



Korean Ladder Study Note

고기 / 생선 / 채소 / 과일

Grocery and Ingredient Categories

Level	Topic	Focus
A2 · Elementary TOPIK 2	Vocabulary Food & Dining	고기 / 생선 / 채소 / 과일 Grocery and Ingredient Categories

Study Links

Open this lesson on Korean Ladder

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

Watch the full video on YouTube

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kYB-4wx6JV8>

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

<https://www.koreanladder.com>

Core Idea

My problem is this: in English I say fish for the animal and fish for dinner. In Korean, can I just say 물고기 at the market?

Today's pattern is not grammar-heavy. It is a shopping map: 고기, 생선, 채소, 과일.

So if I know the category, I can ask better questions. Like, 고기 있어요? Do you have meat?

And 닭고기 is chicken meat. In everyday speech, people also say 치킨 for fried chicken, but 닭고기 is the ingredient word.

Conversation Snapshot

Speaker	Korean	Meaning
Hana	오늘 뭐 살까요? —	What shall we buy today?
Junho	생선하고 채소를 사요. —	Let's buy fish and vegetables.



Speaker	Korean	Meaning
Hana	채소는 뭐가 필요해요? —	Which vegetables do we need?
Junho	양파하고 당근이 필요해요. —	We need onions and carrots.
Hana	고기는 뭐 살까요? —	What meat shall we buy?
Junho	소고기를 사요. —	Let's buy beef.
Hana	과일도 살까요? —	Shall we buy fruit too?
Junho	네, 사과하고 딸기를 사요. —	Yes, let's buy apples and strawberries.

Vocabulary & Useful Expressions

Word	Meaning	Example
고기 / 생선 / 채소 / 과일 gogi / saengseon / chaeso / gwail	meat / fish / vegetables / fruit	Today's pattern is not grammar-heavy. It is a shopping map: 고기, 생선, 채소, 과일.
소고기, 돼지고기, 닭고기 sogogi, dwaejigogi, dakgogi	beef, pork, chicken	맞아요, 고기는 meat. 소고기, 돼지고기, 닭고기처럼 뒤에 고기가 붙는 단어가 많아요.
닭고기 dakgogi	chicken as an ingredient	And 닭고기 is chicken meat. In everyday speech, people also say 치킨 for fried chicken, but 닭고기 is the ingredient word.
새우 / 오징어 / 해산물 saeu / ojingeo / haemul	shrimp / squid / seafood	새우 is shrimp, 오징어 is squid. They are often grouped with 해산물, seafood.
양파, 당근, 감자 yangpa, danggeun, gamja	onion, carrot, potato	대표적인 채소 단어는 양파, 당근, 감자예요. Onion, carrot, potato.
양파, 당근, 감자 yangpa, danggeun, gamja	Grocery and Ingredient Categories	양파, 당근, 감자. Those are recipe words I actually need.
버섯 beoseot	mushroom	버섯 means mushroom. It is not technically a vegetable in science, but in shopping and recipes it often sits with 채소.



Word	Meaning	Example
사과,바나나,딸기,포도 sagwa, banana, ttalgi, podo	apple, banana, strawberry, grape	사과 is apple, 바나나 is banana, 딸기 is strawberry, and 포도 is grape.



Grammar / Structure Notes

먹는fish는생선이에요.

먹는 + fish + 는 + 생선 + 이에요. — Fish for eating is 생선.

좋은 질문이에요. 살아 있는 fish는 보통 물고기, 먹는 fish는 생선이라고 해요.

고기 / 생선 / 채소 / 과일

고기 / 생선 / 채소 / 과일 — meat / fish / vegetables / fruit

Use these as ingredient categories when shopping or reading recipes.

고기 있어요?

고기 있어요? — Do you have meat?

A simple market question.

소고기,돼지고기,닭고기

소고기, + 돼지고기, + 닭고기 — beef, pork, chicken

맞아요. 고기는 meat. 소고기, 돼지고기, 닭고기처럼 뒤에 고기가 붙는 단어가 많아요.

고기주세요.

고기 + 주세요. — Meat, please.

고기 can mean meat in general. If you need the exact kind, say 소고기 for beef, 돼지고기 for pork, and 닭고기 for chicken.

Pronunciation Loop

Phrase	How to practice
소고기 주세요.	sogogi juseyo.
양파, 당근, 감자	yangpa, danggeun, gamja
당근하고 감자 주세요.	danggeunhago gamja juseyo.

Self-Check

- 1 Say 고기 / 생선 / 채소 / 과일 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
맵다 / 짜다 / 달다 / 시다 Describing How Food Tastes	A2 Vocabulary: compare 맵다 / 짜다 / 달다 / 시다 with this lesson so the boundary becomes clearer.	Open lesson https://www.koreanladder.com/lesson.html?id=KOR-A2-VOCAB-FOO-001
물 / 커피 / 밥 Essential Food Words	A1 Vocabulary: compare 물 / 커피 / 밥 with this lesson so the boundary becomes clearer.	Open lesson https://www.koreanladder.com/lesson.html?id=KOR-A1-VOCAB-FOO-001
식감 / 감칠맛 / 비린내 Describing Taste and Texture Like a Native	C1 Vocabulary: compare 식감 / 감칠맛 / 비린내 with this lesson so the boundary becomes clearer.	Open lesson https://www.koreanladder.com/lesson.html?id=KOR-C1-VOCAB-FOO-001
우유 / 주스 / 차 The Drinks You Order Every Day	A1 Vocabulary: compare 우유 / 주스 / 차 with this lesson so the boundary becomes clearer.	Open lesson https://www.koreanladder.com/lesson.html?id=KOR-A1-VOCAB-FOO-002

My Notes

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