



Korean Ladder Study Note

# 해야 돼 / 갖고 / 이거

## Spoken Contractions That Speed Up Speech

Level	Topic	Focus
A2 · Elementary TOPIK 2	Colloquial Contractions	해야 돼 / 갖고 / 이거 Spoken Contractions That Speed Up Speech

### Study Links

Open this lesson on Korean Ladder

<https://www.koreanladder.com/lesson.html?id=KOR-A2-COLLOQ-CTR-002>

Watch the full video on YouTube

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IDAJd2w00UE>

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

<https://www.koreanladder.com>

### Core Idea

Okay, real confession. I studied '가지고' and '해야 해', but when Koreans talk fast, I hear something totally different. It's like the words shrink.

Yes! I said '가지고 오세요' super carefully, and my friend just laughed and said '갖고 와'. Two syllables gone. What happened?

이게 바로 오늘의 핵심이에요. This is exactly today's point — natural speech contracts. In English, 'going to' becomes 'gonna.' Korean does the same thing.

우리는 세 가지를 배워요. We'll learn three: '해야 해' becomes '해야 돼', '가지고' becomes '갖고', and '이것/그것' become '이거/그거.'

### Conversation Snapshot

Speaker	Korean	Meaning
Hana	이거 지금 갖고 가야 돼? —	Do I have to take this now?



Speaker	Korean	Meaning
Junho	응, 그거 갖고 가야 돼. —	Yeah, you have to take that.
Hana	알겠어. 그럼 이걸 여기 둘게. —	Got it. Then I'll leave this here.

## Vocabulary & Useful Expressions

Word	Meaning	Example
축약 (縮約) chuk-yak	contraction — long forms shrink in speech	이게 바로 오늘의 핵심이에요. This is exactly today's point — natural speech contracts. In English, 'going to' becomes 'gonna.' Korean does the same thing.
세 가지 축약 se gaji chuk-yak	Three spoken contractions	우리는 세 가지를 배워요. We'll learn three: '해야 해' becomes '해야 돼', '가지고' becomes '갖고', and '이것/그것' become '이거/그거.'
지금 해야 돼 jigeum haeya dwae	I have to do it now	첫 번째예요. First one. Full form: '지금 해야 해' — I have to do it now. In fast speech, many people say '지금 해야 돼.'
해야 해 → 해야 돼 haeya hae → haeya dwae	'have to do' — spoken form uses 돼	'해야 돼'는 '되다'에서 와요. The '돼' comes from 되다. In everyday speech it's very common — '해야 돼' feels lighter and quicker than '해야 해.'
책 갖고 와 chaek gatgo wa	Bring the book (with you)	좋아요. That's it — natural. Now the second one. Full form '가지고' becomes '갖고' in speech.
가지고 → 갖고 gajigo → gatgo	'with / holding' — spoken form	'가지고'가 '갖고'로 줄어요. '가지고' shrinks to '갖고' — three syllables become two. The meaning is the same: 'holding' or 'with.'
이것 → 이거 / 이걸 / 이걸 / 이게 igeot → igeo / igeon / igeol / ige	this (thing) + topic / object / subject	그리고 조사도 붙여서 더 줄어요. And with particles it shrinks more: '이것은' → '이건', '이것을' → '이걸', '이것이' → '이게.'
이건 커피예요 igeon keopiyeyo	This is coffee	Wait, let me reason this out. '이것은 커피예요' — that's the careful way. Fast speech would be '이건 커피예요?'



## Grammar / Structure Notes

### 축약 (縮約)

축약 (縮約) — contraction — long forms shrink in speech

Like English 'gonna,' 'wanna' — casual, spoken

### 세 가지 축약

세 가지 축약 — Three spoken contractions

해야 돼 · 갖고 · 이거

### 지금 해야 돼

지금 + 해야 + 돼 — I have to do it now

첫 번째예요. First one. Full form: '지금 해야 해' — I have to do it now. In fast speech, many people say '지금 해야 돼.'

### 해야 해 → 해야 돼

해야 해 → 해야 돼 — 'have to do' — spoken form uses 돼

Both are correct; 돼 is the casual, everyday choice

### 책 갖고 와

책 + 갖고 + 와 — Bring the book (with you)

좋아요. That's it — natural. Now the second one. Full form '가지고' becomes '갖고' in speech.

## Pronunciation Loop

Phrase	How to practice
이거 갖고 가야 돼	igeo gatgo gaya dwae

## Self-Check

- 1 Say 해야 돼 / 갖고 / 이거 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
뭐예요 / 거예요 Everyday Korean Contractions	A2 Colloquial: compare 뭐예요 / 거예요 with this lesson so the boundary becomes clearer.	Open lesson <a href="https://www.koreanladder.com/lesson.html?id=KOR-A2-COLLOQ-CTR-001">https://www.koreanladder.com/lesson.html?id=KOR-A2-COLLOQ-CTR-001</a>
-르 거야 / -는 거지 / -ㄴ 걸 Spoken Contractions of 것	B2 Colloquial: compare -르 거야 / -는 거지 / -ㄴ 걸 with this lesson so the boundary becomes clearer.	Open lesson <a href="https://www.koreanladder.com/lesson.html?id=KOR-B2-COLLOQ-CTR-001">https://www.koreanladder.com/lesson.html?id=KOR-B2-COLLOQ-CTR-001</a>
-다는 게 / -라는 거 / -다니까 Spoken Reductions of Reported Speech	C1 Colloquial: compare -다는 게 / -라는 거 / -다니까 with this lesson so the boundary becomes clearer.	Open lesson <a href="https://www.koreanladder.com/lesson.html?id=KOR-C1-COLLOQ-CTR-001">https://www.koreanladder.com/lesson.html?id=KOR-C1-COLLOQ-CTR-001</a>
그럼 / 근데 / 그치 Spoken Shortcuts for 그러면 · 그런데 · 그렇지	B1 Colloquial: compare 그럼 / 근데 / 그치 with this lesson so the boundary becomes clearer.	Open lesson <a href="https://www.koreanladder.com/lesson.html?id=KOR-B1-COLLOQ-CTR-001">https://www.koreanladder.com/lesson.html?id=KOR-B1-COLLOQ-CTR-001</a>

## My Notes

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