



Korean Ladder Study Note

-지요? / -죠?

Seeking Agreement and Gentle Confirmation

Level	Topic	Focus
A2 · Elementary TOPIK 2	Grammar Sentence Endings	-지요? / -죠? Seeking Agreement and Gentle Confirmation

Study Links

Open this lesson on Korean Ladder

<https://www.koreanladder.com/lesson.html?id=KOR-A2-GRAM-END-003>

Watch the full video on YouTube

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CvqHqCAL788>

Visit koreanladder.com for all free lessons

<https://www.koreanladder.com>

Core Idea

Okay, real question. Koreans keep saying 좋죠 and 맞죠 at the end. Is that a real question, or just... checking?

좋은 질문이에요. It often is not a pure unknown question. It checks something you both already feel is true.

오늘의 핵심은 어미 '-지요'와 '-죠'예요. Today's core is the ending 지요 and the ending 죠.

이 어미는 함께 아는 걸 확인해요. In English, it means "Right?" or "Isn't it?" — a gentle check, not a hard quiz.

Conversation Snapshot

Speaker	Korean	Meaning
Hana	여기 분위기 좋죠? —	The vibe here is nice, right?
Junho	네, 진짜 좋죠. —	Yeah, it really is.
Hana	이 케이크도 맛있죠? —	This cake is delicious too, right?



Speaker	Korean	Meaning
Junho	맞아요. 달콤하죠. —	Right. It's sweet, isn't it.
Hana	여기 분위기 좋죠? —	Nice vibe, right?
Junho	네, 진짜 좋죠. —	Yeah, it really is.

Vocabulary & Useful Expressions

Word	Meaning	Example
함께 아는 걸 확인해요 ham-kke a-neun geol hwa-gin-hae-yo	it checks what we already share	이 어미는 함께 아는 걸 확인해요. In English, it means "Right?" or "Isn't it?" — a gentle check, not a hard quiz.
지요 → 죠 ji-yo → jyo	full polite form contracts to 죠	그리고 죠는 지요의 준말이에요. And 죠 is just the short everyday form of 지요. Same meaning, faster speech.
부드럽게 동의를 구해요 bu-deu-reop-ge dong-ui-reul gu-hae-yo	gently seeks agreement	맞아요. Exactly. The ending softens the statement and invites the other person in.
이다 → (이)죠 (i)-jyo	noun + (이)죠	'이다'일 때는 '(이)죠'를 써요. 자음으로 끝나면 학생이죠, 모음으로 끝나면 커피죠. With 이다, use 이죠 after a consonant-final noun, and just 죠 after a vowel-final noun.
학생이죠 · 커피죠 hak-saeng-i-jyo · keo-pi-jyo	consonant noun → 이죠 · vowel noun → 죠	Got it. So 학생이죠 after 학생, but 커피죠 after 커피. The 이 appears only when the noun ends in a consonant.
확인 · 부드럽게 · 동의 hwa-gin · bu-deu-reop-ge · dong-ui	check · soften · agree	그거예요. That is the natural job of 죠 in everyday polite talk: check, soften, invite agreement.
완벽해요 wan-byeok-hae-yo	Seeking Agreement and Gentle Confirmation	완벽해요. You have the soft check feeling now.
확신이 있을 때만 죠를 쓰세요 hwak-sin-i i-sseul ttae-man jyo-reul sseu-se-yo	use 죠 only when you feel sure	이미 알고 있다고 생각할 때만 죠를 쓰세요. Use 죠 only when you think the answer is already shared.



Grammar / Structure Notes

-지요? / -죠?

-지요? / -죠? — soft confirmation · seeking agreement

full form 지요 · everyday 죠

함께 아는 걸 확인해요

함께 아는 걸 확인해요 — it checks what we already share

invite agreement, stay soft

지요 → 죠

지요 → 죠 — full polite form contracts to 죠

same meaning in conversation

오늘 날씨 좋죠?

오늘 + 날씨 + 좋 + 죠 + ? — Nice weather today, right?

먼저 날씨로 들어볼게요. First, weather — a classic place for 죠.

오늘 날씨 좋죠?

오늘 + 날씨 + 좋 + 죠 + ? — The weather is nice today, right?

오늘 날씨 좋죠? You already feel the nice weather, so you seek a soft yes: "Nice today, right?"

Pronunciation Loop

Phrase	How to practice
오늘 날씨 조쑈	o-neul nal-ssi jo-jyo?
오늘 날씨 좋쑈?	o-neul nal-ssi jo-jyo?
마쑈	mat-jyo?
맞쑈?	mat-jyo?
완벽해요	wan-byeok-hae-yo

Self-Check

- 1 Say -지요? / -죠? 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
-(으)ㄴ 수 있어요 / 없어요 Saying What You Can and Can't Do	A2 Grammar: compare -(으)ㄴ 수 있어요 / 없어요 with this lesson so the boundary becomes clearer.	Open lesson https://www.koreanladder.com/lesson.html?id=KOR-A2-GRAM-END-004
-(으)ㄴ게요 Promising and Committing to Do Something	A2 Grammar: compare -(으)ㄴ게요 with this lesson so the boundary becomes clearer.	Open lesson https://www.koreanladder.com/lesson.html?id=KOR-A2-GRAM-END-002
고 싶어요 Saying What You Want to Do	A2 Grammar: compare 고 싶어요 with this lesson so the boundary becomes clearer.	Open lesson https://www.koreanladder.com/lesson.html?id=KOR-A2-GRAM-END-001
-(으)ㄴ까 봐 / -(으)ㄴ 텐데 Expressing Worry and Expectation	B1 Grammar: compare -(으)ㄴ까 봐 / -(으)ㄴ 텐데 with this lesson so the boundary becomes clearer.	Open lesson https://www.koreanladder.com/lesson.html?id=KOR-B1-GRAM-END-003

My Notes

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