

LEVEL 3 LESSON 7

In this lesson, we are going to look at another verb ending that you can use to connect two or more verbs in one sentence. We learned the verb ending -고 [-go] in one of our previous lessons; -고 [-go] is used to connect independent actions and states together in one sentence, but they do not necessarily have a strong logical relation to each other.

On the other hand, the verb ending we are looking at in this lesson, **-아/어/여+서**, is a verb ending that can show logical relation between the verbs.

Do you remember these two conjunctions- 그리고 and 그래서 (from Level 2 Lesson 3)?

그리고 [geu-ri-go] means "and," and 그래서 [geu-rae-seo] means "therefore/so".

The verb ending -고 [-go] has the same meaning as 그리고 [geu-ri-go], and the verb ending -아/어/여+서 has a similar meaning as 그래서 [geu-rae-seo].

Let's look at the construction and usages of **-아/어/여+서** in more detail.

Construction

먹다 [meok-da] = to eat

먹 (verb stem) + 어서 = **먹어서**

만들다 [man-deul-da] = to make

만들 (verb stem) + 어서 = **만들어서**

하다 [ha-da] = to do

하 (verb stem) + 여서 = **해서**

LEVEL 3 LESSON 7

오다 [o-da] = to come

오 (verb stem) + 아서 = **와서**

Usages

1. Reason + -아/어/여서 + result
2. An action + -아/어/여서 + another action that takes place after the first action
3. An action + -아/어/여서 + the purpose of or the plan after the action
4. Some fixed expressions

Examples for usages

Usage 1

Reason + -아/어/여서 + result

Example:

비가 오다 (it rains) + 못 가다 (can't go)

--> 비가 와서 못 가요. [bi-ga wa-seo mot ga-yo.] = It rains, so I can't go.

--> 비가 와서 못 갔어요. [bi-ga wa-seo mot ga-sseo-yo.] = It rained, so I couldn't go.

** Note that the tense was expressed only through the last verb.

오늘은 바빠요. (Today, I'm busy.) + 영화를 못 봐요. (I can't see the movie.)

--> 오늘은 바빠서 영화를 못 봐요. [o-neu-reun ba-ppa-seo yeong-hwa-reul mot bwa-yo.]

= I'm busy today, so I can't watch the movie.

만나다 (to meet) + 반갑다 (to be glad to see someone)

LEVEL 3 LESSON 7

--> 만나서 반갑습니다. [man-na-seo ban-gap-seum-ni-da]

= I meet you so I'm glad. = It's nice to meet you.

--> 만나서 반가워요. [man-na-seo ban-ga-wo-yo]

= I'm glad to meet you. (Less formal than the sentence above)

Usage 2

An action + -아/어/여서 + another action that takes place after the first action

공원에 가다 (to go to the park) + 책을 읽다 (to read a book)

--> 공원에 가서 책을 읽을 거예요. [gong-wo-ne ga-seo chae-geul il-geul geo-ye-yo.]

= I'm going to go to the park and read a book.

** Note: This does NOT mean "I'm going to the park, so I'm going to read a book."

** Also note that the tense is expressed through the last verb here as well.

친구를 만나다 (to meet a friend) + 밥을 먹다 (to eat)

--> 친구를 만나서 밥을 먹었어요. [chin-gu-reul man-na-seo ba-beul meo-geo-sseo-yo.]

= I met a friend and ate together.

** Note that here, this sentence COULD mean that you met a friend so you ate together, but in most cases, it will mean that you met a friend AND THEN ate together after that.

--> 친구를 만나서 밥을 먹을 거예요. [chin-gu-reul man-na-seo ba-beul meo-geul geo-ye-yo.]

= I'm going to meet a friend and eat together.

Usage 3

An action + -아/어/여서 + the purpose of or the plan after the action

LEVEL 3 LESSON 7

돈을 모으다 (to save up, to save money) + 뭐 하다 (to do what)

--> 돈을 모아서 뭐 할 거예요? (do-neul mo-a-seo mwo hal geo-ye-yo?) = What are you going to do with the money you save up? (lit. You save up money and what will you do?)

케익을 사다 (to buy a cake) + 친구한테 주다 (to give to a friend)

--> 케익을 사서 친구한테 줄 거예요. [ke-i-geul sa-seo chin-gu-han-te jul geo-ye-yo.]

= I'm going to buy a cake to/and give it to a friend.

Usage 4

Fixed expressions

There are some fixed expressions that basically use the same -아/어/여서 structure in them but are not often used in other forms.

-에 따라서 [-e tta-ra-seo] = according to ~

Ex) 계획에 따라서 진행하겠습니다 [gye-hoe-ge tta-ra-seo jin-haeng-ha-ge-sseum-ni-da.]

= I'll proceed according to the plan.

예를 들어서 [ye-reul deu-reo-seo] = for example

Ex) 예를 들어서, 이렇게 할 수 있어요. [ye-reul deu-reo-seo, i-reo-ke hal su i-sseo-yo.]

= For example, you can do it like this.

LEVEL 3 LESSON 7

Sample sentences

1. 한국에 가서 뭐 할 거예요? [han-gu-ge ga-seo mwo hal geo-ye-yo?]

= After you go to Korea, what are you going to do?

2. 서울에 와서 좋아요. [seo-u-re wa-seo jo-a-yo.]

= Since I came to Seoul, I'm glad.

= I'm glad to have come to Seoul.

3. 술을 너무 많이 마셔서 머리가 아파요.

[su-reul neo-mu ma-ni ma-syeo-seo meo-ri-ga a-pa-yo.]

= I drank too much so my head is aching.

4. 비가 와서 집에 있었어요. [bi-ga wa-seo ji-be i-sseo-sseo-yo.]

= It rained so I stayed at home.

5. 요즘에 바빠서 친구들을 못 만나요.

[yo-jeu-me ba-ppa-seo chin-gu-deu-reul mot man-na-yo.]

= These days I'm busy so I can't meet my friends.

6. 열심히 공부해서 장학금을 받을 거예요.

[yeol-sim-hi gong-bu-hae-seo jang-hak-geu-meul ba-deul geo-ye-yo.]

= I'm going to study hard so I can get/and I will get a scholarship.

7. 한국어가 너무 재미있어서 매일 공부하고 있어요.

[han-gu-geo-ga neo-mu jae-mi-i-sseo-seo mae-il gong-bu-ha-go i-sseo-yo.]

= Korean is so much fun that I'm studying it everyday.