Korean for Beginners

Practical Learning with SynapseLingo

Tobias Hartmann

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Author: Tobias Hartmann

Contributor: Synapse Lingo AI Tools (human-supervised)

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- Interactive exercises
- Additional vocabulary practice
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Lesson 1: Learn “have”in Korean: 있다 (itda) vs 가지다 (gajida)

Learn how to express ’have’ in Korean using 있다 *(itda) and* 가지다 *(gajida) in natural contexts. Practice with short examples, drills, and a light dialogue featuring lines like* 시간 있어요*? (sigan isseoyo?). A quick quiz and final challenge help you choose the right verb and reinforce possession patterns.*

Welcome to SynapseLingo

Hey you! Ready to laugh, learn, and finally feel comfy with how to say “have”in Korean? Let’s go!

- This episode is brought to you by SynapseLingo – your friendly language sidekick. For more goodies, visit www.synapse-lingo.com.
- First, breathe in confidence...and breathe out doubt. Now say hello in Korean: 안녕하세요 (annyeonghaseyo).
- Today’s mission: master “have”across English and Korean with 있다 (itda) and 가지다 (gajida) – and have some fun doing it!

Your goal today

You'll match each English form to its most natural Korean partner, nice and easy.

- have → 있다 (itda) (exist/there is/possess), also 가지다 (gajida) (to possess/hold).
- I have → 나는가지고있다 (naneun gajigo itda) (informal plain); also natural: "I have time"= 저는시간이있어요 (jeoneun sigani isseoyo).
- you have (singular) → pattern: 너는가지고있다 (neoneun gajigo itda) or simply "[thing] 있어 (isseo)."
- he has → 그는가지고있다 (geuneun gajigo itda).
- she has → base verb: 있다 (itda). Example: "She has time"= 그녀는시간이있다 (geunyeoneun sigani itda).
- it has → 있다 (itda). Example: "It has a tail"= 그것은꼬리가있다 (geugeoseun kkoriga itda).
- we have → 우리는가지고있다 (urineun gajigo itda).
- you have (plural) → pattern: 너희는있다 (neohuineun itda) or 너희는가지고있다 (neohuineun gajigo itda).
- they have → 그들은가지고있다 (geudeureun gajigo itda).

Forms with a smile

Say the English out loud, then I'll give you a playful Korean line.

- I have – "I have an idea!"→ 나는아이디어를가지고있다 (naneun aidieoreul gajigo itda).
- you have (singular) – "You have my book."→ 너는내책을가지고있어 (neoneun nae chaegeul gajigo isseo).
- he has – "He has time today."→ 그는오늘시간을가지고있다 (geuneun oneul siganeul gajigo itda).
- she has – "She has talent."→ 그녀에게재능이있다 (geunyeoege jaeneungi itda).
- it has – "It has many options."→ 그것은선택지가많이있다 (geugeoseun seontaekjiga mani itda).
- we have – "We have a plan."→ 우리는계획을가지고있다 (urineun gyehoeg-eul gajigo itda).
- you have (plural) – "You have the tickets already."→ 너희는이미표가있다 (neohuineun imi pyoga itda).
- they have – "They have the keys."→ 그들은열쇠를가지고있다 (geudeureun yeolsoe-reul gajigo itda).

Funny dialogue

Listen in and shadow the bold parts – then try it yourself.

- A: Do you have time? → 시간있어요? (sigan isseoyo?)
- B: I have time! → 저는시간있어요! (jeoneun sigan isseoyo!)
- A: Great. We have a plan. → 우리는계획을가지고있어요 (urineun gyehoeg-eul gajigo isseoyo).

- B: And he has snacks, right? → 그리고그는간식가지고있죠? (geurigo geuneun gansik gajigo ittjo?)
- A: He has...crumbs. → 그는...부스러기만있어요 (geuneun...buseureogiman isseoyo).
- Narrator: Don't worry – she has backup snacks. → 걱정마요 – 그녀는간식이있어요 (geokjeong mayo – geunyeoneun gansigi isseoyo).

Quick drills

Echo the Korean after the beep – own the rhythm!

- have → 있다 (itda). Beep!
- I have → 나는가지고있다 (naneun gajigo itda). Beep!
- you have (singular) → 너는가지고있다 (neoneun gajigo itda). Beep!
- he has → 그는가지고있다 (geuneun gajigo itda). Beep!
- she has → 그녀는있다 (geunyeoneun itda). Beep!
- it has → 그것은있다 (geugeoseun itda). Beep!
- we have → 우리는가지고있다 (urineun gajigo itda). Beep!
- you have (plural) → 너희는있다 (neohuineun itda). Beep!
- they have → 그들은가지고있다 (geudeureun gajigo itda). Beep!

Culture tip

Here's how to sound natural like a K-drama lead.

