

SAYING HELLO AND GOODBYE IN KOREAN

Korean has a few ways of saying hello and goodbye. Usually there is just one standard greeting, but there are also times when you can use different greetings when you or someone is leaving a place.



#1 “안녕하세요?”

(an-nyeong-ha-se-yo)

This is the most basic greeting in Korean. You will hear this often, and you can greet people you know with this. The literal translation for this is “Are you at peace?” This is polite, but the more formal version of this greeting would be “안녕하십니까?”



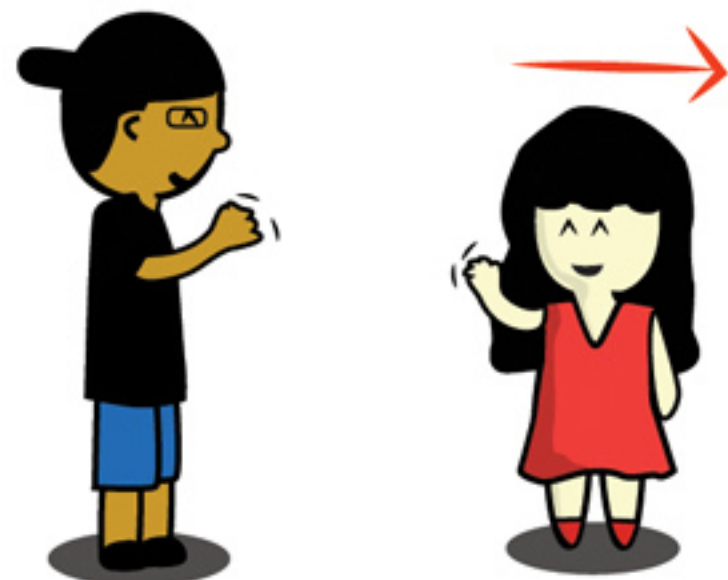
FORMAL

안녕하십니까?
(an-nyeong-ha-shib-ni-kka)

#2 “안녕히 계세요”

(an-nyeong-hee gye-se-yo)

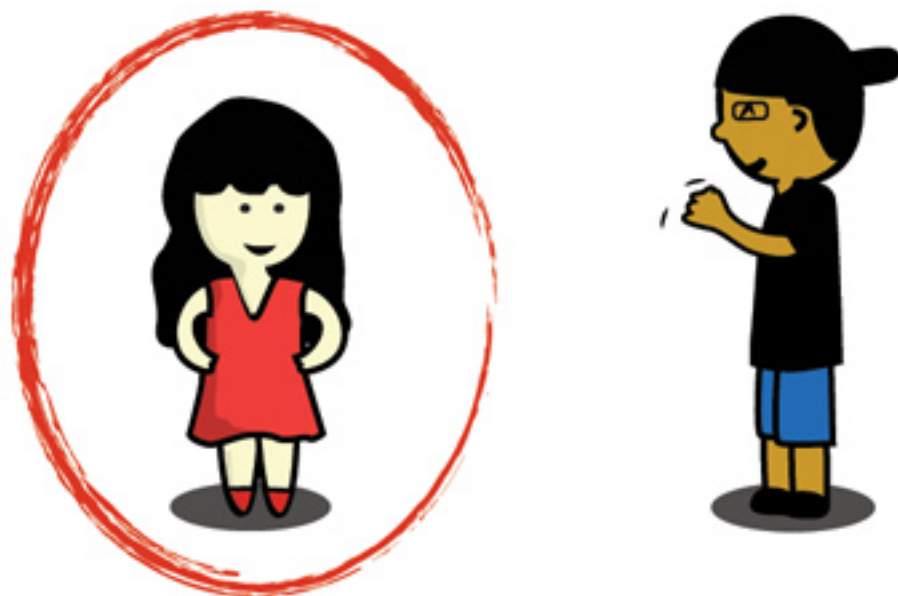
You can use this phrase if you are leaving a place, and the other person is staying.



#3 “안녕히 가세요”

(an-nyeong-hee ga-se-yo)

You can use this phrase if you are staying, and the other person is leaving. If you are both leaving, you can use this as well.



#4 안녕/안녕

(an-nyeong/an-nyong)

RULES

Only use these with close friends. It's rude otherwise.



Short ways of saying Hello (#1). “안녕” can be used as a hello and goodbye. “안녕” is a cute way of saying the same thing, but it's not gramatically correct.