



August Interviews

Interviewee: Lily

Capacity: Club Member

Hello Lily, how are you today?

Good, good.

We are here to interview as a club member for k-Language club. To start off, could you please introduce yourself?

Hi, I'm Lily, and I am a member of the K-Language club.

How long have you been in this club?

I would say since it started. I'm not exactly sure when, but we just celebrated our first anniversary last weekend haha.

How was the anniversary last weekend?

We didn't really celebrate, it was more like our club leaders just mentioned "Oh hey, today's our anniversary!" haha. At the time we had our first meeting of the month where we talked about Korean idioms, so it was really interesting.

Do you wish you could have celebrated a little more or did you enjoy the korean idioms?

The meeting and celebration was fine as is, at least for me haha. But maybe our leaders would prepare something during review week? I am not sure, but whether they do or not I don't really mind.

Do you think there is still something in play then, or do you think it's over with?

Well they always give us a schedule beforehand of what topics to expect each week, and most of our fun activities are done during review weeks so, anything could happen.



When you mentioned fun activities and reviews are you referring to 케비티?

Oh! That's something extra, I really appreciate them holding those by the way, but they're different.

So review weeks are when we go over the topics that we discussed during over the month. Sometimes it's sentence building, other times we may do kahoots.

For 케비티, those are done whenever. We've also done 끝말잇기 (a Korean word game) too. Now members are trying to do Korean tongue twisters.

So I heard a little about these korean tongue twisters, how are you finding them?

Hard, haha. My speaking level is low as it is, doing tongue twisters is way too advanced for me right now but reading them is fun.

It seems like a good way to improve on your speaking!

It is!

I would think because you wouldn't have to talk at a fast pace all the time.

Now we've mentioned 케비티 threads, as you said these include different activities. Have you participated in one of these activities?

I've done 끝말잇기 before. It was really fun and helpful learning-wise because I got to look up new words (to check if the words I would send in are actual words haha).

I've attended the review sessions before and they were a great way to reinforce the topics we went over during the month, but I couldn't attend the ones recently because of personal commitments.

Do you feel these activities are helping with your Korean studies?

Yup they definitely are! Also I would like to add that the club has been so helpful because they go through the topics that aren't usually found in Korean-learning curriculums, while we do touch on grammar sometimes as well as some vocabulary most of the topics are so specific that you would have to do some in-depth research if you want to learn more about it (I would say).



So like, aside from Korean idioms and tongue twisters, we also touched on slang, texting, phrases used when shopping, and more. My favorite thing to do was learning about Korean poems, they did such a good job! They began with how poems were structured in the olden days and moved on to how modern Korean poems are structured now, and what counts as a poem (Apparently, SNS poetry is/was really popular in Korea).

Yeah, I would imagine looking for reference materials to enforce these topics can be difficult since they're not as wide-spread? So I really applaud the efforts they put into preparing the videos and the activities to reinforce such topics.

(end of my love letter to K-language club hahaha)

Azzy: I think it's nice to know you like the club so much! It's good to see it's benefitting you also!

Definitely! Because honestly, I don't think I would have the initiative to find these topics myself with the little free time I have, so it's really helpful to get to learn these things and have a group to discuss with.

Speaking of Korean studies, how has the K-Language club contributed to your Korean learning journey as a whole?

So like I said, while the club doesn't touch on grammar too much (but they do supply some resources if need!) and despite it being named "K-language club," the topics they've shared show how the language molds around Korean culture (and how Korean culture molds into the language) and it's really interesting because again, you won't be seeing much of that in other straight-laced Korean-learning curriculums -- that being learning the language through its culture and it's movement with the times.

Azzy: So it's definitely more than just a language club! You are able to dive into the culture too.

Yup Yup!



What's your favorite thing about the club?

Everything, haha. Although if I really have to choose, it's definitely how everyone, especially the leaders, keep a nurturing and safe environment to practice and improve our Korean language skills.

