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How to learn korean by yourself free

I used to be a people-pleaser.To the point where both my friends and my family told me “Nicole, stop being such a people-pleaser.”I didn’t see it that way, though. From my perspective, the best way to get someone to do something I wanted was to do something they wanted first—not out of any kind of manipulative sense, but in a more general “if I say yes to this person, they’ll return the favor by saying yes to me.” It took me until my early 30s to figure out that relationships don’t really work like that. Not personal relationships, where my willingness to watch every blockbuster action movie that released did not make my then-boyfriend any more interested in watching the re-release of Titanic (in 3D!) with me; and definitely not professional relationships. Saying yes to supervisors and co-workers can get you pretty far in the workplace, but it won’t necessarily get you where you want to go. Nor will it get you what you’re worth. To get that, you have to learn how to say no.At work and at home, it’s easy to say “yes” so often, you forget what you’re saying “yes” to....Read morePractice saying no with the people who love you mostThis type of learning, like nearly everything else, takes practice. When I realized that I needed to get better at saying no, I started with extremely low-stakes situations, such as telling an acquaintance that I couldn’t meet up for drinks. When I realized that saying no in a single situation didn’t cause a chain-reaction of unwanted consequences—like, the acquaintance didn’t hate me forever, we saw each other at another social event and it was fine—I practiced saying no to close friends. Still fine. Miraculously, our friendship survived the great “I don’t feel like tacos tonight” incident of 2016, which prepared me for more difficult decisions like “I won’t be able to join the big friend trip this year.”Then I tried saying no to my parents, which was even more difficult, but also... it turned out okay. They still loved me, just like I still loved them even though they’ve been saying “no” to me since I was old enough to understand words.As the parent of a preschooler, I often notice myself feeling frustrated and asking myself, “Why...Read moreWhy am I telling you all of this? Because earlier today Quartz reminded us that before we launch into high-stakes negotiations, such as salary negotiations, we can practice our negotiating skills with the people who love us.Jane Charlton, head of leadership programmes at London Business School, who along with her team at the school’s Alumni Career Centre has helped thousands of business students prepare for job interviews, says we should always negotiate, even when we know the answer is going to be no. And in order to make it more likely we’ll actually do so, she says, we should practice. That can mean using some surprising situations—a standoff with your kids about mealtimes, for example, or a discussion with a partner about where to go on holiday—to hone skills that can later be employed in meetings with managers.Saying no rarely closes doors; instead, it opens up new opportunitiesI’ve had to say no to a lot of people this year, and I’ve had to negotiate a few high-stakes professional situations—and all of that boundary-setting practice I started doing five years ago helped. Significantly. Learning how to stand up for what I wanted, what I valued, and what I was worth taught me two things:Saying no to a single situation rarely means closing a door forever. Friends will still be there, family will still be there, professional contacts will still want to work with you. Saying no to something you don’t want, especially career-wise, isn’t turning down an opportunity as much as it is making room for you to find a better opportunity.There’s no denying the gender pay gap. It’s there: the average pay for a man, the average pay for a Read moreYes, there are situations where you need to take whatever job is offered and do the best you can. After I graduated from college, for example, I spent a few months working as a telemarketer because I needed money and they were the ones paying. Learning how to say yes to whatever comes your way is a valuable skill—but at a certain point, learning how to say no becomes even more valuable.Transfer your “saying no” skills into “win-win” skills!I’ll end this with one more insight; earlier this year I finally got around to reading Stephen Covey’s The 7 Habits of Highly Effective People and realized I needed to start evolving my “saying no” skill into “finding a win-win situation that satisfies both parties.” (If you’re not familiar with the 7 Habits, “think win-win” is Habit #4.) As Covey explains:Many people think in terms of either/or: either you’re nice or you’re tough.Win-win requires that you be both. It is a balancing act between courage and consideration. Interestingly, the win-win situation is similar to what I thought I’d achieve by becoming a people-pleaser—only it’s coming from a place of integrity and cooperation, not an internal tally of tit-for-tat. I’m still working on building this particular skill, but I suspect that as I get better at it, it’ll be as beneficial to my personal and professional life as