



Korean Ladder Study Note

보다 / 처럼 / 만큼

Comparing and Likening Two Things

Level	Topic	Focus
A2 · Elementary TOPIK 2	Grammar Particles	보다 / 처럼 / 만큼 Comparing and Likening Two Things

Study Links

Open this lesson on Korean Ladder

<https://www.koreanladder.com/lesson.html?id=KOR-A2-GRAM-PRT-001>

Watch the full video on YouTube

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dXarbEnbx_0

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

<https://www.koreanladder.com>

Core Idea

Here's my problem. In English I say, bigger than, like a movie, as busy as yesterday. In Korean, I keep mixing up 보다, 처럼, and 만큼.

좋은 질문이에요. 이 세 표현은 모두 비교하지만, 느낌이 달라요. 보다 is for more than. 처럼 is like or in the same way as. 만큼 is equal degree, as much as.

오늘 배울 표현은 세 가지예요. 보다 means "than," 처럼 means "like" or "as," and 만큼 means "as much as" or "as ... as."

먼저 보데요. A는 B보다 더 커요 means A is bigger than B. In Korean, the thing you compare against comes before 보다.

Conversation Snapshot

Speaker	Korean	Meaning
Hana	이 케이크는 저 케이크보다 더 달아요. —	This cake is sweeter than that cake.



Speaker	Korean	Meaning
Junho	맞아요. 그런데 저 케이크는 초콜릿처럼 진해요. —	Right. But that cake is rich like chocolate.
Hana	저 케이크도 이 케이크만큼 비싸요? —	Is that cake also as expensive as this cake?
Junho	네. 그럼 어느 케이크가 제일 맛있어요? —	Yes. Then which cake is the most delicious?

Vocabulary & Useful Expressions

Word	Meaning	Example
보다 / 처럼 / 만큼 boda / cheoreom / mankeum	than / like, as / as much as	오늘 배울 표현은 세 가지예요. 보다 means “than,” 처럼 means “like” or “as,” and 만큼 means “as much as” or “as ... as.”
A는 B보다 더 커요 A-neun B-boda deo keoyo	A is bigger than B.	먼저 보다예요. A는 B보다 더 커요 means A is bigger than B. In Korean, the thing you compare against comes before 보다.
이 컵은 저 컵보다 더 커요 i keob-eun jeo keop-boda deo keoyo	This cup is bigger than that cup.	예문을 들어 볼게요. 이 컵은 저 컵보다 더 커요. This cup is bigger than that cup.
저 컵보다 jeo keop-boda	than that cup	여기서 저 컵보다 means than that cup. 보다 attaches to the comparison target, not to the bigger thing.
이 가방은 저 가방보다 더 비싸요 i gabang-eun jeo gabang-boda deo bissayo	This bag is more expensive than that bag.	So if I want to say this bag is more expensive than that bag, I put that bag before 보다? 이 가방은 저 가방보다 더 비싸요.
B보다 더 + adjective B-boda deo + adjective	more adjective than B	맞아요. 그리고 더 means more. Often Korean uses 보다 together with 더, especially when you are learning the pattern clearly.
N처럼 N-cheoreom	like N / as N	이제 처럼이에요. 처럼 means like or as, especially same style, same manner, or similar feeling.
이 영화는 꿈처럼 아름다워요 i yeonghwa-neun kkum-cheoreom areumdawoyo	This movie is beautiful like a dream.	이 영화는 꿈처럼 아름다워요. This movie is beautiful like a dream.



Grammar / Structure Notes

보다 / 처럼 / 만큼

보다 / 처럼 / 만큼 — than / like, as / as much as

Three comparison particles

A는 B보다 더 커요

A는 B보다 더 커요 — A is bigger than B.

B보다 = than B

이 컵은 저 컵보다 더 커요

이 컵 + 은 + 저 컵 + 보다 + 더 + 커요 — This cup is bigger than that cup.

예문을 들어 볼게요. 이 컵은 저 컵보다 더 커요. This cup is bigger than that cup.

저 컵보다

저 컵 + 보다 — than that cup

여기서 저 컵보다 means than that cup. 보다 attaches to the comparison target, not to the bigger thing.

이 가방은 저 가방보다 더 비싸요

이 가방 + 은 + 저 가방 + 보다 + 더 + 비싸요 — This bag is more expensive than that bag.

So if I want to say this bag is more expensive than that bag, I put that bag before 보다? 이 가방은 저 가방보다 더 비싸요.

Pronunciation Loop

Phrase	How to practice
이 컵은 저 컵보다 더 커요	i keob-eun jeo keop-boda deo keoyo
선생님처럼 말해요	seonsaengnim-cheoreom malhaeyo
저도 하나 씨만큼 먹었어요	jeo-do Hana ssi-mankeum meogeosseoyo

Self-Check

- 1 Say 보다 / 처럼 / 만큼 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)로 Saying 'By', 'With', and 'Toward' in Korean	A1 Grammar: compare (으)로 with this lesson so the boundary becomes clearer.	Open lesson https://www.koreanladder.com/lesson.html?id=KOR-A1-GRAM-PRT-012
도 Saying 'Also', 'Too', and 'Even' in Korean	A1 Grammar: compare 도 with this lesson so the boundary becomes clearer.	Open lesson https://www.koreanladder.com/lesson.html?id=KOR-A1-GRAM-PRT-006
마다 / 씩 / 꽤 Saying 'Each', 'Per', and 'Every'	B1 Grammar: compare 마다 / 씩 / 꽤 with this lesson so the boundary becomes clearer.	Open lesson https://www.koreanladder.com/lesson.html?id=KOR-B1-GRAM-PRT-001
만 Saying 'Only' and 'Just This' with the Particle 만	A1 Grammar: compare 만 with this lesson so the boundary becomes clearer.	Open lesson https://www.koreanladder.com/lesson.html?id=KOR-A1-GRAM-PRT-011

My Notes

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