Korean often uses 있다 (itda) for possession by making the thing the subject: "I have time"→ literally "time exists (for me)"= 시간있어요 (sigan isseoyo). Use 가지다 (gajida) to emphasize 'to possess/hold,'like 우리는계획을가지고있다 (urineun gyehoeg-eul gajigo itda). For negatives, flip to 없다 (eopda): "I don't have time"= 시간없어요 (sigan eopseoyo).

Pop quiz time

Answer first, then I'll reveal it after a pause.

- Q1) English → Korean: "we have"(plain). A: 우리는 가지고있다 (urineun gajigo itda).
- Q2) Fill the blank: "she has time"= 그녀는시간이 - – - – . A: 있다 (itda).
- Q3) Which verb means "have/exist"? A: 있다 (itda).
- Q4) Translate: "they have the tickets."A: 그들은표를 가지고있다 (geudeureun pyoreul gajigo itda).
- Q5) Say "you have (plural) the time today"in a plain, simple pattern. A: 너희는오늘시간있다 (neohuineun oneul sigan itda).

Final challenge

Your turn – build mini-lines using every form. You've got this!

- Say each aloud in order, then swap the noun: have; I have; you have; he has; she has; it has; we have; you have (plural); they have.
- Now plug in real items: book, plan, time, snacks, keys. Example: "I have a book"→ 나는책을가지고 있다 (naneun chaegeul gajigo itda).
- Bonus: Ask a friend politely, "Do you have time?"→ 시간있어요? (sigan isseoyo?) Then answer for practice: "Yes, I have"→ 네, 있어요 (ne, isseoyo).

Wrap-up and thanks

You did great – high five!

Thanks for learning with SynapseLingo. Keep practicing "have"with 있다 (itda) and 가지다 (gajida), and revisit each form: have, I have, you have, he has, she has, it has, we have, you have (plural), they have. For more fun lessons and resources, visit www.synapse-lingo.com. See you next time!

Lesson 2: Learn Korean: be = 이다 (ida) – I am, you are, is

Master the English to Korean copula: be = 이다 (ida). We'll map I am, you are, he is, she is, it is, we are, you are (plural), and they are to natural Korean with bite-size drills, jokes, and K-drama vibes. Perfect for English speakers learning Korean: key words include be, copula, 이다 (ida), 우리는 \textasciitilde 이다 (urineun \textasciitildeida), and polite forms like 입니다 (imnida). Build identity sentences you can use today – fast, fun, and memorable.

Welcome to SynapseLingo

Hey you, great to have you here! Ready to make English 'be'equal Korean 이다 (ida) with laughs and quick wins?

This podcast is brought to you by SynapseLingo – your friendly language gym. Visit www.synapse-lingo.com for more resources, cheat sheets, and practice audio. Today we'll nail be = 이다 (ida) in real sentences. Deep breath, smile...let's go!

Your goal today

You'll confidently say the core identity patterns by the end of this episode.

- Our English targets: be, I am, you are, he is, she is, it is, we are, you are (plural), they are.
- Korean anchor = the copula: 이다 (ida). Think 'equals sign'.
- At a glance examples: I am a student → 나는학생이다 (naneun haksaeng-ida); you are a friend → 너는친구이다 (neoneun chingu-ida); he is a teacher → 그는선생님이다 (geuneun seonsaengnim-ida); she is a manager → 그녀는관리자이다 (geunyeoneun gwanrija-ida); it is a book → 이것은책이다 (igeoseun chaek-ida); we are a team → 우리는팀이다 (urineun tim-ida); you are (plural) students → 너희는학생이다 (neoheui-neun haksaeng-ida); they are doctors → 그들은의사이다 (geudeureun uisa-ida).

Form basics: the equals sign trick

Link A to B with confidence. If it's identity, use 이다 (ida).

- Be = 이다 (ida). Imagine drawing an equals sign between two nouns.
- I am = 'I student be'→ 나 는 학 생 이 다 (naneun haksaeng-ida).
- You are = 너는친구이다 (neoneun chingu-ida). He is = 그는리더이다 (geuneun rideo-ida). She is = 그녀는의사이다 (geunyeoneun uisa-ida).
- It is = 이것은책이다 (igeoseun chaek-ida). We are = 우리는팀이다 (urineun tim-ida).
- You are (plural) = 너 희 는 우 승 자 이 다 (neoheui-neun useungja-ida). They are = 그들은학생이다 (geudeureun haksaeng-ida).

- Pro tip: identity uses 이다 (ida); existence/location uses 있다 (itda). Different verbs, different vibes.

Funny dialogue: the Identity Office

Let's eavesdrop on a very official, very silly identity check.