learning how to say no has been. Android/iOS: Learning to read, write, and speak languages with their own character sets can be challenging to those of us used to roman lettering, but Word Fireworks turns it into a game that’s not just easy to get into, but compelling enough to stick with.You can see how the app works in the video above—you learn how to identify common words, speak them, and if there are special characters involved, the right way to draw them as well. Words and characters appear on screen as fireworks, and as you draw them correctly, say them, or match them with their meanings, you generate fireworks and put on your own display. You even unlock additional fireworks as you progress through the game.Different languages have different focuses. For example, the Mandarin lessons focus on learning the right tones, while the Korean lessons focus on teaching you how hangul combine. The Japanese lessons walk you through katakana and hiragana to kanji, and the Hebrew lessons show you how to read print and handwritten characters.By the time you’re through with each lesson—or game, depending on how you look at it—you won’t be fluent or anything, but you’ll understand common characters and words, and be able to speak a few words and phrases. Consider it an initiation, but one with lessons that are easy enough to follow and gameplay that’s just challenging and fun enough that you’ll actually want to play.Each language—Chinese, Japanese, Korean, and Hebrew—will set you back \$2 for your preferred platform, and there are apps available for iOS and Android at iTunes, Google Play, and the Amazon App Store. Best of all, once you have the app, that’s it—no ads, no in-app purchases to unlock anything. Hit the link below to visit the homepage, and individual download links are here.Word Fireworks Joe Hindy / Android AuthorityDrops: Learn KoreanKorean is one of the most popular Asian languages for non-native speakers. It garners a surprising amount of interest. However, a lot of interesting things happen there. It’s where Samsung lives. Additionally, plenty of US soldiers make their way there from time to time. There aren’t a ton of great options for learning Korean. However, we can help you find the best ways. Here are the best Korean learning apps for Android!Drops is a popular language learning app for a variety of languages. That includes Korean. The app prioritizes vocabulary and phrase learning above other topics like grammar. It proceeds at a rapid pace, includes a variety of things like games and quizzes, and it gives you a pretty decent mental workout. The free version limits you to five minutes per day. You can subscribe to extend that time limit. The free version works for casual learners. However, those really wanting to learn have to fork out a subscription or a one-time cost to get everything. Price: Free / \$9.99 per monthDuolingo is one of the most popular language learning apps on Google Play. It supports a ton of languages, including Korean. Duolingo takes a simple approach to language learning. You slowly build up a variety of vocabulary words and phrases. Over time, they connect and you learn Korean. It seems fairly effective. Duolingo boasts that 34 hours of the app equals a semester of university-level education. We’re doubtful about that, but it’s completely free so who are we to complain. This may cost something someday. They have dabbled with pricing in the past. Google Translate is probably the most powerful translation tool. It works with 103 languages online and 59 languages offline. You can translate between any two languages. The app is mostly useful for travelers. However, it does have a live voice translation function that is perfect for practicing. Additionally, there is a camera feature that translates things in real time. These are exceptionally great tools for both travelers and learners, but especially both. Google Translate is entirely free. We also had a couple of readers recommend Papago as a translation source specifically for Korean. That is also worth a try. Microsoft Translate is another good option in this space. Price: Free / \$11.99 per month / \$29.99 per 3 months / \$79.99 per year / \$199.99 onceLingoDeer is one of the best Korean learning apps available. It focuses mostly on Asian languages, including Korean, Japanese, Chinese, and Vietnamese. It does the basics really well. You learn the alphabet and the basic, core experience of each language. The app also includes offline support, various types of exercises, over 2,000 words and phrases, and a flashcard system. You get a few decent features in the free version, but you have to use the subscription to get a lot of it. Joe Hindy / Android Authority Price: Free / \$9 per month / \$59.99 per yearMemrise is one of the most popular and powerful language learning apps. It supports dozens of languages, including many Asians ones like Korean. It combines a lot of philosophies into a single app. That includes a social element with real people who speak the language you want to learn. Additionally, it has grammar and vocabulary lessons, quizzes, offline support, a pronunciation guide (with audio), and a lot more. Those features come at a price. However, Memrise isn’t for the casual learner. This paired with