



Korean Ladder Study Note

공일공 · 영일영

Reading Korean Phone Numbers Digit by Digit

Level	Topic	Focus
A1 · Beginner TOPIK 1	Vocabulary Numbers & Counting	공일공 · 영일영 Reading Korean Phone Numbers Digit by Digit

Study Links

Open this lesson on Korean Ladder

<https://www.koreanladder.com/lesson.html?id=KOR-A1-VOCAB-NUM-008>

Watch the full video on YouTube

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FqG3gu0yX5c>

Visit koreanladder.com for all free lessons

<https://www.koreanladder.com>

Core Idea

When I see a Korean phone number, do I read it like a big number, or one digit at a time? And is zero 영 or 공?

좋은 질문이에요. 전화번호는 한 자리씩 읽어요. For phone numbers, read one digit at a time.

And for zero, 공 is the safest default in a phone number. So 010 is 공일공.

오늘의 핵심은 공이에요. The key today is using 공, then keeping a clear group rhythm.

Conversation Snapshot

Speaker	Korean	Meaning
Hana	전화번호가 어떻게 되세요? —	What is your phone number?
Junho	공일공, 칠팔구공, 일삼사네요. —	It is 010, 7890, 1234.
Hana	네, 공일공, 칠팔구공, 일삼사네요. —	Okay, 010, 7890, 1234.



Speaker	Korean	Meaning
Hana	전화번호가 어떻게 되세요? —	What is your phone number?
Junho	공일공, 칠팔구공, 일이삼사네요. —	It is 010, 7890, 1234.
Hana	네, 공일공, 칠팔구공, 일이삼사네요. —	Okay, 010, 7890, 1234.

Vocabulary & Useful Expressions

Word	Meaning	Example
010 → 공일공 gong-il-gong	010 → zero-one-zero	And for zero, 공 is the safest default in a phone number. So 010 is 공일공.
전화번호: 공 + 한 자리씩 + 묶음 —	Phone number: 공 + one digit at a time + groups	오늘의 핵심은 공이에요. The key today is using 공, then keeping a clear group rhythm.
공일공 gong-il-gong	010, a common mobile prefix	휴대폰 번호는 보통 공일공으로 시작해요. Many Korean mobile numbers begin with 공일공.
0 = 영 또는 공 —	0 can be 영 or 공	영 is common when talking about zero as a number, such as a score. In phone numbers, use 공 by default.
02 → 공이 gong-i	02 → zero-two	공이 has two digits: 공, then 이. Do not turn it into one larger number.
공일공, 일이삼사, 오육칠팔 —	010, 1234, 5678	그리고 번호에 보이는 묶음마다 잠깐 쉬어요. Follow the groups printed on the number, with a tiny pause between them.
묶음마다 잠깐 쉬기 —	Take a short pause at each group.	I heard the commas as little checkpoints. That makes a long number much easier.
10 → 일공 —	10 in a phone number → one-zero	전화번호에서는 십이라고 하지 않아요. In a phone number, ten is still two digits: 일, 공. Never combine them into 십.



Grammar / Structure Notes

010 → 공일공

010 → 공일공 — 010 → zero-one-zero

And for zero, 공 is the safest default in a phone number. So 010 is 공일공.

전화번호: 공 + 한 자리씩 + 묶음

전화번호: 공 + 한 자리씩 + 묶음 — Phone number: 공 + one digit at a time + groups

Use short pauses between the printed groups.

공일공

공일공 — 010, a common mobile prefix

휴대폰 번호는 보통 공일공으로 시작해요. Many Korean mobile numbers begin with 공일공.

공일공

공 + 일 + 공 — zero-one-zero

So 공일공 is not a word. It is just zero, one, zero: 공, 일, 공.

영일영도 가능하지만 공일공이 더 자연스러워요.

영일영도 가능하지만 공일공이 더 자연스러워요. — 영일영 is possible, but 공일공 is more natural for phone numbers.

맞아요. 영도 zero를 뜻해요. You may hear 영일영, and people will understand. But for a phone number, 공일공 is more natural.

Pronunciation Loop

Phrase	How to practice
공일공, 일이삼사, 오육칠팔	gong-il-gong, il-isam-sa, o-yuk-chil-pal
공일공	gong-il-gong
공일공, 일이삼사, 오육칠팔이에요	gong-il-gong, il-isam-sa, o-yuk-chil-pal-ieyo.

Self-Check

- 1 Say 공일공·영일영 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
몇 개예요 Your First Counters for Things and People	A1 Vocabulary: compare 몇 개예요 with this lesson so the boundary becomes clearer.	Open lesson https://www.koreanladder.com/lesson.html?id=KOR-A1-VOCAB-NUM-005
살 Saying How Old You Are in Korean	A1 Vocabulary: compare 살 with this lesson so the boundary becomes clearer.	Open lesson https://www.koreanladder.com/lesson.html?id=KOR-A1-VOCAB-NUM-009
스물하나 / 서른둘 / 마흔다섯 Native Numbers from 21 to 99	A1 Vocabulary: compare 스물하나 / 서른둘 / 마흔다섯 with this lesson so the boundary becomes clearer.	Open lesson https://www.koreanladder.com/lesson.html?id=KOR-A1-VOCAB-NUM-007
열 / 스물 / 서른 / 마흔 Native Korean Numbers by Tens	A1 Vocabulary: compare 열 / 스물 / 서른 / 마흔 with this lesson so the boundary becomes clearer.	Open lesson https://www.koreanladder.com/lesson.html?id=KOR-A1-VOCAB-NUM-004

My Notes

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