



Korean Ladder Study Note

# -더라도 / -(으)러더라도

Saying 'Even If' for Strong Concession

Level	Topic	Focus
C1 · Advanced TOPIK 5	Grammar Connectors	-더라도 / -(으)러더라도 Saying 'Even If' for Strong Concession

## Study Links

[Open this lesson on Korean Ladder](https://www.koreanladder.com/lesson.html?id=KOR-C1-GRAM-CON-001)

<https://www.koreanladder.com/lesson.html?id=KOR-C1-GRAM-CON-001>

[Watch the full video on YouTube](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=M-DTBM_8xdA)

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=M-DTBM\\_8xdA](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=M-DTBM_8xdA)

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## Core Idea

Okay, real talk. I already know 비가 와도, 'even if it rains.' So why do Koreans also say 비가 오더라도? Aren't those the same?

좋은 질문이에요. They overlap, but they are not twins. 더라도 is stronger and more hypothetical — like 'even supposing it rains.'

So one's just 'even if,' and the other's 'even IF' with the volume turned up?

맞아요. And there's a more formal cousin too: -(으)러더라도. That one lives in speeches, essays, and arguments.

## Conversation Snapshot

Speaker	Korean	Meaning
Hana	내일 비 온대요. 행사 어떡하죠? —	They say it'll rain tomorrow. What about the event?



Speaker	Korean	Meaning
Junho	비가 오더라도 예정대로 진행해요. —	Even if it rains, we go ahead as planned.
Hana	사람이 적게 오더라도요? —	Even if few people come?
Junho	네, 무슨 일이 있더라도 합니다. —	Yes, no matter what, we do it.

## Vocabulary & Useful Expressions

Word	Meaning	Example
동사/형용사 + -더라도 -deorado	even if / even though (strong, hypothetical)	여기 핵심이에요. 더라도 marks a hypothetical contrast. In English, 'even if / even though,' but with a sense of 'no matter what.'
오다 → 오더라도 · 바쁘다 → 바쁘더라도 oda → odeorado	stem + 더라도, that's it	붙이는 법은 아주 간단해요. Just take the stem and add 더라도. 오다 → 오더라도. 바쁘다 → 바쁘더라도. 있다 → 있더라도.
가다 → 갈지라도 · 받다 → 받을지라도 gada → galjirado · batda → badeuljirado	even if (formal / literary)	이제 더 격식 있는 쪽이에요. -(으)르지라도. Vowel or 르 stem takes 르지라도; a consonant stem takes 을지라도.
아무리 + ~더라도 amuri ... deorado	no matter how ____	아무리 quietly pairs with 더라도 a lot — 'no matter how ____.' It's a very natural team.
실패할지라도 = a vow, not a text —	Register matters: -(으)르지라도 is formal/literary	느낌이 보이죠? 실패할지라도 sounds like a vow on a stage. In a text to a friend, it would be too heavy.
비가 와도 biga wado	even if it rains (neutral, everyday)	Let me make sure I've got it. The 비가 와도 version is just 'even if it rains,' nice and casual.
비가 오더라도 biga odeorado	even if it rains (stronger, hypothetical)	맞아요. And 비가 오더라도 adds 'even supposing it really did' — more emphasis, more hypothetical weight.
무슨 일이 있더라도 museun iri itdeorado	no matter what happens	So if I want to sound determined — 'even if the worst happens, I'm doing this' — 더라도 is my friend.



## Grammar / Structure Notes

### 동사/형용사 + -더라도

동사/형용사 + -더라도 — even if / even though (strong, hypothetical)

One form for verbs AND adjectives — no vowel harmony

### 오다 → 오더라도 · 바쁘다 → 바쁘더라도

오다 → 오더라도 · 바쁘다 → 바쁘더라도 — stem + 더라도, that's it

No 받침 split, no 아/어 choice

### 가다 → 갈지라도 · 받다 → 받을지라도

가다 → 갈지라도 · 받다 → 받을지라도 — even if (formal / literary)

Speeches, editorials, written argument

### 비가 오더라도 경기는 열립니다.

비 + 가 + 오 + 더라도 + 경기 + 는 + 열립니다 + . — Even if it rains, the game will be held.

들어 보세요. 비가 오더라도 경기는 열립니다. Even if it rains, the game will still be held.

### 아무리 바쁘더라도 식사는 해야 해요.

아무리 + 바쁘 + 더라도 + 식사 + 는 + 해야 해요 + . — No matter how busy you are, you must eat.

또 하나요. 아무리 바쁘더라도 식사는 해야 해요. No matter how busy you are, you have to eat.

## Pronunciation Loop

Phrase	How to practice
무슨 이리 일떠라도	museun iri itdeorado
무슨 일이 있더라도	museun iri itdeorado
실패할찌라도	silpaehaljirado

## Self-Check

- 1 Say -더라도 / -(으)르더라도 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
는데 / Setting Up Background and Soft Contrast	B1 Grammar: compare 는데 / with this lesson so the boundary becomes clearer.	Open lesson <a href="https://www.koreanladder.com/lesson.html?id=KOR-B1-GRAM-CON-001">https://www.koreanladder.com/lesson.html?id=KOR-B1-GRAM-CON-001</a>
아서 / 어서 Saying 'Because' and 'And Then'	A2 Grammar: compare 아서 / 어서 with this lesson so the boundary becomes clearer.	Open lesson <a href="https://www.koreanladder.com/lesson.html?id=KOR-A2-GRAM-CON-001">https://www.koreanladder.com/lesson.html?id=KOR-A2-GRAM-CON-001</a>
(으)ㄹ 거예요 The Korean Future Tense and Plans	A2 Grammar: compare (으)ㄹ 거예요 with this lesson so the boundary becomes clearer.	Open lesson <a href="https://www.koreanladder.com/lesson.html?id=KOR-A2-GRAM-TNS-002">https://www.koreanladder.com/lesson.html?id=KOR-A2-GRAM-TNS-002</a>
고 싶어요 Saying What You Want to Do	A2 Grammar: compare 고 싶어요 with this lesson so the boundary becomes clearer.	Open lesson <a href="https://www.koreanladder.com/lesson.html?id=KOR-A2-GRAM-END-001">https://www.koreanladder.com/lesson.html?id=KOR-A2-GRAM-END-001</a>

## My Notes

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