

국적 (Nationalities)

In the previous lesson, we learnt about the equivalent of the verb “to be”. Today, we are going to practise it learning nationalities in the meantime.

1) Sentence pattern

Look at the following dialogue between Jisoo and Tatiana, and observe the sentence pattern:

-안녕하세요? 이름이 뭐예요? 저는 지수예요. 만나서 반가워요.

-안녕하세요? 만나서 반가워요. 저는 타티아나예요.

-타티아나씨, 어느 나라 사람이예요?

-저는 러시아 사람이예요. 지수씨는 한국 사람이예요?

-네, 맞아요.

-무슨 일 해요?

-저는 언론인이예요. 타티아나씨는?

-저는 화가예요.

-멋있어요!

-진짜요? 감사합니다. 다음에 또 봐요.

-네, 다음에 또 봐요.

VOCAB:

이름: name
 씨: Mr/Mrs/Ms
 나라: country
 사람: person
 한국: Sth Korea
 언론인: journalist
 화가: painter

VERBS:

만나다: to meet
 일하다: to work
 맞다: to be right/correct
 멋있다: to be great
 보다: to see

GRAMMAR:

아는 + noun: which?
 무슨: what kind?
 진짜: really
 다음: next
 또: again

Before we get to the meaning of the dialogue, we need to focus on the sentence pattern. Korean and English are structured very differently. In Korean, the verb comes last, and the order of a sentence usually follows this pattern: **SUBJECT + OBJECT + VERB** while in English it is SUBJECT + VERB

+ OBJECT → 저는 초콜릿을 좋아해요.

I love chocolate.

We also discovered in the previous lesson that Korean uses markers to indicate the role of a word in a sentence; and even though, a sentence always ends with the verb, markers make the order of the rest of the words more flexible as wherever you place them, we know what they represent, so there is no confusion regarding the meaning of the sentence → 다음에 또 봐요 (= see you next time): 에 is a

* When going to Korea, you will also probably hear 인 instead of 사람 to indicate the nationality of someone. They have the same meaning; the former is the formal version while the latter is more colloquial → 한국 사람 = 한국인

** Same goes for the word "language", people often use 어 but you may also replace it by 말 which is more informal → 한국어 = 한국말

 **연습 (Exercise): Read the following countries and guess how to say the nationality**

and language:

나라	국적	언어
-이탈리아	→	→
-뉴질랜드	→	→
-브라질	→	→
-중국	→	→
-터키	→	→

Translation of the dialogue:

-Hello, what's your name? I am Jisoo. Nice to meet you.

-Hello, nice to meet you. I am Tatiana

-Tatiana, which country are you from?

- I am Russian. Jisoo, are you Korean?

-Yes, that's correct.

-What is your job?

- I am a journalist, and you?

-I'm a painter.

-That's so cool!

-Really? Thank you. See you next time.

-Yes, see you next time.