

2 기다리지 말고 먼저 가세요.

DON'T WAIT FOR US – GO ON AHEAD

IN THIS UNIT ...

- More on negative expressions
- Issuing a mild complaint; hinting people to do what we want indirectly
- It looks like .../It seems that ...



In this Unit we continue to look at more functions in Korean, ie ways of using the language for a purpose. In particular, we learn how to tell people not to do what they have in mind, how to imply and other expressions relevant to the execution of these functions.

1 Conversation

선영 and Annie are meeting at a coffee shop at 4.00. They are going to have coffee there, and at 5.00 will be joined by 태우 and Kylie. At 5.15 all of them will go to a concert near-by. The time now is 3.50. Annie is already at the coffee shop, and her phone is ringing.

선영: 여보세요.

Annie: 네, 여보세요. 아, 선영씨?

선영: 네, 애니씨. 지금 어디예요?

Annie: 아 지금 여기 와 있어요. 집에서 조금 일찍 출발했거든요. 차가 밀릴 것 같아서.

선영: 저는 지금 대학교 앞 로타리인데요, 차가 꽉 막혀서, 아무리 빨리 가도 3, 40분쯤 더 걸릴 것 같아요. 미안하네요.

Annie: 아 그래요? 걱정 말고 천천히 오세요. 여기 커피숍에서 커피 마시면서 책을 읽고 있을게요.

선영: 미안해요, 애니씨

Annie: 괜찮아요.

The time is now 4.40. 선영 hasn't turned up yet, and Annie's phone is ringing again.

Annie: 여보세요.

선영: 애니씨, 선영인데요. 아직도 못 움직이고 있거든요. 앞에 아주 큰 사고가 난 모양이에요.

Annie: 아 그래요? 그럼, 어떻게 하지요?

선영: 애니씨, 태우씨하고 카일리씨도 곧 올 시간이지요? 두 사람이 오면 기다리지 말고 먼저 가세요. 나도 직접 갈게요.

Annie: 걱정하지 마요. 아직 시간 있어요. 태우씨하고 카일리씨가 오면 전화해 줄게요. 조심해서 와요.

선영: 고마워요, 애니씨. 그렇게 할게요.

Language Notes

- 여보세요.: “Hello”
- 지금 어디예요?: “Where are you now?”
- 와 있어요.: “I am already here.”
- 일찍: *early*
- 출발하-: *depart*
- 차 = 자동차: *car*
- 밀리-: *be jostled*
- 로타리: *roundabout*
- 짝: *completely*
- 막히-: *be blocked*
- 아무리 빨리 가도 ...: “No matter how fast I go ...”
- 3, 40분쯤: *about thirty to forty minutes*
- 걸릴 것 같아요.: “It would take ...”
- 걱정 말고 천천히 오세요.: “Don’t worry, and take your time”
- 커피 마시면서 책을 읽고 있을게요.: “I will read a book over a coffee”
- 아직도: *still*
- 움직이-: *move*
- VST - 고 있-: “is doing ...”
- 아주: *very much*
- 사고: *accident*
- 사고가 난 모양이에요.: “An accident took place, it seems.”
- 어떻게 하지요?: “What shall we do?”
- 곧: *soon*
- 올 시간이지요?: *It’s time for them to turn up, isn’t it?”*
- 기다리-: *wait*
- 기다리지 말고 먼저 가세요.: “Don’t wait for me but you go when you’re ready.”
- 직접: *directly*
- 걱정하지 마요.: “Don’t worry”
- 전화해 주세요.: “I’ll give you a call.”
- 조심해서 와요.: “Come safely!”

2 Some useful words

이제	now	거짓말	a lie
갑자기	suddenly	거짓말쟁이	liar
괜히	without reason	계산하-	calculate
급한 일	urgent matter	계산서	bill
그대로	as it is	놀이-	make fun of
마음대로	as (you) wish	농담하-	joke
약속한 대로	as promised	닫-	close
자기	oneself	떠나-	leave
남	others	무시하-	ignore
잘못	mistakes	부탁하-	ask favour
가리키-	point, indicate	수리하-	fix, mend
감기에 걸리-	catch a cold	아프-	unwell
적-	write down	맞-	correct
차가 밀리-	caught in a traffic jam	틀리-	incorrect
편지	letter	울-	cry
초대장	invitation letter	울리-	cry someone
떠들-	make noise	웃-	laugh
모이-	gather	웃기	make someone laugh

3 More about Negatives

3.1 Don't (do it)

When we want to tell someone not to do something we can say

... AVST - 지 마요.

Note also that when the person we are talking to deserves more respect, as it were, use ... AVST - 지 마세요. In Polite Formal language, you use ... AVST - 지 마십시오.