As I mentioned before, we do sentence building sometimes, and we have some Begin-level people in the club too. There were times where they would feel discouraged since they feel they're not at the point where they can build sentences yet, but the leaders would encourage and/or give alternatives that would suit their level more!

Not a motto, but some of the words that really stuck to me while being in the club were somewhere along the lines of, "Though everyone is at different levels here, no one gets left behind".

Also my second most favorite thing about the club are the topics haha.

What is a fun memory you have in this club?

Hmm let me think..

Oh! Ok, got one. So to preface, most of our in-meeting activities are done individually. Like, we answer in spoilers so everyone has the chance to answer without cheating.

But one of the activities we had last June (Bangtan month!) was to make member profiles using the vocabulary we just learned, and it was by group! It was fun because we got to interact more with each other while trying to complete the activity.

Not that we don't interact at all during club meetings, we do haha, but it was a different kind of interaction than usual (since it was our first group activity ever) if that makes sense.



You mentioned you've been in the club for a while now! Do you have a favorite theme for the month you've enjoyed the most thus far?

Bangtan month was my favorite, haha!

Azzy: Is there a specific reason why, or are you just a huge fan of BTS haha?

Group activity is one of the reasons. But other than that, it's also how the leaders made different activities each week during that month

So on a usual month, three weeks would be dedicated to topics and we would mostly watch videos and hold discussions about them. And as I said before, the review weeks are when most of the activities are held. So if you think about it, the leaders prepare a unique activity once a month!

During Bangtan month though, we had unique activities each week, and they were so much fun!

We also got to learn more about the boys, haha, so that's definitely a plus.

In week 5, you tend to watch movies without the subs, do you find this beneficial?

Oh! Sadly, I haven't watched a movie with the club yet.

What are the interesting things you've learnt in the club and name something you've gained?

I don't think I can provide any other interesting thing aside from the topics and the members in the club (love them with all of my heart), but what I did gain is the habit of setting realistic goals for my Korean-learning.

So aside from 케미티, we have another thread where we post Korean-learning goals. Aside from being accountable, we get to encourage each other and share Korean learning resources.

How are club leadership?

Our dear leadership!



1. They're very organized with the topics and resources.
2. They're so creative with the activities. I am amazed at the stuff they prepared so far and I'm looking forward to what they have lined up next.
3. They're so supportive and lovely. They are doing a good job of maintaining a good and fun learning atmosphere for the club which I definitely think is a must when learning any foreign language.

How do you like the assignments?

They're great! They're so diverse in formatting (again, shout out to creativity!) and it really helps to recall the topics we had discussed beforehand.

They also accommodate the different levels we have in the club, so there are beginner-friendly assignments and more challenging ones for the intermediate learner

Do you receive feedback for the assignments?

Not really, but sometimes we do go over them in the next month's first meeting as a club. So those who have questions can ask and everyone can learn from the discussion too.

In regards to what you just said, do you find this to be helpful/useful to you?

Yup, definitely because timewise, we only get to meet 2 hours a week (4 hours if you want to go to both sessions haha) and each week is a different topic. So along with review week and doing the assignments, going over the assignments is another way to help recall the topics.

What are the things you don't like about the club or things you wish to change?

There's definitely nothing that I don't like about the club.

As for something to change, hmmm, well not really a change, but I hope to see more group activities like what we did during Bangtan month.

Since you're 'I'm fine' how do you think the assignments were 'I'm fine' friendly?



Oh! By those I meant most of our assignments would have two versions, one beginner-friendly and the other for intermediate learners. So I would choose the second one.

But there are assignments that are more manageable for me, and they're good for reviewing concepts I already know.

Lastly, Would you recommend members to join the club? If so, why?

Definitely! You get to learn the Korean language in a lot of fun ways while also appreciating the culture that comes along with it!

Thank you for attending the interview Lily!

