밥 / 불고기 with this lesson so the boundary becomes clearer.	Open lesson https://www.koreanladder.com/lesson.html?id=KOR-A1-VOCAB-FOO-004
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

My Notes

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