



Korean Ladder Study Note

네

되묻고 확인하는 억양

Level	Topic	Focus
A2 · Elementary TOPIK 2	Pronunciation Intonation	네 되묻고 확인하는 억양

Study Links

Open this lesson on Korean Ladder

<https://www.koreanladder.com/lesson.html?id=KOR-A2-PRON-INT-004>

Watch the full video on YouTube

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=08AJIsfWin4>

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

<https://www.koreanladder.com>

Core Idea

Okay, real talk. In a noisy cafe, someone says something fast, and I just freeze. If I say 네, do they think I understood? And if I ask again, do I sound rude?

아, 그거 정말 흔한 상황이에요. In English, that happens all the time. The word can stay the same — 네 — but the pitch decides if you agreed, or if you need a repeat.

맞아요. 평평한 네는 대답이나 수긍이에요. But a sharp rising 네? means 'sorry, say that again.' The rise is the whole message.

오늘의 핵심은 되묻는 억양이에요. Today's pattern is the sharp rising echo question — a short lift that politely asks someone to say it again.

Conversation Snapshot

Speaker	Korean	Meaning
Hana	아메리카노 하나 주세요. —	One Americano, please.



Speaker	Korean	Meaning
Junho	사이즈는요? —	And the size?
Hana	тол이요. —	Tall.
Junho	네? —	Sorry — say that again?
Hana	아메리카노요. тол이요. —	Americano. Tall.
Junho	네? —	Sorry?
Hana	아메리카노요. тол이요. —	Americano. Tall.
Hana	오늘 일곱 시에 만나요. —	Let's meet at seven today.

Vocabulary & Useful Expressions

Word	Meaning	Example
되묻는 억양 doemunneun eogyang	echo-question intonation — asking someone to repeat	오늘의 핵심은 되묻는 억양이에요. Today's pattern is the sharp rising echo question — a short lift that politely asks someone to say it again.
네 ne	되묻고 확인하는 억양	먼저 제일 짧은 것부터요. Listen to flat 네 — calm, even: 네. That is yes, okay, I hear you.
억양이 메시지 eogyangi mesiji	the intonation carries the meaning	네, 억양이 메시지에요. The pitch is the message. Without the rise, people may think you understood.
상황별로 고르기 sanghwangbyeollo goreugi	choose by how much you missed	Okay, so if I catch almost nothing, I go 뭐라고요?. If I just need a redo, 다시요?. And for a quick 'pardon?', sharp 네?.
날카롭게, 부드럽게 nalkaropge, budeureopge	sharp rise, soft tone — not angry	맞아요. 그리고 중요한 건 부드럽게 올리는 거예요. In English, lift the pitch — but keep your voice soft. Sharp rise, soft mood. That way you don't sound annoyed.
하나만 고르기 hanaman goreugi	pick one echo ask per turn	I notice you never stacked them. One echo ask, then they repeat. Not 네? then 뭐라고요? then 다시요? all in a row.
하나만, 그리고 기다리기 hanaman, geurigo gidarigi	one ask, then wait	정확해요. 실제 대화에서는 보통 하나만 써요. In real talk, one clear rising ask is enough — then wait for the repeat.



Word	Meaning	Example
뭐라고요 mworagoyo	되묻고 확인하는 억양	들어 보세요. Heavy and flat: 뭐라고요. That can feel like 'what did you just say to me?' — not a friendly redo.



Grammar / Structure Notes

되묻는 억양

되묻는 억양 — echo-question intonation — asking someone to repeat

sharp rise = please say that again

네? · 다시요? · 뭐라고요?

네? · 다시요? · 뭐라고요? — sorry?/pardon? · again, please? · what did you say?

shortest → short request → fuller ask

억양이 메시지

억양이 메시지 — the intonation carries the meaning

flat = I got it / rise = say it again

뭐라고요?

뭐 + 라고 + 요 + ? — What did you say? (polite echo ask)

두 번째예요. 뭐라고요? This one is a bit fuller. It means 'what did you say?' — polite, clear, still with that rising echo.

네? < 다시요? < 뭐라고요?

네? < 다시요? < 뭐라고요? — shortest echo → short request → fuller 'what did you say?'

pick one echo ask — don't stack them

Pronunciation Loop

Phrase	How to practice
네 (yes / okay / I hear you)	ne
네? (sorry, say that again)	ne?
네 / 네?	ne → ne?
뭐라고요?	mworagoyo?
다시요?	dasiyo?
네?	ne?
뭐라고요 (heavy — avoid for redo asks)	mworagoyo

Self-Check

1 Say 네 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
나열의 억양 Rising Pitch When You List Things	A2 Pronunciation: compare 나열의 억양 with this lesson so the boundary becomes clearer.	Open lesson https://www.koreanladder.com/lesson.html?id=KOR-A2-PRON-INT-002
부탁과 제안의 억양 Softening Requests with Pitch	A2 Pronunciation: compare 부탁과 제안의 억양 with this lesson so the boundary becomes clearer.	Open lesson https://www.koreanladder.com/lesson.html?id=KOR-A2-PRON-INT-001
우와 The Rising-Falling Intonation of Surprise and Admiration	A2 Pronunciation: compare 우와 with this lesson so the boundary becomes clearer.	Open lesson https://www.koreanladder.com/lesson.html?id=KOR-A2-PRON-INT-003
가요 끝을 올리면 질문이 돼요	A1 Pronunciation: compare 가요 with this lesson so the boundary becomes clearer.	Open lesson https://www.koreanladder.com/lesson.html?id=KOR-A1-PRON-INT-001

My Notes

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