

LEVEL 4 LESSON 10

In this lesson, let us look at how to say "among" or "between" in Korean.

One expression you can use to say this in Korean is **중에서** [jung-e-seo]. And you can make it shorter by just saying **중에** [jung-e] without the last letter, 서 [seo].

중 [jung] can be written using a Chinese character (中) and it basically means "center" or "middle". So **중에서** literally means "in the middle".

Other words that have the letter "중 (中)" are:

중학교 = 중 (middle) + 학교 (school) = middle school

중식 = 중 (middle) + 식 (eat) = formal name for "lunch"

회의중 = 회의 (meeting, conference) + 중 (middle) = meeting in process

중에서 means "among" or "between" but it can only be used when you are listing a few options to choose from. You can NOT say **중에서** to describe a location and say something like "The house is located between the bank and the park." In that case, you need to use a different expression (which will be introduced later in this lesson).

Expression #1 - **중에서**

When you are choosing from a few options, you put **중에서** at the end of "A and B".

Ex)

Between A and B

= A하고 B **중에서** [A-ha-go B jung-e-seo]

Between this book and that book

= 이 책하고 저 책 **중에서** [i chaek-ha-go jeo chaek jung-e-seo]

Among these three things

= 이 세 개 **중에서** [i se gae jung-e-seo]

LEVEL 4 LESSON 10

Expression #2 - 사이에서

When you are saying "among" in the sense of "popular among friends" or "famous among teenagers", you use the expression, 사이에서 [sa-i-e-seo]. 사이 [sa-i] can refer to a relationship or the space between certain objects or people.

Ex)

He is popular among friends.

= 친구들 사이에서 인기가 많아요. [chin-gu-deul sa-i-e-seo in-gi-ga ma-na-yo.]

This singer is popular among Koreans.

= 이 가수는 한국인들 사이에서 인기가 많아요. [i ga-su-neun han-gu-gin-deul sa-i-e-seo in-gi-ga ma-na-yo.]

Expression #3 - 사이에

When you are referring to a physical space between two objects or two people, you can say "사이에".

Ex)

I am between the bank and the park.

= 은행하고 공원 사이에 있어요. [eun-haeng-ha-go gong-won sa-i-e i-sseo-yo.]

The pharmacy is between the school and the police station.

= 약국은 학교하고 경찰서 사이에 있어요. [yak-gu-geun hak-gyo-ha-go gyeong-chal-seo sa-i-e i-sseo-yo.]