



Korean Ladder Study Note

오늘 / 내일 / 어제

Talking About Days

Level	Topic	Focus
A1 · Beginner TOPIK 1	Vocabulary Time & Date	오늘 / 내일 / 어제 Talking About Days

Study Links

[Open this lesson on Korean Ladder](#)

<https://www.koreanladder.com/lesson.html?id=KOR-A1-VOCAB-TIM-001>

[Watch the full video on YouTube](#)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8lvErVRPtRQ>

[Visit Korean Ladder for all free lessons](#)

<https://www.koreanladder.com>

Core Idea

Okay, real question. I always want to say 'today,' 'tomorrow,' 'yesterday' in Korean — but I freeze every single time.

Same. And honestly, I mix them up. Which one is 'tomorrow' again?

좋아요. 오늘은 딱 세 단어만 배워요. 오늘, 내일, 어제. In English — today, tomorrow, yesterday.

이 세 개는 시간 단어예요. These three are time words. In English, they tell WHEN something happens.

Conversation Snapshot

Speaker	Korean	Meaning
Hana	내일 뭐 해요? —	What are you doing tomorrow?
Junho	내일 친구를 만나요. —	Tomorrow I'm meeting a friend.



Speaker	Korean	Meaning
Hana	어제네요? —	And yesterday?
Junho	어제는 집에 있었어요. —	Yesterday I was at home.

Vocabulary & Useful Expressions

Word	Meaning	Example
시간 단어 sigan daneo	time words — they tell us WHEN	이 세 개는 시간 단어예요. These three are time words. In English, they tell WHEN something happens.
오늘 / 내일 / 어제 oneul / naeil / eoje	today / tomorrow / yesterday	오늘 is 'today.' 내일 is 'tomorrow.' 어제 is 'yesterday.' 딱 세 단어만 기억하세요. Just three words to remember.
오늘 학교에 가요 oneul hakgyo-e gayo	Today I go to school.	들어 보세요. 오늘 학교에 가요. Today I go to school.
어제 친구를 만났어요 eoje chingu-reul mannasseyoyo	Yesterday I met a friend.	어제 친구를 만났어요. Yesterday I met a friend. 어제 — yesterday — and notice the verb is past: 만났어요.
내일 영화를 봐요 naeil yeonghwa-reul bwayo	Tomorrow I watch a movie.	내일 영화를 봐요. Tomorrow I watch a movie. 내일 — tomorrow.
시간 단어 + 문장 sigan daneo + munjang	time word, then the rest of the sentence	Wait — so the time word just goes at the very front of the sentence?
오늘 / 내일 / 어제 + ... oneul / naeil / eoje + ...	today/tomorrow/yesterday + what you do	맞아요. 시간 단어를 문장 앞에 놓아요. Put the time word first, then say the rest.
내일 커피 마셔요 naeil keopi masyeoyo	Tomorrow I drink coffee.	So 오늘, 내일, 어제 — then whatever I'm doing. That's clean.



Grammar / Structure Notes

시간 단어

시간 단어 — time words — they tell us WHEN

They sit at the front of the sentence.

오늘 / 내일 / 어제

오늘 / 내일 / 어제 — today / tomorrow / yesterday

오늘 is 'today.' 내일 is 'tomorrow.' 어제 is 'yesterday.' 딱 세 단어만 기억하세요. Just three words to remember.

오늘 학교에 가요

오늘 + 학교 + 에 + 가요 — Today I go to school.

들어 보세요. 오늘 학교에 가요. Today I go to school.

어제 친구를 만났어요

어제 + 친구 + 를 + 만났어요 — Yesterday I met a friend.

어제 친구를 만났어요. Yesterday I met a friend. 어제 — yesterday — and notice the verb is past: 만났어요.

내일 영화를 봐요

내일 + 영화 + 를 + 봐요 — Tomorrow I watch a movie.

내일 영화를 봐요. Tomorrow I watch a movie. 내일 — tomorrow.

Pronunciation Loop

Phrase	How to practice
오늘	oneul
내일	naeil
어제	eoje
오늘 · 내일 · 어제	oneul · naeil · eoje

Self-Check

- 1 Say 오늘 / 내일 / 어제 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
Counting in Korean Native vs Sino Numbers	A1 Vocabulary: compare Counting in Korean with this lesson so the boundary becomes clearer.	Open lesson https://www.koreanladder.com/lesson.html?id=KOR-A1-VOCAB-NUM-001
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
집 / 방 / 화장실 Rooms and Everyday Things at Home	A1 Vocabulary: compare 집 / 방 / 화장실 with this lesson so the boundary becomes clearer.	Open lesson https://www.koreanladder.com/lesson.html?id=KOR-A1-VOCAB-HOM-001
공항 / 기차역 / 표 Getting Around While Traveling	B1 Vocabulary: compare 공항 / 기차역 / 표 with this lesson so the boundary becomes clearer.	Open lesson https://www.koreanladder.com/lesson.html?id=KOR-B1-VOCAB-TRV-001

My Notes

Free Korean lessons, one rung at a time. This PDF, the website, and the video lessons are free for personal study.