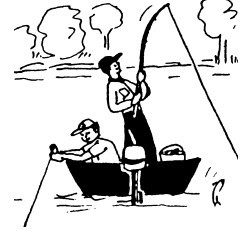


10 고래 싸움에 새우 등 터진다.

A SHRIMP BETWEEN FIGHTING WHALES ...

IN THIS UNIT ...

- Proverbs
- Review of main grammatical forms of the Korean written language
- Reporting what people have said



In this Unit, we look at a handful of Korean proverbs, drawn from the world of nature, and review the main grammatical forms of the written language we studied in Unit 7, since these proverbs are usually presented as part of the written, rather than the spoken, Korean language. We also look at various ways to tell other people what people have said to us.

1 Proverbs

Few aspects of language are more interesting than proverbs, not only because they provide an insight into other people’s way of thinking, but also because they so often reflect our own folk wisdom. The examples below are among the most common in the Korean language. We strongly recommend you take time to memorise them, because a well-chosen proverb can give great pleasure to speakers and listeners alike.

- NOTES:**
- 고래 = whale
 - 싸움 = fighting
 - 새우 = shrimp
 - 등 = back
 - 터지- = explode
 - 낮 = day
 - 말 = speech
 - 새 = bird
 - 밤 = night
 - 쥐 = mouse
 - 듣- = listen
 - 개구리 = frog
 - 올챙이 = tadpole
 - 적 = 때 = time, occasion
 - 원숭이 = monkey
 - 나무 = tree
 - 떨어지- = fall out of
 - -도 = even
 - ... VST - (으)르 때가 있- = *There are times when*
 - 호랑이 = tiger
 - 제 = 자기 = one’s own
 - 말하- = speak
 - 제 말하- = *To mention of it*
 - 나오- = come out

1. 고래 싸움에 새우 등 터진다.
2. 낮말은 새가 듣고 밤말은 쥐가 듣는다.
3. 개구리 올챙이 적 생각 못 한다.
4. 원숭이도 나무에서 떨어질 때가 있다.
5. 호랑이도 제 말하면 나온다.

FURTHER NOTES:

1. Literally, “*When whales fight the shrimp’s back gets broken.*” There’s no common English equivalent – perhaps the nearest would be “*It’s always the little guy that gets hurt.*” This expression is frequently quoted in modern history books, and is a standard way of describing how Korea, the ‘shrimp’, has frequently been caught up in battles between the neighbouring ‘whales’ of Japan, China and others.
2. Literally, “*Birds hear what’s said during the day, and mice hear what’s said at night.*” There’s always someone listening, so watch what you say – ‘*Even walls have ears.*’ When we want to say that something is very hush-hush we can just say ‘*쥐도 새도 모르게 ...*’, which is equivalent to “*Keep this under your hat.*”
3. Literally, “*The frog cannot remember that it has been a tadpole.*” This is to tell us to be modest, and is similar to “*The parish priest forgets that ever he has been holy water (parish) clerk.*”
4. Literally, “*Even monkeys fall out of trees at times.*” There is no commonly used English equivalent. The idea is, of course, that even the most experienced of operators can slip up. One simple situation calling for its use would be, for example, if your Korean instructor made an unintentional spelling error in Hangeul!
5. Literally, “*The tiger comes out at the mention of his name.*” Equivalent to English “*Speak of the devil (and he will appear).*”

2 Some Useful Words

이유없이	without reason	고래	whale
늦게까지	till late	새	bird
아까	a short time ago	개구리	frog
약	approximately	올챙이	tadpole
잠시 후	after a moment	땅콩	peanuts
또	again	속	inside
좁-	narrow, cramped	등	back (body part)
넓-	broad, wide, vast	강가	river bank
아름답-	beautiful	낚시대	fishing rod
이상하-	strange (Lit. strangely)	싸움	a fight

3 Reporting What People Have Said

Let us now look at ways to report what people have said to us. Before we do, it might be an idea to remind ourselves of how we make the distinction between direct speech and reported speech in English:

Direct speech	Reported speech
'Get out!' he said.	He told me to get out.
'Do you like Korean?' he asked.	He asked me if I liked Korean.

As we can see, the shape of sentences is transformed a good deal when we are reporting what people have said, rather than directly quoting them. This is true in Korean as well, and so in this section we'll be concentrating on learning to make transformations like this smoothly.

3.1 Direct Speech

When we are quoting directly what people have said, we can say

“...” { 하고 } 라고 말했어요.

하고 and 라고 are interchangeable, though 하고 tends to be preferred.