EXAMPLES

걱정하지 마요.	Don't worry.
걱정하지 마세요.	Don't worry.
걱정하지 마십시오.	Don't worry.
울지 마요.	Don't cry.
울지 마세요.	Don't cry.
떠들지 마요.	Be quiet!
떠들지 마십시오.	Be quiet!

3.2 Don't do this; do that.

Often when people give negative commands they add a positive alternative. You can do this by saying

... AVST1 - 지 말고 AVST2 - (으)세요.

EXAMPLES

기다리지 말고 먼저 가세요.	Don't wait for him - go on ahead.
오늘 가지 말고 내일 가세요.	Don't go today - go tomorrow.
놀지 말고 공부하세요.	Don't muck around - study.
텔레비전만 보지 말고 책도 읽으세요.	Don't just watch television - read books as well.

3.3 Without doing ...

We often convey this idea by saying

... { 안 AVST1 - 고
AVST1 - 지 않고 } ... AVST2 ...

EXAMPLES

식사를 안 하고 왔어요.	I haven't eaten yet. (Lit. 'I've come here without eating.')
공부도 하지 않고 시험을 보았어요.	I took the exam without doing any study for it.
지수는 부모님께 안 알리고 외국에 갔어요.	Ji-Su went overseas without letting his parents know about it.
불도 끄지 않고 잠을 잤어요.	I slept without turning off the lights.

4 Using the -아/어/해서 ending

We've learnt that when we want to explain the causal relationship between two sets of information we can say

... { VST1 - 아/어 / ...해 } - 서, VST2 ...

NOTE: that the suffix -아/어/...해서 does not take a tense marker, that is, the tense information comes from the main verb.

EXAMPLES

아파서 병원에 갔어요.	I was sick so I went to the hospital.
약속이 있어서 시내에 가요.	I'm going downtown – I've got an appointment.
너무 비싸서 안 샀어요.	I didn't buy it – it was too expensive.
주소를 몰라서 못 가요.	I can't go because I don't know the address.

We also learnt that we often shorten the second clause (ie, the VST2 clause) by substituting it with the phrase ... 그래요, or simply attaching 요 to ...서. Thus,

너무 비싸서 안 샀어요.	= 너무 비싸서 그랬어요.	= 너무 비싸서요.
주소를 몰라서 못 가요.	= 주소를 몰라서 그래요.	= 주소를 몰라서요.

Now, there are many cases where VST-아/어/...해서 does not mean *because* Look at the following sentences.

시장에 가서 포도를 샀어요.	I went to the market and bought some grapes. <i>NOT</i> I bought some grapes because I went to the market.	
도서관에 가서 공부했어요.	I went to the library and studied (there).	
앉아서 기다리세요.	Won't you have a seat and wait?	
일어나서 말씀하세요.	Stand up and give us a talk (so that we can hear you better).	

Sentences like these show that the -아/어/해서 ending itself doesn't mean *because*. It simply indicates that the ensuing action takes, or took, place in the circumstance indicated by VST1 and that there is necessarily a relation between the circumstance and the action. This is in addition to the implied temporal ordering. We thus can see that “너무 비싸서 안 샀어요.” may actually mean “*It was too expensive, and that being the case, I didn't buy it.*”, where the causal relation can be inferred.

5 It looks like .../It seems that ...

We've already met the ending “...것 같아요”. There is another expression with a very similar meaning, namely:

... VST - { (으)ㄴ / 는 / (으)ㄹ } - 모양이에요.

EXAMPLES

애니씨는 한국어를 오랫동안 배운 모양이에요.	It look as though Annie has learnt Korean for a long time.
집이 아주 조용한데, 모두 잠을 자는 모양이에요.	The house is very quiet – everyone seems to be asleep.
벌써 10 시가 넘었는데, 초대 한 사람들이 모두 안 올 모양이에요.	It's already past 10.00 – it doesn't look as though none of the invited (Lit. people we invited) are going to turn up.
지갑을 집에 두고 온 모양인데, 돈 좀 빌려 주실래요?	I seem to have left my wallet at home. Can you lend me some money?

The two expressions, “...것 같아요” and “...모양이에요”, are basically interchangeable. However, “...것 같아요” is more widely usable and flexible (and thus was introduced earlier), and can be used both for observations and opinions, corresponding fairly closely to English “I seem/you seem/it seems...” etc. By contrast, “...모양이에요 (‘Indications are that ...’)” generally suggests, as its literal derivation might imply (모양: *shape*), a more objective type of observation. Thus it tends to be used for observations on physical states of being, and not for opinions. As in English, when using these expressions with I/we, the implication is that we are standing outside ourselves to make comment, such as in “I seem to be needing more and more sleep these days.” and so on.