- Clerk: Welcome! Please state your identity with confidence.
- You: I am a student! → 나는학생이다 (naneun haksaeng-ida).
- Friend: You are the leader! → 너는리더이다 (neoneun rideo-ida).
- Pointing at Minho: He is our teacher! → 그는우리선생님이다 (geuneun uri seonsaengnim-ida).
- Pointing at Jisu: She is the manager! → 그녀는관리자이다 (geunyeoneun gwanrija-ida).
- Holding a book: It is a book! → 이것은책이다 (igeoseun chaek-ida).
- Team chant: We are a team! → 우리는팀이다 (urineun tim-ida).
- Cheering at your group: You are (plural) amazing! → 너희는최고이다 (neoheui-neun choego-ida).
- Pointing to the new group: They are new students! → 그들은신입생이다 (geudeureun sinipseung-ida).
- Clerk: Approved. The equals sign is strong with this crew.

Call-and-response drill

Repeat after me – clear, confident, a little dramatic. Theater kid energy!

- I am a student. 나는학생이다 (naneun haksaeng-ida).
- You are a friend. 너는친구이다 (neoneun chingu-ida).
- He is a teacher. 그는선생님이다 (geuneun seonsaengnim-ida).
- She is a doctor. 그녀는의사이다 (geunyeoneun uisa-ida).
- It is my first day. 오늘은내첫날이다 (oneul-eun nae cheonnal-ida).
- We are classmates. 우리는반친구이다 (urineun banchingu-ida).
- You are (plural) winners. 너희는우승자이다 (neoheui-neun useungja-ida).
- They are volunteers. 그들은자원봉사자이다 (geudeureun jawonbongsaja-ida).

Quick quiz

You've got this. Answer aloud before I reveal it.

- Q1) Which Korean word is the copula for be? A) 이다 (ida).
- Q2) Say it is a pen. A) 펜이다 (pen-ida).

- Q3) Say you are (plural) champions. A) 너희는챔피언이다 (neoheui-neun chaempieon-ida).
- Q4) He is my friend – go! A) 그는내친구이다 (geuneun nae chingu-ida).
- Q5) We are a team. A) 우리는팀이다 (urineun tim-ida).

Culture tip and politeness

Sound natural in real life with polite forms used everywhere.

- Plain dictionary = 이다 (ida). Polite formal = 입니다 (imnida). Polite = (이) 예요 ((i)yeyo).
- Example: I am Min-su. Formal: 저는민수입니다 (jeoneun Minsu-imnida). Polite: 민수예요 (Minsu-yeyo).
- K-drama reveal energy often ends with \textasciitilde 이다! (\textasciitildeida!) Big truth stamp.
- Reminder: identity uses 이다 (ida); existence/location uses 있다 (itda). Different verb, different meaning.

Speed challenge

Thirty seconds of fame – hit all nine English targets with Korean power!

- Say be → 이다 (ida).
- Say I am a student → 나는학생이다 (naneun haksaeng-ida).

- Say you are a friend (singular) → 너는친구이다 (neoneun chingu-ida).
- Say he is a leader → 그는리더이다 (geuneun rideo-ida).
- Say she is a manager → 그녀는관리자이다 (geun-yeoneun gwanrija-ida).
- Say it is a book → 이것은책이다 (igeoseun chaek-ida).
- Say we are a team → 우리는팀이다 (urineun tim-ida).
- Say you are (plural) students → 너희는학생이다 (neoheui-neun haksaeng-ida).
- Say they are doctors → 그들은의사이다 (geudeureun uisa-ida).
- Mic drop with a flourish: 정답이다! (jeongdab-ida!)

Wrap-up

You did great – every equals sign landed perfectly.

Thanks for learning with SynapseLingo! Keep practicing be = 이다 (ida) with quick daily sentences, and visit www.synapse-lingo.com for more lessons, printables, and audio drills. You are unstoppable – 너는최고이다 (neoneun choego-ida)! See you next time.

Lesson 3: Learn ’go’ 가다 (gada) \ ’it works’ 되다 (doeda) – English to Korean

Build your English – Korean skills with a lively, talk-aloud lesson on the verbs "go"and "it works." You'll map "go"to 가다 *(gada) and "it works"to* 되다 *(doeda), then practice natural lines for different subjects. Ideal for beginners who want clear patterns and K-drama-ready phrases.*

Welcome from SynapseLingo

Hey you, great to have you here! This episode is brought to you by SynapseLingo – grab more tools at www.synapse-lingo.com.

Today we'll master the feel-good combo: "go" 가다 (gada) and "it works" 되다 (doeda). Expect laughs, call-and-response, and quick wins you can use right away.

Your goal today

You'll speak seven everyday ideas with confidence. Say them out loud with me for fast muscle memory!

- go → 가다 (gada)
- you go → try: 너는간다 (neoneun ganda) (plain) or polite 가요 (gayo)