EXAMPLES

그분은 “이건 제가 쓴 책이에요.” 하고 말했어요. “This is the book that I wrote,” he said.
 “한국 노래가 재미 없으세요?” 하고 태우가 물었어요. “Don't you find Korean songs interesting?” Tae-U asked.
 박선생님은 “다시 한 번 읽어 주세요.” 라고 말씀하셨습니다. “Please read it to me again,” Mrs Park said.
 “그럼, 같이 갈까요?” 라고 선영씨는 말했어요. “Well then, shall we go?” Seon-Yeong said.

3.2 Reported Speech (1): Said

When reporting what people have said, we can say:

... VST - (TENSE) - 다고 했어요.

Note however when (1) reporting actions in the present tense, (2) reporting equation and identification in the present tense, ie, when the verb is 예요/이에요/아니예요, and (3) reporting any statement in the future tense involving the use of -(으)ㄹ 거예요, modifications such as below have to be made.

... { AVST - (느)ㄴ - 다고 했어요.
 { NOUN - (이) }
 { VST - (으)ㄹ 거 } - 라고 했어요. }

EXAMPLES

애니는 이 김치가 너무 맵다고 했어요. Annie said this kimchi's too hot.
 모두 선영씨가 예쁘다고 했어요. Everybody said that Seon-Yeong is pretty.
 오후에 시간이 있다고 했어요. He said he was free in the afternoon.
 선영은 그 김치가 너무 매웠다고 했어요. Seon-Yeong said the kimchi had been too hot.
 그 사람은 내일 집에서 쉬겠다고 했어요. She said that she would take a rest at home tomorrow.
 데이비드는 자전거로 학교에 간다고 했어요. David said that he goes to school by bicycle.
 데이비드는 자전거로 학교에 갔다고 했어요. David said that he went to school by bicycle.
 태우는 스파게티를 잘 먹는다고 했어요. Tae-U said he likes spaghetti.
 카일리씨는 이것이 오렌지라고 했어요. Kylie said it was an orange.
 박선생님은 그게 좋은 책이라고 했어요. Mrs Park said it was a good book.
 데이비드는 김치를 안 먹을 거라고 했어요. David said that he wouldn't eat any kimchi.
 메이슨씨는 내일 영화를 볼 거라고 했어요.
 Mr Mason said that he is going to see a movie tomorrow.

Note also that the topic marker 은/는 in the 'source' statement changes to 이/가, or 을/를, when it becomes reported speech. That is, someone's statement 한국어는 재미 있어요 will be reported as 그 사람은 한국어가 재미 있다고 했어요. This is because the topic is not in general expressed in an *embedded* sentence.

3.3 Reported Speech (2): Asked

When reporting what people have asked, we can say:

... VST - (TENSE) - 냐고 했어요.

When the question we report involves the verb -예요/-이에요, we can say:

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{NOUN} - (\text{이}) \\ \text{NOUN} - \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{였} \\ \text{이었} \end{array} \right\} \end{array} \right\} - \text{냐고 했어요.}$$

Note that when the tense is present and the noun ends in a consonant, we use NOUN - 이냐고 했어요. Otherwise, NOUN - 냐고 했어요. When the tense is past and the noun ends in a consonant, we use NOUN - 이었냐고 했어요. Otherwise, NOUN - 였냐고 했어요.

EXAMPLES

아주머니는 김치가 맵냐고 했어요.	She asked if the Gimchi was hot.
한국에 온 지 얼마나 되었냐고 했어요.	They asked me how long it is since I came to Korea.
커피를 마시겠냐고했어요.	They asked me if I would have a cup of coffee.
내일 영화를 볼 거냐고 했어요.	He asked me if we were going to see a movie tomorrow.
지수는 이게 무슨 비디오냐고 했어요.	Ji-Su asked what video this is.
태우는 이게 무슨 소설이냐고 했어요.	Tae-U asked what novel this is.
무슨 소설이었냐고 했어요.	He asked me what novel it was.
무슨 비디오였냐고 했어요.	He asked me what video it was.

3.4 Reported Speech (3): Proposed

When we report what people have proposed, or suggested, we can say

... AVST - 자고 했어요.

EXAMPLES

빨리 먹고 집에 가자고 했어요.	He suggested we finish eating quickly and go home.
선생님은 한국 소설을 읽자고 했어요.	The teacher suggested that we read Korean novels.

3.5 Reported Speech (4): Ordered, Advised

When reporting what people have ordered or advised, we can say

... AVST - (으) - 라고 했어요.

EXAMPLES

개를 조심하라고 했어요.	He told us to be careful of the dog.
똑바로 끝까지 가다가 오른쪽으로 돌아가라고 했어요.	They told us to go straight to the end and turn right.
빨리 먹으라고 했어요.	She told me to eat quickly.

