

Hello and Thank you nearby park.

Dialogue

Scent #1

Clara: 어머, 안녕하세요?

Sangwoo: 아, 네, 반갑습니다, 또 만났네요.

Scent #2

Clara: 지난 번에는 너무 고마웠어요.

Sangwoo: 아니, 별것 아닌데요. 뭐... 괜찮습니다.

Sangwoo: 근데, 이 근처에 사시나 봐요?

Clara: 네, 저 건너편 장미아파트에 살아요.

Sangwoo: 아, 네 그러시군요. 또 뵙께요.

Clara: 네, 안녕히 가세요.

Sangwoo: 네...

Today's Expression

안녕하세요? (Annyeong-haseyo)

Meaning: Hi/Hello/How are you.

In Korea, we say '안녕하세요?' It's basically Korean version of 'hello' or 'hola'!

One thing to know is that Korean has different levels of politeness. Here's a quick look at the polite forms of '안녕하세요?'.

| Expression | Meaning in English | Politeness |
|------------|----------------------|---------------------------|
| 안녕? | Hi | Plain |
| 안녕하세요? | Hello / How are you? | Honorific |
| 안녕하십니까? | Hello / How are you? | Honorific formal/official |

Nuance & Tips

- 안녕?: Use this between friends or to children.
- 안녕하세요?: You can use anyone, anytime.
- 안녕하십니까?: News anchors, government announcements, and official corporate statements..

More Info

"안녕하세요?" is grammatically an interrogative sentence.

This can be used in place of just "Hi" or "Hello," but it is also a question that literally asks "How are you?"

It's important to note that you should not say "Hello?" to someone who has experienced misfortune or hardship. You should not say it to someone who has been involved in a funeral, accident, or other unfortunate event.

In such places, greetings vary depending on the occasion, but if you are not yet familiar with all the expressions, simply holding the person's hand warmly with both of yours will be appreciated.

감사합니다. (Gamsahamnida)

Meaning: Thank you.

"감사합니다" is a classic Korean expression of gratitude. It's similar to "thank you" in English, "gracias" in Spanish, and "airigato" in Japanese. However, it also has both formal and informal forms.

| Expression | Meaning in English | Politeness |
|-----------------|------------------------------|----------------------|
| 고맙다 / 고마워 | Thanks | Plain |
| 감사합니다. / 고맙습니다. | Thank you / Appreciate for ~ | Honorific / Official |

Both "감사합니다" and "고맙습니다" can be used, but "감사합니다" is more commonly used in formal settings, while "고맙습니다" is also commonly used in more personal and intimate situations. There are also expressions like "감사해요" and "고마워요" but these are not recommended for seniors. They are simply used to express gratitude out of respect for younger people, juniors.

Additional Expressions

괜찮습니다 (Gwaenchanseumnida)

Meaning: It's okay / I'm fine / No, thank you / That's alright / don't mind

A polite expression used very often in daily Korean conversation.

Main Uses

| Situation | Meaning in English | Usage |
|---------------|--|--------------------------------------|
| 괜찮아요 / 문제 없어요 | It's okay / It's fine. | Reassuring or giving permission |
| 고마워요, 필요 없어요 | No, thank you. | Politely declining |
| 저 괜찮아요 | I'm okay / I'm fine. | Expressing condition or feeling |
| 괜찮습니다! | Don't worry about it. / It's all good. | Understanding a mistake or situation |

Examples

괜찮습니다. 고맙습니다. — It's okay, thank you.

아, 괜찮습니다. — Oh, it's fine.

아니요, 괜찮습니다. — No, I'm fine.

괜찮습니다! 걱정하지 마세요. — I'm really okay. Don't worry.

안녕히 가세요/안녕히 계세요

When you meet someone and you leave first, in Korean you say:  “안녕히 계세요” (Annyeonghi gyeseyo)

This means “Goodbye, please stay well,” because you are leaving and the other person stays.

However, if you stay and the other person leaves first, you say:  “안녕히 가세요” (Annyeonghi gaseyo)

This means “Goodbye, please go safely,” because they are the one who is going.

For example, if you're at home and a guest is leaving your house, you say “안녕히 가세요” to them, and they say “안녕히 계세요” to you as they leave.

But if two people meet on the street and then go their separate ways, both say “안녕히 가세요” because both are going.

In a simple way:

- 가 (ga) = go 
- 계 (gye) = stay / remain 

So the expression changes depending on who goes and who stays.