

LEVEL 2 LESSON 13

Through our previous lesson, we've learned the topic marking particles, -이 and -가, the subject marking particles, -은 and -는, and the object marking particles, -을 and -를. In this lesson, we will be covering one more particle: -도 [-do].

-도 [-do] is used to represent the meaning of “also” and “too”.

In English, you generally add the expression “too”, “also”, or “as well” to the end of the sentence, but sometimes you can add it to the middle. However, in Korean, you always add the particle -도 [-do] after the noun.

I like it, too. / I think so, too. / I also saw it.

In these sentences, “too” and “also” were used to modify a lot of different things. In the last sentence, the word “also” is modifying “I”, and if you translate it literally to Korean, it becomes “저도 봤어요.”. You are adding “-도” right after “저” which means “I” in Korean, which modifies “I” just as in the English sentence.

When the particle -도 needs to be attached to a noun or a pronoun that already has a particle behind it, -도 can replace the particle.

Examples

- I am a student. = 저는 학생이에요. [jeo-neun hak-saeng-i-e-yo.]

- I am a student, too. = 저도 학생이에요. [jeo-do hak-saeng-i-e-yo.]

* Note that it's NOT “저는도 학생이에요.”

- Do you work today? = 오늘 일해요? [o-neul i-rae-yo?]

- Do you work today as well? = 오늘도 일해요? [o-neul-do i-rae-yo?]

- Do you work tomorrow, too? = 내일도 일해요? [nae-il-do i-rae-yo?]

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어제 일 안 했어요. [eo-je il an hae-sseo-yo.] = Yesterday, I didn't work.

오늘은 일해요. [o-neu-reun i-rae-yo.] = As for today, I do work.

어제 일 했어요. [eo-je il hae-sseo-yo.] = I worked yesterday.

오늘도 일해요. [o-neul-do i-rae-yo.] = I work today as well.

- I brought this. = 이것 가져왔어요. [i-geot ga-jyeo-wa-sseo-yo.]

- I brought this, too. = 이것도 가져왔어요. [i-geot-do ga-jyeo-wa-sseo-yo.]

Depending on the location of the particle -도, the meaning of the entire sentence can change.

Examples

“Please give me water.” is 물 주세요. [mul ju-se-yo.] in Korean.

Now let's say you want to say “Give that water to me, as well, not just to other people” then you can say, 저도 물 주세요. [jeo-do mul-ju-se-yo.]

“Please give some water to me, too.” = 저도 물 주세요.

If you want to say “Give me not only other things, but water as well,” then you can say, 저 물도 주세요. [jeo mul-do ju-se-yo.]

“Please also give some water to me.” = 저 물도 주세요.

In this lesson, we've looked at how to use -도 with nouns and pronouns, but what if you want to say “also” or “too” about verbs? Stay tuned because we'll be covering that in our next lesson!