3.6 Reported Speech (5): Requested

When we report what people have requested, we can say

... { VST - 아/어
 ...해 } - 달 - 라고 했어요.

This is the situation where people use the expression: -아/-어/...해 주세요 and by definition they are the benefactors of our response (if we respond positively of course).

EXAMPLES

진희는 “사진 좀 보여 주세요.” 하고 말했어요. Jin-Hui said, “Please show me the photos.”
 진희는 사진 좀 보여 달라고 했어요. Jin-Hui asked me to show her the photos.
 홍선생님은 “문 좀 열어 주세요.” 하고 말씀하셨습니다.
 Mrs Hong said, “Please open the door.”
 홍선생님은 문 좀 열어 달라고 하셨습니다. Mrs Hong asked us to open the window.

However, there are situations where people use the expression: -아/-어/...해 주세요, and thus make a request, but they themselves are not necessarily the benefactors of our response. If this is the case, the verb 주- remains as it is.

EXAMPLES

진희는 “이 사진을 태우한테 보여 주세요.” 하고 말했어요.
 Jin-Hui said, “Please show these photos to Tae-U.”
 진희는 이 사진을 태우한테 보여 주라고 했어요.
 Jin-Hui told us to show the photos to Tae-U (for the benefit of Tae-U).

Note that the choice between 주- and 달- in the reported speech is not an accident. Consider the following two examples, and see if you can tell what is going on, that is, who is the benefactor?.

어제는 하루 종일 돈을 달라고 했어요. Yesterday he told me to give him the money all day long.
 진희는 돈을 지수한테 주라고 했어요. Jin-Hui asked me to give the money to Ji-Su.

4 Some More Useful Words

쉬-	have a rest	놓아주-	release
떨어지-	fall out of	휘-	get bent
싸우-	fight	살(이) 찌-	get fat, gain weight
터지-	blow up,explode	물-	bite
낚-	fish (verb)	물리-	be bitten, be caught
생기-	happen	걸-	hang, hook
없애-	do away with, get rid of	걸리-	be hung, be hooked
들어 올리-	lift up	생각하-	think
꺼내-	take out	생각되-	... strikes me as (Lit. be thought)

5 Reading a Story ...

Let's read the following passage.

어제 한 남자가 강가에서 낚시를 하고 있는 것을 보았다. 그 사람은 마침 고기를 잡고 있었다. 아주 큰 고기인 것 같았다. 낚시대가 크게 휘어 있었다. 낚시대를 들어 올렸을 때, 과연 아주 크고 살이 찐 고기가 물려 있었다. 그렇지만, 그 사람은 그 고기를 놓아 주었다.

잠시 후 또 고기가 걸렸다. 아까 놓아 준 고기보다 더 큰 고기였다. 그 남자는 크게 화를 내었다. 그리고는 그 고기를 놓아 주었다.

약 5분 후 또 한마리를 낚았다. 이번에는 아주 작은 고기였다. 그 남자는 고기를 소쿠리 속에 넣었다. 기분이 아주 좋은 것 같았다.

옆에서 보고 있던 나는 좀 이상하게 생각되어서, 그 남자에게 물었다.

“아니, 큰 고기는 놓아 주고, 왜 작은 고기를 잡아요?”

그 남자는 나에게 이렇게 말했다.

“내가 가진 후라이 팬이 작아서 그래요.”

그 남자는 가방 속에서 작고 찌그러진 후라이 팬을 하나 꺼내 나에게 보여 주었다.

Language Notes

- 강가: river bank
- 마침: just at that time
- 낚시대: fishing rod
- 휘-: get bent
- 들어 올리-: lift up
- 과연: as expected, indeed
- 살이 찌-: get fat, gain weight
- 물리-: be caught, be bitten
- 물-: bite
- 놓아 주-: release
- 잠시 후: after a moment
- 또: again
- 걸리-: be hung, be hooked
- 걸-: hang, hook
- 아까: a short time ago
- 화를 내-: 'show' one's anger
- 화가 나-: angry
- 약: approximately
- 5분 후: after five minutes
- 낚-: fish (verb)
- 소쿠리: basket
- 속: inside
- 보고 있던 ...: ... who were watching
- 이상하게: strange (Lit. strangely)
- 생각되-: ... strikes me as (Lit. be thought)
- 묻-: ask
- 아니: Well (interjection the speaker uses when something unexpected has just happened)
- 찌그러지-: get pressed/squeezed out of shape
- 꺼내-: take out
- 보여 주-: show