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KLEAR/Integrated Korean Beginning 1 Textbook, 2nd Edition

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1과 인사

[Greetings]

Conversation 1 저는 스티브 월슨이에요.

(Students introduce themselves in a classroom.)

스티브: 안녕하세요?
저는 스티브 월슨이에요. G1.1
3학년이에요. G1.2

유미: 안녕하세요?
저는 김유미예요.
저는 G1.3 1학년이에요.

마이클: 마이클 정이에요.
저도 G1.3 1학년이에요.



스티브 월슨



김유미



마이클 정

NEW WORDS

NOUN		NUMBER	
1학년	freshman	일	① 1
2학년	sophomore	이	① 2
3학년	junior	삼	3
4학년	senior	사	4
과	lesson, chapter	ADJECTIVE	
대학생	college student	안녕하다(안녕하세요)	to be well (‘Hi’; ‘Hello’; ‘How are you?’)
미국	the United States	COPULA	
사람	person, people	이다 (이에요/예요)	to be (equation)
인사	greeting	PARTICLE	
학년	school year	도	also, too
학생	student	은/는	topic particle (‘as for’)
한국	Korea		
PRONOUN			
저 <i>hum.</i>	I (=나 <i>plain</i>)		

NEW EXPRESSIONS

1. 안녕하세요 is a greeting that asks about the other person’s well-being or good health. This expression can be used at any time of the day. The appropriate response would be a return greeting of 안녕하세요.

2. Reference to the speaker himself/herself (first person pronoun).

	I	As for me ...	I also ...
Plain form	나	나는	나도
Humble form	저	저는	저도

3. In English, the given name comes first, and the family name follows it, as in “Steve Wilson.” In Korean, however, as in many other Asian cultures, the family name comes first, and the given name follows it. In 저는 김유미예요, 김 is the family name, and 유미 is the given name.

4. Korean uses two sets of numbers, native Korean numbers and Sino-Korean numbers (G4.2). The following are basic Sino-Korean numbers:

0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
영/공	일	이	삼	사	오	육	칠	팔	구	십

Notes

1. Topic-comment structure

All the examples above have topic-comment structure. In Korean, topic-comment structure is the basic sentence type. Topic-comment structure is one of the fundamental ways of conveying ideas, where the speaker picks a person, an idea, or an object as the topic and contributes the subsequent statement(s) (=comments) in describing the selected item.

	Topic (N1은/는)	Comment (N2이에요/예요)
(i)	마이클은	대학생이에요.
(ii)	저는	김유미예요.
(iii)	-	2학년이에요.

The most typical use of topic-comment structure is in identifying statements such as the above examples, where equational expressions (N1 = N2) are used. In (i), for example, 마이클 'Michael' is the topic, and 대학생이에요 '... is a college student' is the comment. In (ii), 저 'I' is the topic, and 김유미예요 '... am Yumi Kim' is the comment. In (iii), the topic is omitted, because it is redundant from the preceding context (G1.2).

2. Equational expression: N1 = N2

An equational expression contains two nouns, where the first noun N1 is part of the topic, and the second noun N2 is part of the comment.

The topic particle 은/는 indicates that the attached noun is the topic described by the subsequent comment. 은 is used when the noun ends in a consonant as in 마이클은 in (i), whereas 는 is used when the noun ends in a vowel as in 저는 in (ii). When the topic contains more than one noun, the particle is attached to the last noun, as in 유미, 마이클, 스티브는 대학생이에요 'Yumi, Michael, and Steve are college students.'

The copula 이다 'to be (equation)' is attached to the second noun N2 to complete the comment structure. When N2 ends in a consonant, 이에요 (conjugated form of 이다) is used as in 대학생이에요, whereas the contracted form 예요 is used when N2 ends in a vowel as in 김유미예요.

Exercises

1. Fill in the blanks with 은 or 는.

- (1) 마이클_____ 학생이에요.
- (2) 수지('Susie')_____ 미국 사람이에요.

- (3) 유미_____ 한국 사람이에요.
 (4) 수잔('Susan')_____ 4학년이에요.
 (5) 저_____ 1학년이에요.

2. To the given nouns, add 이에요 or 예요.

- (1) 마이클: 저는 마이클이에요.
 (2) 소피아: _____
 (3) 수잔: _____
 (4) 제니('Jenny'): _____
 (5) 리사 ('Lisa'): _____

3. Formulate the following equational expressions in Korean.

- (1) Michael = freshman
마이클은 1학년이에요.
 (2) Yumi = Korean

 (3) Steve = junior

 (4) Sophia = college student

G1.2 Omission of redundant elements

Example

- | | | | |
|-----|------|------------------------------------|--|
| (1) | 스티브: | 안녕하세요?
저는 스티브 윌슨이에요.
3학년이에요. | How are [you]?
I am Steve Wilson.
[I] am a junior. |
| | 유미: | 안녕하세요?
김유미예요. | How are [you]?
[I] am Yumi Kim. |

Notes

1. In Korean, subjects/topics are often omitted when they are obvious, as can be seen in the above examples.

2. Omissions are not limited to subjects. Any element can be omitted as long as the context makes the referent clear. In the above examples, not only the reference to the speaker [I] but also to the listener [you] is omitted as in 안녕하세요.

Exercise

1. Introduce yourself with your name and your year in school, as specified. Avoid redundancy as much as you can.

- (1) [스티브, 3학년, 미국 사람]
 저는 스티브예요. 3학년이에요. 미국 사람이에요.
- (2) [김유미, 1학년, 한국 사람]

- (3) [your own information]

G1.3 Comparing items: 은/는 vs. 도

Examples

- (1) 김유미는 한국 사람이에요.
 스티브는 미국 사람이에요. [different]
- (2) 스티브: 안녕하세요?
 저는 3학년이에요.
 리사: 저도 3학년이에요. [parallel]

The particles 은/는 and 도 are used to compare two or more items:

- 은/는 The items are different or contrastive.
 도 The items are parallel.

Exercise

1. Fill in the blanks with the particles 은/는 or 도.

- (1) A: 마이클은 1학년이에요.
 B: 스티브는 3학년이에요.

- (2) A: 저는 4학년이에요.
B: 저_____ 4학년이에요.
- (3) A: 유미는 한국 사람이에요.
B: 제시카('Jessica')_____ 미국 사람이에요.
- (4) A: 유미는 한국 학생이에요.
B: 마이클_____ 한국 학생이에요.
- (5) A: 스티브는 3학년이에요.
B: 소피아_____ 2학년이에요.

CULTURE

1. Greetings with a bow

In Korea, bowing shows courtesy when you greet someone unless the other party is a junior. The degree of the bow depends on such factors as the degree of politeness, seniority, and social status. To show the highest degree of politeness, you bend your head and waist about 45°. Common courtesy to most people is shown by bending your head and waist about 15° with face downward. It is considered to be impolite to stare directly at someone (especially an older person) in Korea, while avoiding eye contact implies lack of respect or interest in Western culture.

In a very casual meeting with a person about your age, nodding your head would be enough.

Although bowing is the typical greeting in Korea, handshaking is also very common. Usually, a younger person bows first, going on to shake hands if the older person starts handshaking. The younger person often bows while shaking hands with one or both hands, unlike Western people. Most Koreans hold hands softly, not tightly. In other words, the limp handshake doesn't imply any negative impression to the other person.

