Metaphors in Korean – Animals, Colors, Emotions, Sports

Materials for Intermediate and Advanced Learners of Korean

Project Group:
Jiyun Kim and Miso Kim
with James P. Lantolf,
Penn State University
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INTRODUCTION

Metaphor is recognized as a fundamental cognitive ability that we think and live by and is no longer considered “a matter of extraordinary rather than ordinary language” as George Lakoff stated some decades ago. The metaphors “we live by,” as he says, are our conceptual metaphors and they are so deeply rooted in our thinking and action that some of them have become conventionalized conceptual structures that play a central role in our culture.

Metaphors are created and used to help us understand and talk about new and usually abstract and/or vague concepts. We do this by connecting what we perceive to be features of the abstract or vague concept to features of a concept that we already know and understand quite well. This typically involves something concrete that we, and other members of our culture, have experienced on a regular basis. Technically, the concept that we try to understand is referred to as the “target” domain and the concept that we connect this to in order to achieve understanding is referred to as the “source” domain.

For example, emotions such as anger, hate, love, sadness, etc. are not so easily defined when compared to concrete objects such as chair or dog. Instead of defining abstract phenomena like emotions, we create metaphors to understand and talk about them. Anglo culture and English speakers, for instance, have used several source domains in generating metaphors to think and talk about anger. “Liquid in a container” is one of those sources. Think of water that is heated in a pan on top of a stove. Eventually, the water begins to boil and we can see steam rising from the pan. In English, we have expressions like “he is boiling mad,” or “she is so angry steam is coming out of her ears.” We not only talk about anger in this way, but we think about and even experience it as similar to boiling liquid.

English and Korean, and some other languages, share the basic source domain for the target domain HAPPINESS IS UP and SADNESS IS DOWN in “I am feeling up,” “he is in high spirits,” or “I am feeling down,” and “he is in low spirits.”

Both in Korean and in English, we often describe “people” in terms of features or qualities of “animals”. There are quite a few metaphors with ANIMALS in Korean. Some are similar to English ones, some are not similar, and others do not exist in English at all.

For instance, in English “a night owl” is a “person who enjoys staying up at night,” so the Merriam-Webster Dictionary tells us. “Night owl” in reference to “people,” thus the metaphor, appeared first in the English language in 1845. Korean and English share the meaning of the metaphor. They render it slightly differently linguistically — in English we must use “a night owl” to capture the metaphoric meaning but in Korean we use only “owl” to capture the metaphoric meaning.

OWL

A PERSON WHO STAYS UP AND ACTIVE LATE IS AN OWL

**Lexical item:** 올빼미

**Literal translation:** an owl

**Grammatical information:** noun

**Metaphorical meaning:** a night person

**Example:** 나는 올빼미라서 밤 늦게 공부하는 게 더 좋아.
We also very often make reference to “color” when we use metaphors in everyday language. “Black money” means “illegally obtained income” and is based on the belief that black is associated with evil intention. Both English and Korean share the metaphorical meaning of “black money.”

**EVIL INTENTION IS BLACK**

**Lexical Item:** 검은 돈  
**Literal Translation:** black money  
**Grammatical Information:** adjective + noun  
**Metaphorical Meaning:** money obtained by evil means  
**Example:** 서울시장이 검은 돈을 받아서 감옥에 갔다.

As you see in these two examples, the target domain, i.e. what the source is to describe, looks a bit different. In the dictionary entry “A PERSON WHO STAYS UP AND ACTIVE LATE IS AN OWL” the target is a longer, more detailed description. In “EVIL INTENTION IS BLACK” it is shorter. We chose to do that, because sometimes it is necessary to be more descriptive in order to make the meaning of the metaphor more salient and easier to see.

In the dictionary we compiled, we analyzed a substantial number of conceptual metaphors in Korean around the source domains ANIMALS, COLORS, EMOTIONS, SPORTS. We then grouped the metaphors according to the type of the source, such as “what animal,” “which color,” “what kind of emotion,” “what type of sport.” And within each sub-source, we further organized them according to a feature or quality of the source that gives rise to the metaphoric meaning. Staying with the example of “HUMAN IS ANIMAL”, “ANIMAL IS PIG”, we can easily see that a metaphoric expression, such as “John is a pig” can mean a few things: John could have a messy office. John could be a sloppy dresser. John could be a greedy person.

This dictionary is not complete, but it contains metaphors in Korean which are important to know about. We hope that engaging with conceptual metaphors in Korean will help you become more aware of the language and help in your language development.

Gabriela Appel and James P. Lantolf
**Amoeba**

**A STUPID AND FORGETFUL PERSON IS AN AMOEBA**

1. **LEXICAL ITEM**: 아메바
   **LITERAL TRANSLATION**: an amoeba
   **GRAMMATICAL INFORMATION**: noun
   **METAPHORICAL MEANING**: a person who tends to forget things too easily; a person who is stupid and gullible
   **EXAMPLE**: 너 아메바냐? 그걸 왜 또 잊어버려?
   **LITERAL TRANSLATION**: Are you an amoeba? Why do you forget it again?

**Bat**

**A NIGHT PERSON IS A BAT**

2. **LEXICAL ITEM**: 박쥐
   **LITERAL TRANSLATION**: a bat
   **GRAMMATICAL INFORMATION**: noun
   **METAPHORICAL MEANING**: a person who stays up late at night
   **EXAMPLE**: 우리 애는 박쥐예요. 밤에 잠을 안 자요.
   **LITERAL TRANSLATION**: My kid is a bat. He hardly sleeps at night.

