UNIT 08

The Last Letters

Goal: meet the twin vowels, the slide vowels and the crowded bottom, and read real words with them. Two pieces go in. One block comes out.

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TWINS: ㅐ and ㅔ look alike and sound almost the same. Tell them apart by spelling.

SLIDE: two vowels slide into one: ㅘ ㅝ ㅟ ㅚ ㅢ.

CROWDED BOTTOM: two letters at the bottom. At the end of a word you usually hear just one.

Exercise 1 · TWINS: build the block

Put the pieces together and write the whole block. Say it out loud.

ㄱ + ㅐ = _____ ㄱ + ㅔ = _____

ㄴ + ㅔ = _____ ㅅ + ㅐ = _____

In everyday Korean the difference between ㅐ and ㅔ is tiny. Do not worry about it. Remember the word and its spelling.

Exercise 2 · TWINS: meaning match

Read each word out loud, then write the English meaning. Word bank: **dog** · **crab** · **yes** · **bird** · **shop**.

개 _____

게 _____

네 _____

새 _____

가게 _____

Exercise 3 · SLIDE: two vowels, one vowel

Slide the two vowels together. Write the new vowel.

ㅗ + ㅏ = _____ ㅜ + ㅓ = _____

ㅜ + ㅣ = _____ ㅗ + ㅣ = _____

ㅡ + ㅣ = _____

Smooth, like a slide! ㅘ sounds like “wa”, ㅝ like “wo”, ㅟ like “wee”, ㅚ close to “we”, and ㅢ starts with “eu” and slides to “ee”. These are only guides. Listen to the video.

Exercise 4 · SLIDE: meaning match

Read each word out loud, then write the English meaning. Word bank: **apple · ear · company · doctor · chair · won (Korean money)**.

사과	_____	귀	_____
회사	_____	의사	_____
의자	_____	원	_____

Bonus: 왜 means “why”. It has a slide vowel too (새). ㅐ and ㅖ are bonus slide vowels.

Exercise 5 · CROWDED BOTTOM: which letter do you hear?

Two letters at the bottom, but you hear one at the end of a word. Say each word, then write how it sounds and what it means. Word bank: **chicken · price · eight**.

Spelling	Sounds like	Meaning
닭	_____	_____
값	_____	_____
여덟	_____	_____

Which letter is heard depends on the word. Do not memorize a rule. Learn each word as you meet it.

Exercise 6 · Which kind is it?

Write the kind: **TWINS** · **SLIDE** · **CROWDED**.

개	사과	닭	의사
가게	값	귀	여덟

Exercise 7 · Decode three new words

These words are not in the video. Break each block into letters, read the word, and write the meaning (**milk** · **sea** · **movie**).

Word	Letters in each block	Meaning
우유	_____	_____
바다	_____	_____
영화	_____	_____

Exercise 8 · Read out loud (no romanization!)

Read each row out loud, then tick the boxes.

Words 1	개 게 네 새 가게	☐☐
Words 2	사과 귀 회사 의사 의자	☐☐
Words 3	닭 값 여덟	☐☐
Words 4	우유 바다 영화	☐☐

Exercise 9 · Quick quiz

1. How many vowels does Korean have in all?

A 10 **B** 21 **C** 30

2. How different do ㅐ and ㅔ sound?

A Very different **B** Almost the same **C** Silent

3. What is a slide vowel?

A Two vowels that slide into one sound **B** A silent vowel **C** A bottom letter

4. Which word has a crowded bottom?

A 개 **B** 닭 **C** 귀

5. Which word has a slide vowel?

A 가게 **B** 새 **C** 사과

6. Two letters at the bottom, end of a word. How many do you usually hear?

A Both **B** One **C** None

Unit 08 Master Check

- ☐ I know Korean has 21 vowels in all (10 basic + 11 extended)
- ☐ I know ㅐ and ㅔ sound almost the same and I tell them apart by spelling
- ☐ I know a slide vowel is two vowels sliding into one (ㅘ ㅝ ㅟ ㅞ ㅢ)
- ☐ I know two letters at the bottom: at the end of a word I usually hear just one
- ☐ I can read 닭 · 값 · 여덟 as 닥 · 갑 · 여덜
- ☐ I can read the video words without romanization
- ☐ I know I have now met the whole Hangul family

Keep going: Read the words out loud once a day and listen to the video again tomorrow. Next up is Unit 09: Hangul reading practice with real words.

Answer Key

Check your work. Then read every answer out loud once more.

Exercise 1

ㄱ+ㅐ = 개 · ㄱ+ㅔ = 게 · ㄴ+ㅔ = 네 · ㅅ+ㅐ = 새

Exercise 2

개 = dog · 게 = crab · 네 = yes · 새 = bird · 가게 = shop

Exercise 3

ㅗ+ㅏ = ㅘ · ㅜ+ㅓ = ㅝ · ㅜ+ㅣ = ㅟ · ㅗ+ㅣ = ㅚ · ㅡ+ㅣ = ㅢ

Exercise 4

사과 = apple · 귀 = ear · 회사 = company · 의사 = doctor · 의자 = chair · 원 = won (money)

Exercise 5

닭 = 닥 · chicken
값 = 갑 · price
여덟 = 여덜 · eight

Exercise 6

개 = TWINS · 사과 = SLIDE · 닭 = CROWDED · 의사 = SLIDE · 가게 = TWINS · 값 = CROWDED · 귀 = SLIDE · 여덟 = CROWDED

Exercise 7

우유 = (ㅇ+ㅜ)(ㅇ+ㅠ) · milk
바다 = (ㅂ+ㅏ)(ㄷ+ㅏ) · sea
영화 = (ㅇ+ㅕ+ㅇ)(ㅎ+ㅘ) · movie

Exercise 9

1. B (21: 10 basic + 11 extended) · 2. B (almost the same, tell them apart by spelling) · 3. A · 4. B (닭) · 5. C (사과) · 6. B (one)

> Some answers depend on your own pronunciation. Compare your voice with the native-speaker audio in the video.