

6

?

IN THIS UNIT ...

- This, that (*near you*) and that (*far from both of us*)
- Using counters (or unit noun)
- Counting in Korean (2)
- Asking/telling prices of things




HOW MUCH ARE THESE?

Having learnt the names of a few goods, Pure Korean numbers, and ways of asking availability in a shop, we might venture into buying things using Korean at a local shop. (If you're outside Korea, you may try a Korean grocery shop.) For this task, let's study how to ask for prices, including how to use demonstratives, Sino-Korean numbers and counters.

1 Conversation

Kylie Walker has just walked into a small corner shop in Seoul. She's talking with the shop owner.

:		?	
:		.	
:	?		?
:	,
:	,	...	?
:		.	
:		?	
:	.		.
:		.	
:



Translation	
Kylie:	What's this?
Shop owner:	It's Si-kye.
Kylie:	Si-kye? Is it a fruit juice?
Shop owner:	No, it's ... a Korean traditional drink.
Kylie:	Oh, I see. ... How much are these oranges?
Shop owner:	One thousand won each.
Kylie:	Do they taste nice?
Shop owner:	Of course. They taste very nice.
Kylie:	Can I have five of them please?
Shop owner:	Sure. ... That's five thousand won, please.

Notes for Conversation

- (ju-in): *owner*
- (i-geo): *this (thing)*
- (Si-kye): Note the pronunciation. The () in and the following () are not pronounced as separate sounds but are pronounced as a 'single' consonant – a heavily aspirated *k*. See Page 23 for more explanations.
- ? (Si-kye-yo): *Did you say 'Si-kye'?*
When you want to make sure that what you

think you heard, eg a word, is right, repeat the word and add - (or - if the word ends in a consonant) with a rising intonation.

- (jeon-tong): *tradition, traditional*
- (eum-nyo-su): As explained on Page 27, the () in is pronounced as *n*, not *r*.
- , . (a, ne): This expression indicates that you *now* understand what has been said. Similar to “*Oh, I see.*”
- ? (eol-ma-ye-yo): *How much is it/are they?*
- (han gae-e): *per item*. - is a counter for *things (in general)*, similar in function to *item* in, eg *an item of furniture*. Thus, means *an item*. The Pure Korean numbers , , , and becomes , , , and when used before counters (see below).
- . (cheo nwo-ni-e-yo): *It's/they're one thousand won*. is the Korean currency.
- . (geu-reom-yo): *Of course!*
- (da-seot gae-man): *only five (of them)*

2 What's this/that?

Korean has two ways of saying *that*: one for things far from the speaker but near the hearer, geu-, and one for things far from both the speaker and the hearer, jeo-.

-	this ...	this thing/object
-	thing, object	that thing/object (near you)
-	that ... (near you)	that thing/object (over there)
-	that ... (over there)	? What is it?

EXAMPLES

Q:	?	What is it?
A:	.	It's beer.
Q:	?	What is this?
A:	() .	(That)/It is a pear. (ie near you)
Q:	?	What is <i>that</i> ? (ie near you)
A:	() .	(This)/It is Sujeonggwa.
Q:	?	What is <i>that</i> ? (ie over there)
A:	() .	(That)/It is Milk. (ie over there)

When answering to the question “*What's this?*”, you can say “*That's ...*” or “*It's ...*” in Korean, as you do in English. If you choose to say “*That's ...*”, then give an appropriate demonstrative; if you want to say “*It's ...*”, then don't give any demonstrative. As explained on Page 21, Korean sentences are complete without the subject and the English counterpart of the ‘missing’ subject is a pronoun, eg *it*.

3 How many ... are there?

Some useful words

book	photo
ball-point pen	dog
pencil	cat
chair	telephone
desk	mobile phone
door, gate	television
window	money

Language & Culture Notes

For *mobile/cell phones*, an interesting term, (haen-deu-pon: literally *hand phone*), is widely used in Korea in addition to (hyu-dae-pon).

Some counters and unit nouns

How many ...?	counter for <i>animals</i>
counter for <i>things in general</i>	counter for <i>paper</i>
bottle; also counter for <i>bottles</i>	box, container; also counter for <i>boxes/containers</i>
cup, glass; also counter for <i>cups/glasses</i>	counter for <i>books</i>
counter for <i>long/thin things</i>	human being, person; also counter for <i>human beings</i>
counter for <i>machines</i>	counter for <i>human beings</i>

Pronunciation & Language Notes

- is always used in conjunction with a counter or a unit noun, and functions as a question word: 'how many (items) of ...?' Note also that the syllable-final (hum250(beirounitcys)-250(as.445 Td[(')T

How many are there?

To ask this question we can say:

?

