



November Interviews

Interviewee: Nae

Capacity: OG Organizer & Mentor

Hello Nae, how are you today?

Hi! I'm doing well, thank you.

We are here to interview you as an Organizer of 아미 KSG the KSG server for the yearbook! To start off, could you please introduce yourself?

Sure! Hello, again haha. My name is Nae, and I'm an Organizer and a Mentor here at 아미 KSG.

What made you decide to initially join the server?

I was on Twitter one day and came across a post looking for Organizers for 아미 KSG. I believe they were also looking for Mentors, but I decided I would just go for an Organizer. I had been relatively new to learning Korean at the time, and the idea of a community geared towards learning Korean sounded nice.

How did you, Ka, Moonie, and Dani initially meet?

I actually only met them once before I joined the server. Dani was the first person I talked with, and that's because she was running the Twitter account. We talked first on Twitter, then I moved to Discord where I met Ka, Moonie, and the other Mentors who were there.

What about being an Organizer, could you describe and explain your experience?



Being an Organizer is a lot of fun. There's a lot of work to do sometimes, but I love it. The tasks and requirements have changed over time, as we transitioned from Soundcheck to General, but I haven't lost interest yet *laughs*. In the earlier stages of the server, there were less Organizer staff, so the workload was kind of heavy, especially with being a Mentor at the same time. Since then, we've gained more staff as we implemented more activities. and So the workload is fairly even now. I'm not complaining though. I love all that I do here on the server.

When did you start learning Korean?

I started in the summer of 2019. A lot of people probably know this because I've said it so many times haha. But for the first few months of my learning, I zeroed in on 한글. I spent my days practicing the letters, listening to natives and other learners speak, learning the sound change rules, and all of that. I didn't start learning grammar or anything until I was confident I had mastered the alphabet.

What initially made you start learning Korean?

Part of the reason is BTS. Another part is because I was bored. I've always loved learning languages. So, in summer of 2019, I found myself bored one day and just decided to start learning 한글 the alphabet.

So you've been an Organizer and a Mentor for some time now. What would you say the best part of the two is?

Hmm This is hard to choose, but I'd say it's coming up with new ideas for the members to benefit from. Sometimes it's a course, and sometimes it's an activity, but either way it's always nice when I get an idea about something new to add.



In addition, what is your favorite task to do for the two?

Not sure if you meant separately, but I'll just answer as such. For mentoring, I love hosting sessions. This goes for both the activities, such as Lives and Speaking, to courses like Beginner Korean, and Soundcheck way back then. For organizing, it's similar. I love planning and hosting events for the members to take part in. Most of the events on the server (the live ones like Tournaments, Lives, anniversary events, etc) are planned and hosted by me, and the process is always fun. It's especially rewarding when I see the members enjoying themselves.

What are perhaps some of the challenges you have faced?

Oof, this is a tough one. I think probably as a Mentor, it's hard to host so many activities sometimes. Most of the time it's either Ka or I who's hosting, so it gets a lot sometimes. Finding the time, preparing the materials, hosting the session. It sometimes gets a bit challenging.

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

Yes I do, and I think this is the same for a lot of people. I'm not like some people who claim they learned the entire language just by watching shows, but they have definitely helped, particularly with my listening. I don't use them as main sources, and I often don't watch or listen with the intent to learn, but it's a welcomed bonus.

How is it working with the other staff?

I love my team. Both my Mentor team and my Org (Organizing) team. The Mentor team is less stable and has changed a lot over time, but I'm grateful for the constants - namely Moonie, Tisha, and Ka of course, who've remained and continue to be a great help. The Org staff team continues to grow, and I'm grateful for them as well. They're all happy and willing to help out and



bring a lot of great ideas to the table. We have our various systems in place to make the workflow seamless and ensure that one person is not doing too much. It's a great experience overall.

Recently the server had its 2-year anniversary. How did this make you feel?

Very happy. It seems simple, but really, I'm so happy to see how far the server has come. It's a wonderful community of people, and I hope we can continue to grow and celebrate even more anniversaries. This one was great, so hopefully we can top next year, and the year after, and the year after.

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

Technically, yes, just in a totally different way. Back then, when it was just Soundcheck, we had mentees divided into "serious" and "casual." Serious mentees had to join their weekly sessions and complete their homework, tests, and projects. Casual mentees had everything the same minus the weekly sessions and a longer deadline for homework. When you failed to do any of those, you'd get a warning. The way the server uses quota now is very different.

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

I honestly cannot think of one. I've been involved in most, if not all, of the changes that have happened on the server, and they were all implemented once we all agreed. So I honestly can't think of anything that was difficult to adapt to.

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

Clubs! I love the idea of clubs, and of people with a similar interest coming together and sharing that interest. When I'd first shared the idea, we had



around 6 or so clubs being voted on. Now that number has grown significantly, and I absolutely love to see it.

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

Absolutely crazy. When I first mentioned to Dani and Ka that “hey, I’m gonna make a website for the server,” I was high off the fact that I’d just learned HTML and CSS and was able to do a lot of things with them. When I started, it was just raw HTML and CSS, no frameworks or anything. So while it was cute, there was like zero functionality [*laughs*]. The previous designs are atrocious compared to what it is now. The process was very fun though. Seeing it come to life is just crazy to me, but I hope to continuously work on it as time goes on.

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

Not really. I’m just super proud of how far the server has come, and hope that everyone enjoys their time here, new or old.