Nouns:
신발 = shoe
남방 = shirt
질문 = question
문제 = question/problem
나이 = age
화장실 = bathroom, restroom
부장님 = boss
분위기 = the atmosphere of something
차 = tea
바지 = pants
교실 = classroom
급식 = food at school
교감선생님 = vice principal
교장선생님 = principal
풀 = glue
수도 = capital city
병 = bottle
병 = disease, sickness
생선 = fish
야채 = vegetable
언덕 = hill
선물 = present
기타 = guitar
종이 = paper
우유 = milk
손목 = wrist
시계 = clock
손목시계 = wristwatch
영화 = movie

Verbs:
노력하다 = to try
앉다 = to sit
만지다 = to touch
자다 = to sleep
보다 = to see
기다리다 = to wait
청소하다 = to clean
약속하다 = to promise
들다 = to hear
들여보다 = to listen
그만하다 = to stop
운동하다 = to exercise

Adjectives:
놀라다 = to be surprised
빠르다 = to be fast
느리다 = to be slow
착하다 = to be nice

Adverbs and Other Words:
곧 = soon
항상 = always
주 = week
아래 = bottom

Conjugating with Honorifics
In Lesson 5, you learned how to conjugate verbs and adjectives into the past, present and future forms. You also learned that those conjugations are hardly ever used in speech and are most often used when writing a book, test, article or diary. In this lesson, you will learn the basic word conjugations that are more commonly used in speech.

What are Honorifics in Korean?
To this point, you haven’t learned anything about Honorifics. In Korean, depending on who you are speaking to, you must use different conjugations of the same word. The different conjugations imply respect and politeness to the person you are speaking to. Depending on that person’s age and seniority, you must speak differently to that person.
The reason this is so hard for English speakers to understand is that we have nothing like this in English. We can make some sentences sound polite by adding ‘please’ and ‘thank you,’ but you can only use those words in a limited amount of sentences. For example, if somebody asked you “where did you go yesterday?” You could respond:

I went to school yesterday.
In English, regardless of whether you were speaking to your girlfriend’s grandfather or your best friend, that sentence would look and sound exactly the same. In Korean, you must use a higher respect form when speaking to somebody older or higher in position.

I started learning Korean a few months before I moved to Korea. I was not studying very hard or often, so my Korean was extremely basic. When I arrived at the airport in Seoul, was driven directly to my school and introduced to my principal immediately. My principal said “I am happy you are working at my school,” to which I replied:

나도 (the lower respect form of saying “me too”)

Instead of being impressed that I at least knew some words in Korean, the look on his face was as if somebody had just kidnapped his daughter.
Never, never underestimate the importance of honorific endings in Korean.

Keep in mind that all these conjugations with different honorific endings have exactly the same meaning. You will learn how to conjugate using honorifics in the following ways:

1) Informal low respect
   When talking with friends, people you are close with, younger people and family.

2) Informal high respect
   Used in most situations, even in formal situations despite being called “informal.”
   This is usually the way most people speak when they are trying to show respect.

3) Formal high respect
   This is a very high respect form that is used when addressing people who deserve a lot of respect from you. It is hard to describe perfectly, but honestly, the difference between ‘Informal high respect’ and ‘Formal high respect’ is not very big. As long as you speak in either of these two ways, you will not offend anyone.

The names of each form of speech might be different in every source, but I have chosen the words above to describe each form. In addition, you learned the "Plain form" in the previous lesson.

Before you start! Remember the rule you learned in Lesson 5: When adding something to a word stem, if the last vowel in the stem isㅏorㅗ, you must add아plus whatever you are adding. If the last vowel is anything other thanㅏorㅗ, you must add어plus whatever you are adding. If the syllable of the stem is하, you add하여 which can be shortened to해.
Also, in the previous lesson, you learned that if a stem of a word ends in a vowel, “~았/었다” gets merged to the actual stem itself when conjugating into the past tense.

In this lesson, two of the conjugations you will learn will require the addition of ~아/어. When adding ~아/어 to the stem of a word, the same rule applies from previous lesson. That is, if ~아/어 gets added to a stem that ends in a vowel, ~아/어 will be merged to the stem itself. For example:

가다 + ~아/어 = 가 (가 + 아)
오다 + ~아/어 = 오 (오 + 아)
배우다 + ~아/어 = 배워 (배우 + 어)
끼다 + ~아/어 = 까 (끼 + 어)
나서다 + ~아/어 = 나서 (나서 + 어)
켜다 + ~아/어 = 케 (켜 + 어)
하다 + ~아/어 = 해 (하 + 어)

Conversely, if a stem ends in a consonant, ~아/어 is attached to the stem, but not merged to it. For example:

먹다 + ~아/어 = 먹어 (먹 + 아)
앉다 + ~아/어 = 앉아 (앉 + 아)

There are many situations when you will have to add ~아/어 (or other vowels) to stems. Conjugating is just one of these situations. Always keep this rule in mind, as you will see it throughout this lesson, and throughout your studies.

Okay, let’s look at some conjugations.

### Verbs

**Present Tense**

You learned in Lesson 5 how to conjugate verbs to the present tense by adding ㄴ/는다 to the stem of the word. To review:

먹다 = to eat (not conjugated)
나는 먹는다 = I eat (conjugated – present tense)

배우다 = to learn (not conjugated)
나는 배운다 = I learn (conjugated – present tense)
There are three more conjugations in the present tense that you should be aware of.