6 Complaining

It almost goes without saying that the non-native speaker has to be extremely careful in making complaints. There is such a fine line between insisting on your point of view and being overbearing, and of course there is always the factor of cultural misunderstanding to take into account. Therefore, in this Unit we’re not learning so much how to complain as how to bring situations to the attention of people. In this context the use of ‘-(으)ㄴ/는데’ becomes important, since making an introductory statement sets the context for your complaint.

EXAMPLES

이거 ... 제가 주문한 게 아닌데, 바꿔 주시겠습니까?	This isn't what I ordered – could you please change it?
학생들이 너무 떠드는데, 어떻게 하면 돼요?	The students are too noisy – what should we do?
다른 사람들은 벌써 떠났는데, 어떻게 해요?	Other people have left already – what should we do?
방 안이 추운데, 에어컨이 안 돼요.	It's cold in here – the aircon doesn't work.

You can sound more gentle by using ‘...것 같은데’ or ‘... 모양인데’.

EXAMPLES

이 계산서는 안 맞는 것 같은데, 다시 한번 계산해 주세요.	This bill doesn't seem to tally – could you add it up again, please?
컴퓨터가 고장난 모양인데, 한 번 봐 주시겠어요?	The computer seems to be broken – could you have a look at it, please?

Often in making a complaint we don’t wish to be too explicit about the nature of the problem. Perhaps the context makes it clear what’s wrong, or else we don’t wish to sound too direct. In this case, we often just make an introductory remark, and the use of the ‘...-(으)ㄴ/는데요’ form indicates that something has been left unsaid.

EXAMPLES

컴퓨터가 고장난 모양인데요.	The computer seems to be broken. (Implied: Could you have a look at it, please?)
제가 주문한 게 아닌 것 같은데요.	This doesn't seem to be what I ordered. (Implied: Could you change it, please?)
다른 사람들은 벌써 떠난 모양인데요.	Other people seem to have left already. (Implied: Come on. We have to move too.)
이 계산서는 안 맞는 것 같은데요.	This bill doesn't seem to tally. (Implied: Could you add it up again, please?)

7 Expressing Indefiniteness

In Korean, question words can also carry the indefinite pronoun meaning of *some-*. For example, 누가 means *Who ...?*, and it can also mean *somebody*.

<p>●●● 누가 울어요? Who's crying?</p>
<p>●●● ↗ 누가 울어요? Is <i>someone</i> crying?</p>

Whether 누가, for example, is being used as a question word or as an indefinite pronoun depends on a number of things, but the most significant factors are intonation and stress. Broadly stated, the question word gets more stress at on the first syllables and a fall intonation is then noticeable, whereas the indefinite pronoun gets more stress on the final syllables, or even on the following postposition if there's one, and a rising tone is noticeable. Also, a question sentence with an indefinite pronoun has a more sharply rising intonation at the end of the sentence than one with a question word.

EXAMPLES

<p>●●● 누구를 만났어요? Who did you meet?</p> <p>●●● ↗ 누구를 만났어요? Did you meet <i>anyone</i>?</p>	<p>●●● 뭘 했어요? What did you do?</p> <p>●●● ↗ 뭘 했어요? Did you do <i>something</i>?</p>	<p>●●● 누구한테 주었어요? Who did you give it to?</p> <p>●●● ↗ 누구한테 주었어요? Did you give it to <i>someone</i>?</p>
<p>●●● 어디에 갔다 왔어요? Where have you been?</p> <p>●●● ↗ 어디에 갔다 왔어요? Did you go <i>anywhere</i>?</p>	<p>●●● 언제 오시겠어요? When are you coming to?</p> <p>●●● ↗ 언제 한 번 오시겠어요? Will you drop in on us <i>some day</i>?</p>	<p>●●● 어떻게 했어요? How did you do it?</p> <p>●●● ↗ 어떻게 좀 해 보셨어요? Did you do anything about it?</p>

아무도 + NEG	= nobody
아무한테도 + NEG	= to nobody
아무것도 + NEG	= nothing
아무데도 + NEG	= nowhere

And if we want to express the negative *no-* as in *nowhere*, we use 아무-. Note that 아무- occurs in a negative sentence.

EXAMPLES

아니요, 아무도 안 울어요.	No, nobody's crying.
아니요, 아무도 안 만났어요.	No, I didn't meet anybody.
아니요, 아무한테도 안 주었어요.	No, I didn't give it to anyone.
아무것도 아니에요.	It's nothing.
아니요, 아무데도 안 갔다 왔어요.	No, I didn't go anywhere.