

LEVEL 4 LESSON 27

In this lesson, we are going to learn how to say "I think that ..." or "it seems to me that ..." in Korean.

The verb for "to think" is **생각하다** [saeng-gak-ha-da] but it is not very commonly used for contexts where you would want to say "I think" in Korean. This is because many Korean people think that saying **"I think that ..."** is too direct. Instead, they like to say **"it seems that ..."** using the following expression:

... 것 + 같다

같다 [gat-da] on its own means "to be the same" but when it is used with other nouns, it means "it is like ..."

Examples:

학생 같아요. [hak-saeng ga-ta-yo.] = You are like a student. / You look like a student.

저 사람 한국 사람 같아요. [han-guk sa-ram ga-ta-yo.] = He looks like a Korean person. / He is like a Korean.

Now back to how to say "I think that ..." in Korean.

So we looked at how to say that something seems like a "noun". In order to say "I think that ...", what you need to do is know how to say that "something seems like" plus a "sentence".

Remember how to make noun groups for various tenses?

Past tense: -(으)ㄴ 것

Present tense: -는 것

Future tense: -(으)ㄹ 것

After that, you just add 같다.

Past tense: -(으)ㄴ 것 같다

Present tense: -는 것 같다

Future tense: -(으)ㄹ 것 같다

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Examples:

**하다 = to do

Past tense: 한 것 같다

Present tense: 하는 것 같다

Future tense: 할 것 같다

벌써 한 것 같아요. [beol-sseo han geot ga-ta-yo.] = I think (they/he/she/I/you) already did it.

지금 하는 것 같아요. [ji-geum ha-neun geot ga-ta-yo.] = I think (someone) does/is doing it now.

내일 할 것 같아요. [nae-il hal geot ga-ta-yo.] = I think (someone) will do it tomorrow.

Sample sentences:

1. 내일 비 올 것 같아요. [nae-il bi ol geot ga-ta-yo.]

= I think it will rain tomorrow.

2. 이게 더 좋은 것 같아요. [i-ge deo jo-eun geot ga-ta-yo.]

= I think this is better.

3. 이거 뭐인 것 같아요? [i-geo mwo-in geot ga-ta-yo?]

= What do you think this is?

4. 누가 한 것 같아요? [nu-ga han geot ga-ta-yo?]

= Who do you think did it?

5. 곧 도착할 것 같아요. [got do-chak-hal geot ga-ta-yo.]

= I think I'll arrive soon.

While making sentences and hearing other people talk, you will realize that these are all of the ways to express "I think" in Korean. But don't worry. We will look at some other ways of saying "I think" in our future lessons. Until then, practice how to use this - 것 같다 form!