

# 17

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IN THIS UNIT ...

- Describing people and things
- Colours and clothing

## SHE LOOKS LIKE HER MOTHER.

In this unit we learn more about how to describe people and things, and also how to make comparisons.

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### 1 It seems/looks like ...

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## 2 Clothing and Accessories I

pants, slacks	glasses
jeans	wallet, purse
skirt	necklace
jacket	earrings
skirt	ring
business shirt	watch
T-shirt	underwear
(leather) shoes	socks
necktie	suit
hat, cap	Korean clothes

### LANGUAGE NOTES

- refers only to the Korean traditional upper outer garment
- ㅂ- is a Sino-Korean expression, meaning *blue*
- 목 = *neck*
- ㅊ derives from the verb ㅊ-, *to hang*, and thus means literally *a hanger*
- 속 = *inside*
- -복 = *set of clothes*

## 3 Clothing and Accessories II

sweater	gloves
jacket	shoes
/	sneakers
coat, overcoat	shorts
dress	underwear
one-piece dress	school uniform
two-piece dress	swimming suit
scarf	

### LANGUAGE NOTES

- When referring to a coat, you say either or (not ) in Korean • ㄹ

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#### 4 Action Verbs: Wearing Things, etc.

PUT ON ...		TAKE OFF ...
-	clothes	
-	hat, glasses	
-	footwear	-
-	necktie, scarf, necklace, earrings	

#### LANGUAGE NOTES: Korean Verbs of ‘wearing’

- It would be useful to know at this stage that for *ring* and *gloves*, you use - (*fit in/into*) in case of putting it on, and - (*take out*) in case of taking it off. Note also that with *watch* you use - (*attach, fasten on*) and <sup>1</sup>- (*take off*).
- All the verbs in the list indicate the process of ‘putting on’ or ‘taking off’ something, and thus you use them with the perfect tense marker - /- /··· if you want to say that someone is/is

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**LANGUAGE NOTES**

- and both mean *Which ...*, and are very close in meaning. We met in the context of ? (*Which country does he come from?*), and basically it asks the listener to designate one of a number of alternatives – equivalent to the English *Which one?*. On the other hand, , eg ?, seeks a descriptive answer – equivalent to *What type of ...?*.
- Verb stems ending in ㅎ ( ) are irregular. If you want to say something is black, white, red, etc, you ‘conjugate’ the verb as follows. (1) Drop the stem-final ㅎ, (2) change the vowel ㅏ to ㅓ, and (3) add . Thus, “*The trousers are black*” will be in Korean. Note also that when used as a modifier, (1) the stem-final ㅎ drop, and (2) ㄷ ( ) will be added. Thus, ‘*black trousers*’ will be .
- How do we use those colour terms ending in the expression (colour)? As modifier, they will simply be placed in front of the noun they modify. Elsewhere, they’ll be used with the verb - (is, are). Thus, ‘*a green hat*’ and “*The hat is green*” in Korean will be and , respectively.

**6 Some Description Verbs**

-	be young (animate, post adolescent)	-	big
-	be young (animate, pre-adolescent)	-	tall
-	be old (animate)	-	small
-	be old (inanimate)	-	short (in height)
-	resemble/take after (in appearance)	-	pretty
-	be handsome	-	beautiful
-	be ugly	-	short (in length)
-	old-fashioned, timeworn (inanimate)	-	long

**LANGUAGE NOTES**

• Note that some of the verbs above, chiefly related to processes involving growth and the ageing process, uniformly take the perfect tense marker / -/··· -. This is to indicate that we are describing the outcome of a process, rather than a state in itself.

**EXAMPLES**

·	He’s old.
·	The car’s old.
!	What a handsome (lit. well-shaped) child!

## 7 More Useful Expressions

-	try on clothes	-	(looking) refreshing
-	go around wearing	-	(looking) slim
-	put on make-up	-	(looking) young
	design	-	(looking) comfortable
	a pattern, figure	-	elegant

## 8 Making Comparisons: the Particle

When we want to compare things, eg A is better than B, we use **보다** as follows.

**A - B - ( ) .**

### EXAMPLES

Red is better than pink.
Skirts are prettier than trousers.
Seorak-san is more beautiful than Jiri-san.
Busan is bigger than Daegu.

## 9 More about Negatives

We've already met the negative adverb **안**, which precedes the verb stem. This has another form:

- **아니** = **안** + **니** (particle)
- **아니** = **아** + **니** (particle)
- **아니** = **아** + **니** (particle)
- **아니** = **아** + **니** (particle)

**VST** and **VST-아니** are almost identical in meaning, though the **VST-아니** construction is slightly more emphatic in effect.

## 10 It's rather ...

Likewise, when we want to be less forthright we can say

**... DVST - ( )ㄴ .**

NOTE: **ㄴ** = side, aspect

### EXAMPLES

Sydney is on the warm side.
This Gimchi's rather hot.
Ji-su's rather tall.
The baby looks more like her father (than her mother).

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## 11 IT SEEMS AS IF ...

### With Actions

When we are conjecturing about a state of affairs we can say

... AVST - ( ) <sub>└</sub> - .
( ) <sub>≡</sub>

NOTE: For completed actions, use AVST - ( )<sub>└</sub> ; for uncompleted actions, AVST -