Duolingo, HelloTalk, or Tandem is a seriously great combo. Mondly is another popular and powerful language learning app with a ton of languages. Yes, that includes Korean. It throws away the traditional method of language learning. Instead, it dives right in and teaches you conversational Korean. You learn the core ideas and expand from there. It also features audio pronunciations, quizzes, various lessons, phrase learning, verb conjugation, and other useful stuff. To be honest, we prefer Memrise over this one. However, if Memrise just isn’t your speed, Mondly very well might be. Like Memrise, it is a little expensive, though. Naver Papago is another translation app similar to Google Translate. It comes from Naver, the Korean version of Google Search. Thus, it may be able to translate stuff into Korean with a little more attention to detail than even Google Translate on occasion. The app features a very clean and easy UI along with support for 13 languages. Some other features include offline translations, image translations, real-time voice translation, and it also works on websites and with handwriting. For people learning the language, the built-in dictionary is also quite useful. The app is entirely free and might be a better option than Google Translate for this particular use case. Price: Free / \$94.99 per year / \$199.99 onceRosetta Stone is a big name in language learning. The official app supports 24 languages, including Korean. It uses a proprietary teaching method. It focuses on repetition, conversational learning, and accent learning. You basically learn how to talk properly first and, by extension, you learn most of the language’s various mechanics. It’s a tried and true method. Rosetta Stone isn’t exactly new, after all. It is very expensive, though. You can pay every three months, every 12 months, or just once if you don’t mind forking out \$199.99. Price: Free / Up to \$6.99Simply Learn Korean is a simpler type of learning app. It works better as a phrasebook and study aid than it does a full Korean learning experience. It includes a phrasebook with 900 phrases and words. The app also includes quizzes, tests, flashcards, and other exercises for faster learning. It’s an excellent app for travelers and learners. However, we would definitely pair this with something like Duolingo for a more effective and efficient learning experience. This one is also cheap, at least in comparison to other Korean learning apps. Price: Free / \$6.99 per month / \$34.99 per yearTandem is a popular rival for HelloTalk. Both apps do basically the same thing. You pair up with another individual. You teach them about your language and culture and vice versa. The app also includes audio and video calls, messages of various types (text, audio, picture), and you can even choose what topics you want to talk about. There are also professional tutors available if you want. This works just as well as HelloTalk. The one you like more will be a matter of preference, mostly. Speakly is also a decent free app that does about the same thing. HelloTalk is a very similar social network for language learners that also supports Korean. AppsAndroid apps. Best Apps These days, being a multithyphenate is practically a requirement for running a successful blog—but Chrisselle Lim, creator of The Chrisselle Factor, was one of the first. Stylist, trendsetter, outfit-inspirer...and now a new mom, lifestyle icon, and beauty authority (you may have seen her recent videos with Estée Lauder), Lim is an influencer in the ultimate sense of the word—which is exactly why we’re thrilled to announce her as our newest Byrdie contributor! Each month, she’ll be sharing all of her beauty favorites—from the best beauty tips she picked up on her travels (and trust us, there are a lot) to the new products she’s currently coveting. For her first column, we asked her to share a photo diary of her recent trip to Seoul, along with the buzzy treatments she tried and trends she picked up while she was there. Enjoy! Courtesy of Chrisselle Lim Hi Byrdie readers! As most of you know, I am a Korean American living in Los Angeles, but I do make an effort to visit Seoul, Korea, at least once a year. Besides the yearly visit to the grandparents, I find myself being completely inspired by the culture, food, technology, street style, and of course beauty innovation. I recently went on a girls’ trip with Alicia Yoon of Peach & Lily during Seoul Fashion Week, and needless to say, it did not disappoint. I left with a belly filled with Korean street food (and jeans that were too tight), a suitcase filled with beauty products, and glowing skin! So, for my first column as a Byrdie contributor, I wanted to share with you some of the beauty secrets I discovered while I was in Korea, innovative products I recently discovered, and some unseen photos and selfies from my trip! Keep scrolling for my official Korean beauty diary! Courtesy of Chrisselle Lim First stop was at the Shangpree Spa, getting the famous Korean Rubber Mask! It’s also known as the “Modeling Mask” in Korea. They painted my face (including the eyelids) with this thick green paste that was incredibly cooling. Besides the fact that you kind of look like Shrek for a good 40 minutes, the green paste eventually