



Korean Ladder Study Note

받침 ㄹ

Pronouncing the Korean Liquid Final

Level	Topic	Focus
A2 · Elementary TOPIK 2	Pronunciation Batchim	받침 ㄹ Pronouncing the Korean Liquid Final

Study Links

[Open this lesson on Korean Ladder](https://www.koreanladder.com/lesson.html?id=KOR-A2-PRON-BAT-001)

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

[Watch the full video on YouTube](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tLMtLxz5LUE)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tLMtLxz5LUE>

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

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Core Idea

Okay, real talk. Why do I keep saying 달 — moon — and Hana hears 단, like the 'dan' in a group?

Same. To my American ears, the end of those words sounds basically identical. Where's the difference even hiding?

The difference lives at the very end. 받침 means the final consonant that sits under the syllable. Today it's ㄹ versus ㄴ.

Let's name our pattern. 받침 ㄹ is a liquid sound — a light 'l'. The card shows the bare letter ㄹ, and its name is 리을.

Conversation Snapshot

Speaker	Korean	Meaning
Junho	달이 정말 밝아요. —	The moon is really bright.



Speaker	Korean	Meaning
Hana	네, 물에 달이 비쳐요. —	Yes, the moon reflects on the water.
Junho	발 조심하세요. —	Watch your step (your feet).
Hana	고마워요, 길이 어두워요. —	Thanks, the road is dark.

Vocabulary & Useful Expressions

Word	Meaning	Example
받침 batchim	the final consonant under a syllable	The difference lives at the very end. 받침 means the final consonant that sits under the syllable. Today it's ㄹ versus ㄴ.
ㄹ rieul	the liquid final — a light 'l'	Let's name our pattern. 받침 ㄹ is a liquid sound — a light 'l'. The card shows the bare letter ㄹ, and its name is 리을.
받침 ㄹ = 가벼운 l batchim rieul = gabyeoun l	final ㄹ is a light 'l'	받침 ㄹ은 가벼운 'l' 소리예요. In English — final ㄹ is a soft, light 'l', not the heavy American 'L'.
받침 ㄴ = n batchim nieun = n	final ㄴ is 'n' — letter name 니은	And 받침 ㄴ은 'n' 소리예요 — the tongue touches the same ridge, but air goes through the nose. That's the whole contrast.
달, 물, 발 dal, mul, bal	moon, water, foot	Listen to native examples. 달 — the moon. 물 — water. 발 — foot. Each ends in that light ㄹ.
혀끝을 윗니 뒤에 살짝 대세요 hyeokkeuteul winni dwi-e saljjak dae-se-yo	Pronouncing the Korean Liquid Final	Here's the secret. 혀끝을 윗니 뒤에 살짝 대세요. In English — let the tip of your tongue lightly touch just behind your upper teeth, then let it go.
달 dal	Pronouncing the Korean Liquid Final	Oh — so it's a tap-and-release, not a long held 'L'. My English 'L' is way too heavy at the end.
물이 → [무리] mul-i → [muri]	Pronouncing the Korean Liquid Final	맞아요. Now the magic part — when ㄹ meets a following vowel, it slides over and links. 물이 becomes 무리.



Grammar / Structure Notes

받침

받침 — the final consonant under a syllable

받침 ㄹ vs 받침 ㄴ

ㄹ

ㄹ — the liquid final — a light 'l'

letter name: 리을

받침 ㄹ = 가벼운 l

받침 ㄹ = 가벼운 l — final ㄹ is a light 'l'

받침 ㄹ은 가벼운 'l' 소리예요. In English — final ㄹ is a soft, light 'l', not the heavy American 'L'.

받침 ㄴ = n

받침 ㄴ = n — final ㄴ is 'n' — letter name 니은

And 받침 ㄴ은 'n' 소리예요 — the tongue touches the same ridge, but air goes through the nose. That's the whole contrast.

달, 물, 발

달 + , + 물 + , + 발 — moon, water, foot

Listen to native examples. 달 — the moon. 물 — water. 발 — foot. Each ends in that light ㄹ.

Pronunciation Loop

Phrase	How to practice
허끝을 윗니 뒤에 살짝 대세요	hyeokkeuteul winni dwi-e saljjak dae-se-yo
달	dal
무리	mul-i → [muri]
바레 / 다리	bal-e → [bare], dal-i → [dari]
다리	dal-i → [dari]
가볍게	gabyeopge, budeureopge

Self-Check

- 1 Say 받침 ㄹ 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
받침 ㄴ / ㅇ / ㅁ Mastering the Nasal Final Consonants	B1 Pronunciation: compare 받침 ㄴ / ㅇ / ㅁ with this lesson so the boundary becomes clearer.	Open lesson https://www.koreanladder.com/lesson.html?id=KOR-B1-PRON-BAT-001
받침 Final Consonants Made Simple	A1 Pronunciation: compare 받침 with this lesson so the boundary becomes clearer.	Open lesson https://www.koreanladder.com/lesson.html?id=KOR-A1-PRON-BAT-001
ㅅ Plain and Tense Sibilants	A2 Pronunciation: compare ㅅ with this lesson so the boundary becomes clearer.	Open lesson https://www.koreanladder.com/lesson.html?id=KOR-A2-PRON-CNS-001
ㅋ ㅌ ㅍ Aspirated and Tense Consonants	A1 Pronunciation: compare ㅋ ㅌ ㅍ with this lesson so the boundary becomes clearer.	Open lesson https://www.koreanladder.com/lesson.html?id=KOR-A1-PRON-CNS-001

My Notes

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