



Korean Ladder Study Note

실화냐 / 각이다 / 짤없다

Slang for Disbelief and Inevitability

Level	Topic	Focus
B1 · Intermediate TOPIK 3	Colloquial Slang	실화냐 / 각이다 / 짤없다 Slang for Disbelief and Inevitability

Study Links

Open this lesson on Korean Ladder

<https://www.koreanladder.com/lesson.html?id=KOR-B1-COLLOQ-SLG-008>

Watch the full video on YouTube

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=s8VfgCuMt4c>

Visit koreanladder.com for all free lessons

<https://www.koreanladder.com>

Core Idea

So my Korean friend opened her phone bill and shouted something about a true story. Then later she told me dinner was an angle. I was completely lost.

하하, 그 친구 아주 자연스러웠네요. She wasn't telling a story. She was reacting. Today we learn three of those reaction words.

Three words, three feelings? Okay, break it down for me.

첫 번째, 실화냐. 실화 means a true story. So 실화냐 means, is this for real? You say it when something is hard to believe.

Conversation Snapshot

Speaker	Korean	Meaning
Junho	하나야, 내일 아침 일곱 시에 회의래. —	Hana, there's a meeting at seven tomorrow morning.



Speaker	Korean	Meaning
Hana	일곱 시? 실화냐? —	Seven? For real?
Junho	실화야. 팀장님이 늦으면 짤없대. —	It's real. The team lead says if you're late, no mercy.
Hana	그럼 오늘은 칼퇴각이다. —	Then I'm totally leaving on time today.
Junho	근데 이 보고서 보니까 야근각인데. —	But looking at this report, it's overtime for sure.
Hana	실화냐... 그럼 내일은 커피 두 잔각이다. —	For real... then tomorrow is a two-coffee day.

Vocabulary & Useful Expressions

Word	Meaning	Example
명사 + 각이다 gak-ida	It's shaping up to be ____ / ____ is definitely happening	두 번째, 각이다. 각 literally means angle. In slang, a noun plus 각이다 means, this is clearly heading that way. Like, overtime is totally happening.
짤없다 jjareopda	No exceptions / No mercy	세 번째, 짤없다. It means no exceptions, no mercy, no way around it. 봐주는 거 없다. Nobody gets a pass.
오늘 야근각이다 oneul yageun-gagida	Overtime is totally happening today.	이제 각이다. 오늘 야근각이다. Overtime is totally happening tonight. 야근 means overtime, and 각 says, I can see it coming.
비 올 각이다 bi ol gagida	It's totally going to rain.	동사는 모양을 바꿔요. 비 올 각이다. With a verb, use the future form, like 올 from 오다, then add 각이다. It's totally going to rain.
늦으면 짤없어 neujeumyeon jjareopseo	If you're late, no mercy.	이제 짤없다. 늦으면 짤없어. If you're late, no mercy. Nobody gets a pass.
짤없다 ≈ 봐주는 거 없다 jjareopda ≈ bwajuneun geo eopda	No exceptions ≈ nobody gets a pass	나쁜 말은 아니에요. It's not rude, just very casual. Think of no ifs, ands, or buts, but slangier.
칼퇴각이다 kaltoe-gagida	I'm totally leaving work on time.	네. 칼퇴는 정시에 딱 퇴근하는 거예요. 칼퇴 means leaving work right on time. 칼퇴각이다, I'm totally getting out on time.
짤없대 = 짤없다고 해 jjareopdae	They say there are no exceptions.	그리고 짤없대는 짤없다고 해의 줄임말이에요. It means, they say no exceptions. It passes on what the boss said.



Grammar / Structure Notes

실화냐?

실화냐? — Is this for real? / Seriously?

실화 (true story) + -냐 (casual question ending)

명사 + 각이다

명사 + 각이다 — It's shaping up to be ____ / ____ is definitely happening

각 = angle → 'I can see where this is going'

짤없다

짤없다 — No exceptions / No mercy

Not the meme-picture 짤. Different word.

이 가격 실화냐?

이 + 가격 + 실화 + 냐? — Is this price for real?

예문 하나. 이 가격 실화냐? Is this price for real? Maybe it's shockingly cheap, or shockingly expensive.

벌써 열두 시야? 실화냐.

벌써 열두 시야? 실화냐. — It's already midnight? For real?

벌써 열두 시야? 실화냐. It's already midnight? For real? 실화냐 works for good shock and bad shock.

Pronunciation Loop

Phrase	How to practice
[시화냐]	silhwanya
[시화냐ㄱ]	silhwanya?
[짜럽따]	jjareopda
[야근가기다]	yageun-gagida

Self-Check

- 1 Say 실화냐 / 각이다 / 짤없다 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
갑툭튀 / 들보잡 / 뇌피셜 Slang for Sudden Appearances and Made-Up Facts	B1 Colloquial: compare 갑툭튀 / 들보잡 / 뇌피셜 with this lesson so the boundary becomes clearer.	Open lesson https://www.koreanladder.com/lesson.html?id=KOR-B1-COLLOQ-SLG-004
답정너 / 내로남불 / 노답 Slang for Stubbornness, Double Standards, and Hopeless Cases	B1 Colloquial: compare 답정너 / 내로남불 / 노답 with this lesson so the boundary becomes clearer.	Open lesson https://www.koreanladder.com/lesson.html?id=KOR-B1-COLLOQ-SLG-003
멘붕 / 핵 / 짱 / 꿀팁 Everyday Casual Slang	B1 Colloquial: compare 멘붕 / 핵 / 짱 / 꿀팁 with this lesson so the boundary becomes clearer.	Open lesson https://www.koreanladder.com/lesson.html?id=KOR-B1-COLLOQ-SLG-001
오지다 / 지리다 / 찼다 Slang for 'That's Insane'	B1 Colloquial: compare 오지다 / 지리다 / 찼다 with this lesson so the boundary becomes clearer.	Open lesson https://www.koreanladder.com/lesson.html?id=KOR-B1-COLLOQ-SLG-005

My Notes

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