turned into this rubbery texture that they peeled right off... almost like play dough! Courtesy of Chrisselle Lim A full 90 minutes of skin heaven along with a full-body massage and air bag circulation for your legs to promote weightless and glowing skin. You can find out more about the treatment in this post about five of my favorite Korean spas. Courtesy of Chrisselle Lim Here’s a photo of my best friend, Linette, and I immediately after they peeled off the mask. No makeup, no filter... just pure, hydrated, dewy skin! There was not a dry patch in sight! It brought instant hydration to the skin. It looked as if I’d had gallons of water and been hanging out in the sauna all day. Glowing skin for days! Courtesy of Chrisselle Lim One of the most exciting things during my Korea trip was meeting and getting my makeup done by the most famous celebrity makeup artist in Korea, KwonHyE. She not only does all the top A-list celebrities in Korea but is also responsible for the dewy skin movement there. Not to mention she’s the sweetest and most humble woman alive! Courtesy of Chrisselle Lim She gave me a Korean “makeover,” as the Koreans do their makeup a bit differently. It’s all about creating a “youthful” look. For example, she got rid of my arched brows and replaced them with the infamous thick straight Korean brow, explaining straight brows give a more youthful look. Instead of the traditional eyebrow pencil, she used a sketching pencil from the art store (yes, I’m talking about the pencils that you get from Aaron Brothers for a dollar or less). She said that the sketching pencil allows you to build and layer on the thickness without darkening the eyebrows in color. It applies much lighter than your traditional pencils and allows you to make mistakes and still build on top of it. Another big tip? Contouring horizontally instead of diagonally, as the former will make your face look smaller. I also learned three more Korean makeup tips while I was there! Courtesy of Chrisselle Lim I do have to say I felt and looked a bit younger after the shoot. I was getting tons of compliments on how “youthful” I appeared. This was a photo from my shoot with Elle Korea. Courtesy of Chrisselle Lim You can never leave Korea without getting your nails done! Seoul is known for its nail art, and I was finally able to visit Unistella, which is one of the most famous place for nails in Korea. All of the celebrities and K-pop stars go here, and I’m glad I was able to finally check it out. I decided to go with a funky design but something more neutral so I could match all of my outfits. Here I’m headed to the KYE fashion show wearing a full KYE outfit. Since I’d been doing more natural makeup while in Seoul, I decided to throw on a deep burgundy lip to complete my look. Still rocking my thick straight Korean eyebrows! Courtesy of Chrisselle Lim A shot of my entire outfit! Courtesy of Chrisselle Lim First, no, that is not my daughter, but how well dressed is this baby? One thing that really stood out to me during Seoul Fashion Week was the amount of well-dressed babies! It was so inspiring and gave me a look into the future of attending shows with my daughter, Chloe, one day! Courtesy of Chrisselle Lim And of course no trip is complete without a girl-squad photo! Here I’m with my closest friends. Left to right, Linette Kim of DearLinette.com, Kahi Park (popular K-pop star in Korea), Dani Song, and Aimee Song of Song of Style. The only person missing is Alicia from Peach & Lily. Courtesy of Chrisselle Lim I recently discovered a line called Lady & Skin during my trip, and it is all made out of roses. I’m currently obsessed with these Rose Eye Patches (a must for anyone who suffers from dark under-eyes like I do). Courtesy of Chrisselle Lim And of course the famous sheet masks! Along with sleeping masks, there is something called the sheet mask. It’s pretty much a cloth that has been soaked in the most hydrating serum that you place over your face for about 20 to 30 minutes. I usually do this at night before I go to bed while I check emails. Unlike clay and other types of masks, these sheet masks can be used every day. My two current favorites are the snail moisture mask and egg cream mask! Courtesy of Chrisselle Lim There is something called essence that Koreans apply before their moisturizer. It adds an extra layer of moisture and prepares the skin for the moisturizer. I made sure to stock up on a few before leaving Korea! Courtesy of Chrisselle Lim Another thing Koreans are obsessed with is something called the “sleeping pack.” You apply this clear sleeping mask after your essence and moisturizer and wear it overnight. It’s truly magical what a sleeping mask can do for your skin overnight. I never go to sleep without one. Courtesy of Chrisselle Lim Korea is the one place I will always bring an empty suitcase with me. It’s the one place I will bring back more beauty products than what I came with. Not only does the country have the most innovative technology and formulation for skincare, but the products are incredibly affordable as well. A girl can never have enough sheet masks, essences, and serums! What do you want Lim to talk about in her next column? Sound off below!

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