



Korean Ladder Study Note

아 진짜 / 어쩌라고 / 됐어

Reactive Fillers and Mild Pushback

Level	Topic	Focus
B2 · Upper-Intermediate TOPIK 4	Colloquial Fillers & Reactions	아 진짜 / 어쩌라고 / 됐어 Reactive Fillers and Mild Pushback

Study Links

Open this lesson on Korean Ladder

<https://www.koreanladder.com/lesson.html?id=KOR-B2-COLLOQ-FIL-001>

Watch the full video on YouTube

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qFHzFW9G0U4>

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

<https://www.koreanladder.com>

Core Idea

Here is my real question. If a close friend texts 어쩌라고, should I laugh, apologize, or hide my phone forever?

그게 오늘의 핵심이에요. In English, that is today's core point. These words do not only carry meaning. They carry mood.

오늘 배울 표현은 세 개예요. In English, we study three reactions: 아 진짜, 어쩌라고, and 됐어.

먼저 아 진짜예요. In English, it feels like 'ugh, seriously' or 'oh come on.' 진짜 means really, but 아 진짜 is a reaction.

Conversation Snapshot

Speaker	Korean	Meaning
Junho	야, 나 또 지갑 놓고 왔어. —	Hey, I left my wallet again.



Speaker	Korean	Meaning
Hana	아 진짜? 너 진짜 왜 그래. —	Ugh, seriously? What is with you?
Junho	어쩌라고~ 네가 사줘. —	So what~ you buy it for me.
Hana	됐어, 내가 살게. —	Fine, I'll pay.

Vocabulary & Useful Expressions

Word	Meaning	Example
아 진짜 · 어쩌라고 · 됐어 a jinjja · eojujeorago · dwaesseo	Ugh, seriously · So what am I supposed to do · Fine / forget it	오늘 배울 표현은 세 개예요. In English, we study three reactions: 아 진짜, 어쩌라고, and 됐어.
아 진짜 a jinjja	Ugh, seriously / oh come on	먼저 아 진짜예요. In English, it feels like 'ugh, seriously' or 'oh come on.' 진짜 means really, but 아 진짜 is a reaction.
어쩌라고 eojujeorago	So what am I supposed to do? / So what?	두 번째는 어쩌라고예요. In English, 'so what am I supposed to do about it.' It sounds like a question, but usually it pushes back.
어떻게 하라고 eotteoke harago	What are you telling me to do?	뿌리를 보면 더 잘 보여요. 어쩌라고 comes from 어떻게 하라고, meaning 'what are you telling me to do.'
어떻게 하라고 → 어쩌라고 —	full thought shrinks into sharp pushback	That makes sense. It is not a polite 'what should I do?' It is more like, 'and what exactly do you want from me?'
됐어 dwaesseo	It's fine / forget it / never mind	세 번째는 됐어예요. In English, it can mean 'it's fine,' 'forget it,' or 'I'm done.' It closes the topic.
친구 사이 대화 chingu sai daehwa	a chat between close friends	좋아요. Now let's hear all three in one close-friend scene. Listen to the rhythm, not just the dictionary meaning.
어쩌라고~ —	stretched tone = playful pushback	That 어쩌라고 had a little stretch at the end. It sounded annoying, but friendly annoying.



Grammar / Structure Notes

아 진짜 · 어쩌라고 · 됐어

아 진짜 · 어쩌라고 · 됐어 — Ugh, seriously · So what am I supposed to do · Fine / forget it
reactive fillers with attitude

아 진짜

아 진짜 — Ugh, seriously / oh come on

a sigh plus really

아 진짜, 또 늦었어.

아 진짜, + 또 + 늦었어. — Ugh, seriously, late again.

예문을 들어보세요. 아 진짜, 또 늦었어. In English, ugh, seriously, late again.

아 진짜

아 진짜 — venting, not a real question

reaction first, meaning second

아 진짜

아 진짜 — smile = playful frustration · hard tone = blame

same words, different feeling

Pronunciation Loop

Phrase	How to practice
아 진짜	a jinjja
어쩌라~고	eojjeorago
어쩌라고~	eojjeorago
됐어	dwaesseo

Self-Check

- 1 Say 아 진짜 / 어쩌라고 / 됐어 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
글썩요 / 그러게요 / 아무튼 Hedging and Agreeing Naturally	A2 Colloquial: compare 글썩요 / 그러게요 / 아무튼 with this lesson so the boundary becomes clearer.	Open lesson https://www.koreanladder.com/lesson.html?id=KOR-A2-COLLOQ-FIL-001
네 / 아니요 / 맞아요 Natural Korean Reactions	A1 Colloquial: compare 네 / 아니요 / 맞아요 with this lesson so the boundary becomes clearer.	Open lesson https://www.koreanladder.com/lesson.html?id=KOR-A1-COLLOQ-FIL-001
막 / 약간 / 아니 그게 Intensifiers and Hedges in Fast Speech	C1 Colloquial: compare 막 / 약간 / 아니 그게 with this lesson so the boundary becomes clearer.	Open lesson https://www.koreanladder.com/lesson.html?id=KOR-C1-COLLOQ-FIL-001
음 / 그러니까 / 뭐랄까 Sounding Natural with Korean Fillers	B1 Colloquial: compare 음 / 그러니까 / 뭐랄까 with this lesson so the boundary becomes clearer.	Open lesson https://www.koreanladder.com/lesson.html?id=KOR-B1-COLLOQ-FIL-001

My Notes

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