To name the things we're interested in we say:

NOUN **?**

To answer, substitute a Pure Korean number for .

PK .

NOTE: When adding a counter to Pure Korean numbers, we shorten the numbers 1, 2, 3 and 4 as follows.

	,	,	,	...		
becomes		thus	,	,	,	...
	,	,	,	...		
	,	,	,	...		
	,	,	,	...		

EXAMPLES

Q:	?	How many pears are there?
A:	.	There are three.
Q:	?	How many photos are there?
A:	.	There are four.
Q:	?	How many glasses of juice are there?
A:	.	There are two.
Q:	?	How many cats are there?
A:	.	There is one.



More counters and unit nouns

kilogram		won (Korean currency)
litre	/	dollar
metre		cent

NOTE: Counters of foreign origin are not used with Pure Korean numbers, but with Sino-Korean numbers, which we learn below. Note also that we use Sino-Korean numbers in counting money. See Page 37 for examples.

4 Sino-Korean Numbers

As mentioned earlier, Sino-Korean numbers are used for all larger numbers (recall that Pure Korean numbers exist only for 1 – 99), for reading off numerals, and for abstract counting such as mathematics, decimals, fractions, distances and money.

From zero to ten

	0
	1
	2
	3
	4
	5
	6
	7
	8
	9
	10

From ten to nineteen

	10
(si-bil)	11
(si-bi)	12
	13
	14
(si-bo)	15
(sim-nyuk)	16
	17
	18
	19

The other tens

	20
	30
	40
	50
	60
	70
	80
	90

Pronunciation and Language Notes

- For numbers from 11 to 19, you simply say *ten-one*, *ten-two*, *ten-three*, etc. The same applies to numbers from 21 to 99.
- For numbers in *tens*, ie, 20, 30, etc, you simply say *two-ten*, *three-ten*, etc. Counting larger numbers has the same story. For 200, 300, 2,000, 3,000, etc, you say *two-hundred*, *three-hundred*, *two-thousand*, *three-thousand*, etc.
- Note that 10,000 is expressed in *separate* term in Korean: (man). Thus, unlike in English, 20,000, 30,000, etc will be (two-man), (three-man), etc, and 200,000, 300,000, etc (twenty-man), (thirty-man), etc.
- can be prefixed with up to (cheon: 1,000). Thus, 2,000,000, 3,000,000, etc are (two-hundred-man), (three-hundred-man), etc, and 20,000,000, 30,000,000 (two-thousand-man), (three-thousand-man), etc.
- For 100,000,000, you use a different term, (eok), and prefix , and for even larger numbers.
- The numbers , , and are by themselves *ten*, *one hundred*, *one thousand*, and *one 'ten thousand'*. Thus, for 10, 100, 1,000 and 10,000, we don't need to prefix these numbers with (il: 1).
- A few examples for *liaison* (see Page 22) are in the list: (si-bil), (si-bi) and (si-bo).
- But the () in is pronounced as *unexploded p* (see Page 18) in (sip-sam), (sip-sa), (sip-chil), (sip-pal) and (sip-gu).
- Notice how (16) is pronounced: sim-nyuk. This is another example for an unchanged pronunciation from pre-modern Korean (see also Page 31), where the Sino-Korean *six* was pronounced as ryuk. With the assumed presence of an *r*, the sound rule applied here is: when the syllable-final *p*, *t*, or *k* is followed by an *r*, the syllable-final consonant becomes nasalised, ie it becomes *m*, *n*, or *ng*, and at the same time the *r* is pronounced as *n*.
- Finally, note the sound changes occurring in (100,000), (1,000,000), etc. See Page 30 for explanations.

Larger numbers

	100
(

5 How much is it/are they?

To ask the price of goods, we can say:

?

To name the goods we're talking about we say:

NOUN

?

To answer we say:

SK

NOTE: ₩ is Korean unit of currency. If the price is in dollars, we use (or \$) and if necessary \$ as well, and thus: SK ₩ (or SK \$) SK (It's/they're SK dollars and SK cents.)

EXAMPLES

Q:	?	How much is it/are they?
A:	.	It's/they're 10,000 won.
Q:	?	How much is this/are these?
A:	.	It's/they're 15,000 won.
Q:	?	How much is the green tea?
A:	.	It's 50,000 won.
Q:	?	How much is that chair (ie over there)?
A:	.	It's 150,000 won.

NOTE: We insert a space between the demonstrative (*this*), (*that (near you)*), or (*that (over there)*), and the following noun. Thus we write (*that chair over there*), not *that chair over there*. However, we omit the space when writing (*this thing/object*), (*that thing/object (near you)*), and (*that thing/object (over there)*).

Sometimes we hear people say when giving the price of things:

PK

SK