



Korean Ladder Study Note

명함 주고받기

Exchanging Business Cards the Korean Way

Level	Topic	Focus
B2 · Upper-Intermediate TOPIK 4	Culture Business Norms	명함 주고받기 Exchanging Business Cards the Korean Way

Study Links

Open this lesson on Korean Ladder

<https://www.koreanladder.com/lesson.html?id=KOR-B2-CULTURE-BIZ-002>

Watch the full video on YouTube

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jslj00UnQQo>

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

<https://www.koreanladder.com>

Core Idea

Okay, honest question. In the U.S. someone slides me a card, I glance at it, and it goes straight in my pocket. Is that... a disaster in Korea?

It's not a disaster, but it can feel cold. The card stands in for the person, so we treat it gently — receive it, read it, and let it rest on the table for a moment.

So today's rung is a ritual, not a rule list. Four moves: greet, present, receive, and read. Let's name each one.

The opening line is the anchor. 처음 뵙겠습니다. In English, it's the very formal 'I'm meeting you for the first time' — basically 'How do you do.'

Conversation Snapshot

Speaker	Korean	Meaning
Hana	처음 뵙겠습니다. 김하나입니다. —	How do you do. I'm Kim Hana.



Speaker	Korean	Meaning
Junho	처음 뵙겠습니다. 박준호입니다. 잘 부탁드립니다. —	How do you do. I'm Park Junho. I look forward to working with you.
Hana	명함 드리겠습니다. —	Let me give you my card.
Junho	감사합니다. 아, 팀장님이시네요. —	Thank you. Oh, you're a team leader.

Vocabulary & Useful Expressions

Word	Meaning	Example
인사 · 건넌 · 받음 · 읽음 insa · geonnem · badeum · ilgeum	greet · present · receive · read	So today's rung is a ritual, not a rule list. Four moves: greet, present, receive, and read. Let's name each one.
처음 뵙겠습니다 cheoem boepgesseumnida	How do you do (very formal first greeting)	The opening line is the anchor. 처음 뵙겠습니다. In English, it's the very formal 'I'm meeting you for the first time' — basically 'How do you do.'
뵙겠습니다 boepgesseumnida	the humble, elevated 'to see/meet' — honoring the other person	뵙겠습니다 — that verb looks intense. Is that stronger than the usual 만나서 반갑습니다?
뵙다 → 보다는 겸양어 boepda → boda-ui gyeomyang-eo	뵙다 is the humble version of 보다 (to see)	좋은 질문이에요. 뵙다 is the humble form of 보다, to see. You lower yourself to raise them. 만나서 반갑습니다 is friendly; 처음 뵙겠습니다 is respectful and business-formal.
처음 뵙겠습니다, 김하나입니다 cheoem boepgesseumnida, Kim Hana-imnida	How do you do. I'm Kim Hana.	Let's see a full opening. Listen to the whole sentence first, then we'll break it apart.
김하나입니다 Kim Hana-imnida	I am Kim Hana (full name, formal)	Notice the order: greeting first, then your name with 입니다. In Korean business, you often give the family name too — 김하나입니다, not just 하나예요.
성 + 이름 + 입니다 seong + ireum + imnida	family name + given name + 입니다 (formal self-intro)	So it's like saying my whole name in a job interview voice — 'I'm Alice Carter,' not just 'Hi, I'm Alice.'
두 손으로 드려요 du son-euro deuryeoyo	You offer it with two hands	정확해요. Now the hands. You present the card with two hands, text facing the other person so they can read it right away.



Grammar / Structure Notes

인사 · 건넌 · 받음 · 읽음

인사 · 건넌 · 받음 · 읽음 — greet · present · receive · read

The four beats of a Korean card exchange

처음 뵙겠습니다

처음 뵙겠습니다 — How do you do (very formal first greeting)

Said while you bow slightly and present your card

뵙겠습니다

뵙겠습니다 — the humble, elevated 'to see/meet' — honoring the other person

뵙겠습니다 — that verb looks intense. Is that stronger than the usual 만나서 반갑습니다?

뵙다 → 보다는 겸양어

뵙다 → 보다는 겸양어 — 뵙다 is the humble version of 보다 (to see)

Humble speech elevates the listener

처음 뵙겠습니다, 김하나입니다

처음 + 뵙겠습니다 + , 김하나 + 입니다 — How do you do. I'm Kim Hana.

Let's see a full opening. Listen to the whole sentence first, then we'll break it apart.

Pronunciation Loop

Phrase	How to practice
처음 뵙겠습니다	cheoem boepgesseumnida
뵙겠습니다	boepgesseumnida
처음 뵙겠습니다, 앤드류입니다	cheoem boepgesseumnida, Andrew-imnida
잘 부탁드립니다	jal butakdeurimnida

Self-Check

- 1 Say 명함 주고받기 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
비즈니스 이메일 예절 수신·참조부터 'OOO 드림'까지	B2 Culture: compare 비즈니스 이메일 예절 with this lesson so the boundary becomes clearer.	Open lesson https://www.koreanladder.com/lesson.html?id=KOR-B2-CULTURE-BIZ-001
수고하셨습니다 / 회식 Korean Workplace Norms	C1 Culture: compare 수고하셨습니다 / 회식 with this lesson so the boundary becomes clearer.	Open lesson https://www.koreanladder.com/lesson.html?id=KOR-C1-CULTURE-BIZ-001
경조사 예절 결혼식·장례식 봉투와 조의금	B2 Culture: compare 경조사 예절 with this lesson so the boundary becomes clearer.	Open lesson https://www.koreanladder.com/lesson.html?id=KOR-B2-CULTURE-ETQ-001
배달 음식 / 치맥 Korea's Delivery and Late-Night Food Culture	B2 Culture: compare 배달 음식 / 치맥 with this lesson so the boundary becomes clearer.	Open lesson https://www.koreanladder.com/lesson.html?id=KOR-B2-CULTURE-FCL-001

My Notes

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