

LEVEL 4 LESSON 14

In this lesson, we are looking at some words that express **frequency**. It is important to practice using them along with the verbs that you will actually use those frequency words with.

Frequency words in Korean

- 가끔 [ga-kkeum] = sometimes
- 자주 [ja-ju] = often

- 항상 [hang-sang] = always [more common in written language]
- 맨날 [maen-nal] = (lit. everyday,) always, all the time [more common in spoken language]

- 별로 [byeol-lo] = seldom, rarely
- 전혀 [jeon-hyeo] = not at all
- 거의 [geo-ui] = almost not at all

Where do they go inside a sentence?

These frequency words usually go right before the verb of a sentence but the position is very flexible. As long as the meaning of your sentence is clear, it doesn't matter where they are placed. You can, however, emphasize a certain part of a sentence by changing the word order and intonation.

Examples

1. 가끔 서점에 가요.

[ga-kkeum seo-jeo-me ga-yo.]

= I go to the bookstore sometimes.

= 서점에 가끔 가요.

2. 한국 영화 자주 봐요.

[han-guk yeong-hwa ja-ju bwa-yo.]

= I watch Korean movies often.

= 자주 한국 영화 봐요.

LEVEL 4 LESSON 14

3. 항상 물어보고 싶었어요.

[hang-sang mu-reo-bo-go si-peo-sseo-yo.]

= I've always wanted to ask you.

4. 중국어를 맨날 공부하는데, 아직 어려워요.

[jung-gu-geo-reul maen-nal gong-bu-ha-neun-de, a-jik eo-ryeo-wo-yo.]

= I study Chinese all the time, but it's still difficult.

5. 요즘에는 운동을 별로 안 해요.

[yo-jeu-me-neun un-dong-eul byeol-lo an hae-yo.]

= I rarely work out these days.

= These days, I seldom work out.

= These days, I don't work out that often.

6. 시간이 없어서, 친구들을 거의 못 만나요.

[si-ga-ni eop-seo-seo, chin-gu-deu-reul geo-ui mot man-na-yo.]

= I don't have time, so I can hardly meet my friends.