



Korean Ladder Study Note

수능 날

Korea's High-Stakes College-Entrance-Exam Day

Level	Topic	Focus
B2 · Upper-Intermediate TOPIK 4	Culture Holidays	수능 날 Korea's High-Stakes College-Entrance-Exam Day

Study Links

Open this lesson on Korean Ladder

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

Watch the full video on YouTube

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Cfh7eYbhfxE>

Visit koreanladder.com for all free lessons

<https://www.koreanladder.com>

Core Idea

I saw a video saying planes stop landing during an English listening test in Korea. Is that actually real, or is the internet being dramatic again.

네, 실제로 그런 조치가 있어요. 수능 영어 듣기 평가 시간에는 소음을 줄이려고 항공기 이착륙도 조정돼요. In English, during the listening section, the country tries very hard to reduce noise.

수능은 대학수학능력시험의 줄임말이에요. It is Korea's national college scholastic ability test, and it strongly affects college admissions.

So 수능 is not just a test. It is like a national event.

Conversation Snapshot

Speaker	Korean	Meaning
Hana	오늘 수능이라 회사 출근 시간이 늦춰졌대요. —	They say work start times were delayed because today is the CSAT.



Speaker	Korean	Meaning
Junho	맞아요. 수험생들이 시험장에 늦지 않도록 배려하는 거예요. —	Right. It is consideration so test takers are not late to the exam site.
Hana	영어 듣기 평가 시간에는 주변도 조용해야겠네요. —	During the English listening test, the surroundings should be quiet too.
Junho	네. 그리고 수험생들에게는 수능 잘 보라고 엿이나 찹쌀떡을 주기도 해요. —	Yes. And people also give taffy or sticky rice cake, wishing test takers well on the CSAT.

Vocabulary & Useful Expressions

Word	Meaning	Example
수능 = 대학수학능력시험 suneung = daehak suhak neungryeok siheom	CSAT; Korea's college-entrance exam	수능은 대학수학능력시험의 줄임말이에요. It is Korea's national college scholastic ability test, and it strongly affects college admissions.
수능 날 suneung nal	CSAT day; college-entrance-exam day	So 수능 is not just a test. It is like a national event.
수능을 치르다 suneung-eul chireuda	to take the CSAT; to sit for the CSAT	수능은 보통 11월에 치러져요. 치르다는 here means to take or hold an exam. 수능을 치르다 is a very natural phrase.
수능을 치러요 suneung-eul chireoyo	take the CSAT	많은 학생들이 수능을 치러요. Is 치러요 more formal than just take a test.
수능을 보다 / 수능을 치르다 suneung-eul boda / suneung-eul chireuda	to take the CSAT / to sit for the CSAT	네. 시험을 보다 also means take a test, but 수능을 치르다 sounds more official and natural when talking about this national exam.
늦지 않도록 neutji antorok	so that someone is not late	수험생들이 늦지 않도록... I like that. It means so the test takers won't be late.
경찰의 도움을 받다 gyeongcharui doumeul batda	to receive help from the police	그리고 정말 늦을 것 같은 수험생은 경찰차나 오토바이 도움을 받는 경우도 있어요. In English, police sometimes help late test takers get to the exam site.
시험장 siheomjang	exam site; test venue	이 표현도 알아두세요. 시험장. 시험장은 test site or exam venue. 수능 날에는 시험장 주변 교통이 중요해요.



Grammar / Structure Notes

수능 = 대학수학능력시험

수능 = 대학수학능력시험 — CSAT; Korea's college-entrance exam

A huge annual exam taken mostly by high-school seniors

수능 날

수능 날 — CSAT day; college-entrance-exam day

날 means day

수능 날에는 사회 전체가 움직여요.

수능 날에는 사회 전체가 움직여요. — On CSAT day, the whole society adjusts.

A cultural frame, not just a vocabulary word

오늘은 수능 날이에요.

오늘 + 은 + 수능 + 날 + 이에요. — Today is CSAT day.

문장을 하나 볼게요. 오늘은 수능 날이에요. In English, it means, Today is CSAT day.

오늘은 수능 날이에요.

오늘 + 은 + 수능 + 날 + 이에요. — Today is CSAT day.

여기서 오늘은은 as for today, 수능 날은 CSAT day, 이에요는 is. 그래서 아주 기본적인 설명 문장이예요.

Pronunciation Loop

Phrase	How to practice
오늘은 수능 날이에요.	oneureun suneung narieyo
수능 잘 봐요.	suneung jal bwayo
수험생들이 늦지 않도록 출근 시간이 늦춰져요.	suheomsaengdeuri neutji antorok chulgeun sigani neutchewojyeoyo
늦지 않도록	neutji antorok
조정돼요	jojeongdwaeyo
비행기 이착륙도 조정돼요.	bihaenggi ichangnyukdo jojeongdwaeyo

Self-Check

- 1 Say 수능 날 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
어린이날 / 어버이날 / 스승의 날 Korea's May Family Holidays	B2 Culture: compare 어린이날 / 어버이날 / 스승의 날 with this lesson so the boundary becomes clearer.	Open lesson https://www.koreanladder.com/lesson.html?id=KOR-B2-CULTURE-HOL-001
광복절 / 개천절 / 한글날 Korea's Modern National Holidays	C1 Culture: compare 광복절 / 개천절 / 한글날 with this lesson so the boundary becomes clearer.	Open lesson https://www.koreanladder.com/lesson.html?id=KOR-C1-CULTURE-HOL-002
단오 / 한식 Korea's Quieter Traditional Holidays	A2 Culture: compare 단오 / 한식 with this lesson so the boundary becomes clearer.	Open lesson https://www.koreanladder.com/lesson.html?id=KOR-A2-CULTURE-HOL-004
빼빼로데이 / 화이트데이 / 밸런타인데이 Korea's Couple and Candy Days	A2 Culture: compare 빼빼로데이 / 화이트데이 / 밸런타인데이 with this lesson so the boundary becomes clearer.	Open lesson https://www.koreanladder.com/lesson.html?id=KOR-A2-CULTURE-HOL-002

My Notes

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