1) Informal low respect
All you need to do is add ~어/아/여 to the stem of the verb:

나는 항상 저녁에 음식을 먹어 = I always eat food in the evening (먹 + 어)
나는 너의 선생님을 항상 봐 = I always see my teacher (보 + 아)
나는 항상 아침에 운동해 = I always exercise in the morning (운동하 + 여)

In Lesson 1, you were introduced to the function of ~에 as a particle which identifies a location or a time in which something occurs in a sentence. Since then, you have seen many cases of ~에 being used to indicate a place, but you have yet to see any examples of it being used to indicate a time. This is just a quick reminder that ~에 is (in addition to other things) attached to the part of sentence to indicate a time.

Also notice in the examples above that “항상” (always) is placed in two different places within a sentence. Adverbs are usually able to be placed wherever the speaker desires. The usage and placement of adverbs is discussed in Lesson 8

2) Informal high respect
This is done the exact same way as ‘Informal low respect’ but you also add ‘~요’ to the end of the word. Adding ~요 to the end of anything in Korean makes it more respectful:

저는 항상 저녁에 음식을 먹어요 = I always eat food in the evening (먹 +어요)
저는 저의 선생님을 항상 봐요 = I always see my teacher (보 + 있어)
저는 항상 아침에 운동해요 = I always exercise in the morning (운동하 + 여요)

3) Formal high respect
This is done very similar to the conjugation you learned in Lesson 5 – that is, adding -나/는다 to the stem of the word. To conjugate using the Formal high respect honorific ending, you add ~ㅂ니다/습니다 to the end of the word stem. If a word stem ends in a vowel, you add ~ㅂ니다 to the last syllable and ~ 합니다 follows. If a word stem ends in a consonant, you add ~습니다 to the word stem.

저는 항상 저녁에 음식을 먹습니다 = I always eat food in the evening (먹 + 습니다)
저는 저의 선생님을 봐요 = I always see my teacher (보 + 봐요)
저는 항상 아침에 운동합니다 = I always exercise in the morning (운동하 + 합니다)
Past Tense
You learned in Lesson 5 how to conjugate verbs to the past tense by adding 었다/았다/였다 to the stem of the word. To review:

먹다 = to eat (not conjugated)
나는 먹었다 = I ate (conjugated – past tense)

배우다 = to learn (not conjugated)
나는 배웠다 = I learned (conjugated – past tense)

The three new conjugations should be very simple for you now:

1) Informal low respect
Instead of adding 었다/았다/였다 to a word stem, remove 다 and add 어 after 었다/았다/였다:

나는 먹었어 = I ate (먹 + 었다)
나는 들어봤어 = I listened (들어보 + 었다)
나는 운동했어 = I exercised (운동할 + 었다)

2) Informal high respect
Just add 요 to the end of the Informal low respect conjugations:
저는 먹었어요 = I ate (먹 + 었다)
저는 들어봤어요 = I listened (들어보 + 었다)
저는 운동했어요 = I exercised (운동할 + 었다)

3) Formal high respect
After adding 었다/았다/였 다 instead of adding 다 add 습니다:
저는 먹었습니다 = I ate (먹 + 었다)
저는 들었습니다 = I listened (들었습니다)
저는 운동했습니다 = I exercised (운동 + 었다)

Future Tense
You learned in Lesson 5 how to conjugate verbs to the future tense by adding 겠다 to the stem of the word. To review:

먹다 = to eat (not conjugated)
나는 먹겠습니다 = I will eat (conjugated – future tense)

배우다 = to learn (not conjugated)
나는 배우겠습니다 = I will learn (conjugated – future tense)

The three new conjugations should be very simple for you now:
1) Informal low respect
Instead of adding 겠다 to a word stem, remove 다 and add 어 after 것:

나는 먹겠어 = I will eat (먹 + 것)
나는 배우겠어 = I will learn (배우 + 것)

2) Informal high respect
Just add 요 to the end of the Informal low respect conjugations:

저는 먹겠어요 = I will eat (먹 + 것어요)
저는 배우겠어요 = I will learn (배우 + 것어요)

3) Formal high respect
After 것 instead of adding 다 add 습니다:

저는 먹겠습니다 = I will eat (먹 + 것겠습니다)
저는 배우겠습니다 = I will learn (배우 + 것겠습니다)

Try looking at all the verb conjugations you know together in one table. This table will include the conjugation you learned in Lesson 5, which I call the “plain form” or “diary form.”

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>먹다</th>
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<td>먹겠어</td>
</tr>
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<td>먹는다</td>
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<table>
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<td>잡어요</td>
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<td>잡겠어요</td>
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<td>잡다</td>
<td>잡겠다</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td>Plain form</td>
<td>이해했다</td>
<td>이해한다</td>
<td>이해하겠다</td>
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<td>Formal high</td>
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<td>이해합니다</td>
<td>이해하겠습니다</td>
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</table>
Adjectives

Thankfully, adjectives are conjugated the exact same way as verbs when conjugating with these three honorific endings. The major difference in conjugating adjectives and verbs is when conjugating in the most basic form (which we did in Lesson 5). To conjugate adjectives with ‘Informal low respect,’ ‘Informal high respect’ and ‘Formal high respect,’ follow the same rules as verbs:

<table>
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<td>비싸다</td>
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<tr>
<td>Plain form</td>
<td>길였다</td>
<td>길다</td>
<td>길겠다</td>
</tr>
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<td>길었습니다</td>
<td>길다</td>
<td>길겠습니다</td>
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</table>

*Irregular conjugation. You will learn about irregulars in the next lesson.

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<td>착해요</td>
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<tr>
<td>Plain form</td>
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<td>착하다</td>
<td>착하겠습니다</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Formal high</td>
<td>착했습니다</td>
<td>착합니다</td>
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