

## Lesson 2:

# Korean Numbers

## Before This Lesson

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1. Review hangul.
2. Practice writing or typing the phrases you learned in the last lesson.

## Lesson Goals

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1. Learn the two types of Korean counting systems.

## From The Teachers

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1. It will take some effort to learn the two counting systems. Don't worry too much if you are slow to memorize them. The first 10 numbers of both systems are most important.

These systems are repeated in several lessons throughout the book so eventually you will memorize them.



# 2

## Lesson Highlights

2-7.  
Differences between the Korean and Chinese number systems

2-12.  
100 and above

## 2 Korean Number System 한국의 숫자

### □ 2-1. Different Korean Number Systems

Korean has two number systems. They are the “Korean numbers” and “Chinese numbers”. Each one has its specific uses that you will learn as we progress through the lessons.

The two systems are typically never mixed, with the exception of telling time.

You must know both systems to survive in Korea. Both systems will be taught in this lesson and reinforced in following lessons.

### □ 2-2. The singles 1-10 (Korean Number System)

The Korean numbers only go up to 99. Let's look at 1-10.

the singles (1-10)		
Number	Korean Number	Sounds Like
1	하나	
2	둘	
3	셋	센
4	넷	넌
5	다섯	다센
6	여섯	여센
7	일곱	
8	여덟	여덜
9	아홉	
10	열	

Some typical things that use the Korean numbers are: age, time (hours), and a variety of counters. We will learn these in later lessons. For now just learn how to count 1-10.

### □ 2-3. The teens (Korean Numbers)

The teens (11-19) are very easy. Just add 열 (10) in front of the single numbers 1-9.

the teens (11-19)		
Number	Korean Number	Sounds Like
11	열 하나	
12	열 둘	
13	열 셋	열 쉰
14	열 넷	열 닐
15	열 다섯	열 다 션
16	열 여섯	열 여 션
17	열 일곱	
18	열 여덟	열 여 덜
19	열 아홉	

### □ 2-4. The tens (Korean Numbers)

The Korean number system has unique words for the 10's.

the tens (20-90)	
Number	Korean Number
20	스물
30	서른
40	마흔
50	쉰
60	예순
70	일흔
80	여든
90	아흔

## □ 2-5. Combining the tens and singles to make 11-99 (Korean Numbers)

Now you know every word required to count from 1-99 with the Korean numbers. You can make all the other numbers simply by stringing them together.

For example if you want to make 22 you just say 20 then 2.

### Examples

22 is	스물 (20)	+	둘 (2)	=	스물둘
45 is	마흔 (40)	+	다섯 (5)	=	마흔다섯
76 is	일흔 (70)	+	여섯 (6)	=	일흔여섯
99 is	아흔 (90)	+	아홉 (9)	=	아흔아홉

tens + singles 21-29	
Number	Korean Number
21	스물하나
22	스물둘
23	스물셋
24	스물넷
25	스물다섯
26	스물여섯
27	스물일곱
28	스물여덟
29	스물아홉

## □ 2-6. 100 and above (Korean Numbers)

The Korean counting system stops at 99. Above 99 you must jump to the “Chinese system” also called “Sino-Korean numbers”. All numbers 100 and above will be taught in section 9-11. Before you get there, let the first 99 absorb!

## 2 Chinese Number System 한국의 숫자

### □ 2-7. Differences between the Korean and Chinese numbers

The Chinese number system is completely unique from the Korean system. The Korean system stops at 99, but with the Chinese system, numbers from 1 to 1,000,000,000 and beyond can be made. Depending on the usage, one number system will be used over the other. We will discuss when each system is used as we learn counters and other Korean concepts in this book and other books in the series.

It's important to note that even though it's called the "Chinese" system, these numbers are considered part of the Korean language and not part of Chinese. In other texts you may see the Chinese numbers referred to as "Sino-Korean". "Sino" just means "Chinese". We feel that calling them "Chinese" is more comfortable.

### □ 2-8. The singles 1-10 (Chinese System)

Let's look at the first 10 numbers in the Chinese counting system.

the singles 1-9	
Number	Chinese Number
1	일
2	이
3	삼
4	사
5	오
6	육
7	칠
8	팔
9	구
10	십

### □ 2-9. The teens (Chinese Numbers)

The teens (11-19) are just as easy as the Korean system. Just add 십 (10) in front of the single numbers 1-9.

the teens 11-19		
Number	Korean Number	Sounds Like
11	십일	시빌
12	십이	시비
13	십삼	십쌈
14	십사	십싸
15	십오	시보
16	십육	심늑
17	십칠	
18	십팔	십팔
19	십구	십꾸

The 십 sound in this chart should sound like an abruptly ending "B" sound. It isn't as hard as a "P".

The 십 changes to the "M" sound 심.

NOTE! The word 씨팔 in Korean is the same as the "F" word in English. So don't put too much emphasis on the first ㅅ sound!

### □ 2-10. The tens (Chinese Numbers)

The Chinese number system doesn't have unique words for the 10's. Instead you simply say 2 in front of 10 to say 20. The pattern is very easy!

**Examples**

20 is 이 (2) + 십 (10) = 이십  
 40 is 사 (4) + 십 (10) = 사십

the tens (20-90)			
Number	Chinese Number	Number	Chinese Number
20	이십	60	육십
30	삼십	70	칠십
40	사십	80	팔십
50	오십	90	구십

## □ 2-11. Combining tens and singles for 11-99 (Chinese Numbers)

In order to make 11-99 you can just string the numbers together to create them.

### Examples

25 is	이 (2)	+	십 (10)	+	오 (5)	=	이십오 (25)
38 is	삼 (3)	+	십 (10)	+	팔 (8)	=	삼십팔 (38)
59 is	오 (5)	+	십 (10)	+	구 (9)	=	오십구 (59)
82 is	팔 (8)	+	십 (10)	+	이 (2)	=	팔십이 (82)

### tens + singles (21–29)

Number	Chinese Number
21	이십일
22	이십이
23	이십삼
24	이십사
25	이십오
26	이십육
27	이십칠
28	이십팔
29	이십구

## □ 2-12. 100 and above (Chinese Numbers)

It's not hard to do numbers above 100, but you shouldn't overwhelm yourself this early!

We will teach higher numbers in section 9-11. Right now you should focus on 1-99 in both number systems.

## 2 Workbook Area

### □ A2-1. Korean VS Chinese number practice

Look at the following numbers and try to say both versions. Write in the numbers as best as you can with the *hangul* you know. You can check your answers in the Answer Key in the back of the book.

1. 12

Korean: \_\_\_\_\_

Chinese: \_\_\_\_\_

2. 43

Korean: \_\_\_\_\_

Chinese: \_\_\_\_\_

3. 29

Korean: \_\_\_\_\_

Chinese: \_\_\_\_\_

4. 55

Korean: \_\_\_\_\_

Chinese: \_\_\_\_\_

5. 16

Korean: \_\_\_\_\_

Chinese: \_\_\_\_\_

6. 20

Korean: \_\_\_\_\_

Chinese: \_\_\_\_\_