



# November Interviews

**Interviewee:** Moonie

**Capacity:** OG Mentor

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**Hello Moonie, how are you today?**

Hi! I'm great. Thanks for asking.

**We are here to interview you, one of the original Mentors of 아미 KSG, for the yearbook! To start off, could you please introduce yourself?**

I'm Moonie, 24 years old. I'm a university student, and I've been a K-Pop fan since 2007, so you can say since I was 9 years old.

**What initially made you decide to join the server?**

I had this habit of learning Korean, but it was infrequent. I would always start learning, and then stop for a while, and continue after some time, so I really wanted to stop being like that and force myself to actually commit to it. That's why I decided to join a server that would help me keep me focused on learning.

**How did you, Ka, Dani and Nae initially meet?**

I first saw Dani's post on Twitter saying she wanted to start a group chat with people who also wanted to learn Korean. And after some conversations in that group chat, she invited me to be one of the Mentors for the Discord server she was planning. That's also where I met Ka. We immediately got along so well, so that was fortunate. I met Nae later when she joined as an Organizer (currently a turned Mentor).



**You are currently a Mentor for the server. Were you always a Mentor?**

Yes, I have been ever since the server was basically a fetus.

**How have you been finding your experience so far as a Mentor?**

At first, it was fun and something new that I have not done before. Then life got in the way, and things weren't going so well in the server either, staff-wise, so to be completely honest, it did get stressful and a bit too much for me at times. But I genuinely like helping people with the knowledge I have even though it is limited, so this experience has been very enjoyable most of the time.

**When did you start learning korean?**

Around 2016, I believe. That's when I started learning 한글. Then after, I took a break, and started in 2017, and then resumed in 2020.

**What made you start learning korean?**

A friend of mine got into BTS back in 2016, and she immediately started learning Korean to understand them. And I thought to myself, "I've been in the K-Pop game for much longer. Why haven't I started learning it yet?." Basically I got competitive but not only that, as someone who has been watching Korean media for years, I got used to waiting for English subs every time something was released and always depended on translators, so I never gave it much thought, but it's nice not having to wait for someone to translate it when you can understand it yourself now.

**So you've been a Mentor for some time now. What would you say the best part is?**

When people do not ghost you. I am kidding, however, it is partially true. For me, the best part is to watch people's Korean knowledge evolve while being a part of this server as we are all learning and growing our knowledge of Korean.



**In addition, what is your favorite task to do as a Mentor?**

Depends on the day, honestly. Sometimes, I am really motivated to answer everyone's questions, and sometimes I am not. Recently, since I don't have much time for anything else, the Lives I'm doing for the Beginner Course (Soundcheck) are pretty lively.

**What are perhaps some of the challenges you have faced?**

I know this one. Ghosting. We used to get ghosted a lot back in the day so much that we turned it into a meme and even named an emoji out of the situation. That's why we value communication a lot on the server, but sometimes it still happens.

**Going back to Korean, do you feel as though K-Pop and K-Dramas have helped you with your Korean? If not, could you please elaborate?**

Definitely did. It's where I'm constantly exposed to Korean. I'm always trying to understand it without looking at the subtitles, and always learning new expressions too.

**How is it working with the other staff?**

Like I have mentioned before, it wasn't easy at first. There's been a lot of changes in the past 2 years, but I'm very thankful to the ones who stayed and also the new staff members who excitedly agreed to help out, I'm very thankful to them. They love this server just as much, and they're much more creative than I am for sure. Coming up with new ideas isn't easy, but they pull through every time.

**Recently the server had its 2-year anniversary; how did this make you feel?**



Looking back, I realized that I haven't helped out as much as I would like, so a part of me feels guilty about that. But watching it bloom from a simple idea from Dani to what it is now will never fail to amaze me.

**Seeing as you were here since the beginning, has the server always been quota-based? Please elaborate.**

Not really but kind of? We did distribute between the Mentors what we had to work on to present to the server members, so in that sense we did have a "quota" - sometimes they wouldn't work out as we planned, but it definitely wasn't something like we have now. I think we're much more organized now on what we have to do, on what we have to bring to the table per se, on what's missing, etc.

**What was the hardest change you had to get used to on the server?**

Probably the Lives? When the idea was first introduced, I was honestly quite reluctant about it.

**Why was it so difficult to adapt to?**

I get a bit anxious when speaking to other people, especially people I'm not familiar with. Now I'm more comfortable, not always but I'm getting used to it.

**What has been your favorite change or inclusion in the server?**

I really love the Clubs' idea. I haven't joined any club because I can't commit to them as much as I would like timewise. It's a shame though. There are some I would really like to attend. Maybe, when I have more time in the future.

**Additionally, how does it feel in regards to the server having its own website?**



I think it's great! Well done, Nae! For real, I do think it's amazing and so well put together. Nae really puts a lot of time and effort into this server, and for her first website creation to be about 아미 KSG, it means a lot, and I hope more people appreciate it!

**That is all of the questions we have, but would you like to add anything?**

I have nothing special to add. This was way more interesting to do. Anyway, all I have to say is: 아미 KSG, 계속 수고했어요! 앞으로도 즐거운 공부 되세요! 파이팅!