**A SLY OPPORTUNIST IS A BAT**

3. **LEXICAL ITEM**: 박쥐
   **LITERAL TRANSLATION**: a bat
   **GRAMMATICAL INFORMATION**: noun
   **METAPHORICAL MEANING**: a sly opportunist who changes his/her side, group, or opinion frequently for personal gain
   **EXAMPLE**: 저 애는 박쥐니까 같이 놀지 마라.
   **LITERAL TRANSLATION**: Don’t get along with that kid because s/he is a bat.

**Bear**

**AN OBTUSE PERSON IS A BEAR**

4. **LEXICAL ITEM**: 곰탱이
   **LITERAL TRANSLATION**: a bear
   **GRAMMATICAL INFORMATION**: noun; Register: derogatory
   **METAPHORICAL MEANING**: an obtuse person who is not smart, sharp, keen or sensible enough
   **EXAMPLE**: 정신 차려 이 곰탱야. 재가 너 좋아하는 줄 알아?
   **LITERAL TRANSLATION**: Wake up, you bear. Do you think s/he likes you?
A PERSON WHO TALKS AND ACTS INDISCREETLY IS A BLACK-FACED BUNTING

LEXICAL ITEM: 쥐새
LITERAL TRANSLATION: a black-faced bunting
GRAMMATICAL INFORMATION: noun; Register: colloquial
METAPHORICAL MEANING: a flippant person who talks and acts indiscreetly, a blabbermouth, a chatterbox
EXAMPLE: 남의 개인적 비밀을 저렇게 경솔하게 말하고 다니다니! 쥐새구나.
LITERAL TRANSLATION: Talking one’s personal secret that frivolously! He is a black-faced bunting.

A PERSON WHO KNOWS BETTER IS A PHOENIX

LEXICAL ITEM: 봉황
LITERAL TRANSLATION: an oriental phoenix
GRAMMATICAL INFORMATION: noun
METAPHORICAL MEANING: a person who has a broad view, who sees the bigger picture; a person who knows better; a knowledgeable person; a person with most authority and power
EXAMPLE: 세상을 바꾸려는 봉황의 큰 생각을 알기에는 너희들은 너무 어리다.
LITERAL TRANSLATION: You guys are too young to understand an oriental phoenix’s big idea to change the world.

A PERSON MORE CAPABLE THAN HIS/HER COMPETITOR IS A STORK

LEXICAL ITEM: 황새
LITERAL TRANSLATION: a stork
GRAMMATICAL INFORMATION: noun
METAPHORICAL MEANING: a person who is faster than his/her competitor; a person who is more capable (of doing things) compared to his/her competitor
EXAMPLE: 나 오늘 황새따라가다가 가량이 쳐있길 뻔했어.
LITERAL TRANSLATION: I almost tore my crotch by trying to follow a stork today.

A COWARD IS A BIRD CHEST

LEXICAL ITEM: 새가슴
LITERAL TRANSLATION: bird chest
GRAMMATICAL INFORMATION: noun + noun
METAPHORICAL MEANING: a person who easily gets scared; a coward; a wimp
EXAMPLE: 저 사람 새가슴이라 아마 쉽게 결정을 못 내릴 거야.
LITERAL TRANSLATION: He will probably not be able to make a decision easily, since he is a bird chest.

TO BE FORGETFUL IS TO EAT CROW MEAT

LEXICAL ITEM: 까마귀 고기를 먹다
LITERAL TRANSLATION: to eat crow meat
GRAMMATICAL INFORMATION: object phrase + verb
METAPHORICAL MEANING: to forget things easily
EXAMPLE: 너 까마귀 고기를 먹었냐? 왜 맨날 잊어버려?
LITERAL TRANSLATION: Did you eat crow meat? Why do you forget things every day?
**A PERSON WITH KEEN EYES HAS HAWK’S EYES**

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**LEXICAL ITEM:** 매의 눈
**LITERAL TRANSLATION:** hawk’s eye
**GRAMMATICAL INFORMATION:** possessive (or genitive) phrase + noun
**METAPHORICAL MEANING:** keen eyes
**EXAMPLE:** 그는 매의 눈으로 부하들의 일거수일투족을 모두 감시하고 있었다.
**LITERAL TRANSLATION:** He was watching his subordinates’ every move with hawk’s eyes.

**Calf**

**A MEAN PERSON WHO DOES NOT FOLLOW RULES IS A CALF WITH A HORN COMING OUT OF THE BUTT**

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**LEXICAL ITEM:** 엉덩이에 뿔난 송아지
**LITERAL TRANSLATION:** a calf with a horn at the butt
**GRAMMATICAL INFORMATION:** adjective phrase + noun; Register: colloquial
**METAPHORICAL MEANING:** a mean, unruly person who digresses rules
**EXAMPLE:** 엄마 말을 안 들으면 엉덩이에 뿔난 송아지 된다.
**LITERAL TRANSLATION:** If you don’t listen to your mom, you will become a calf with a horn coming out of the butt.

**Carp**

**A FORGETFUL PERSON IS A CARP**

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**LEXICAL ITEM:** 붕어
**LITERAL TRANSLATION:** a carp
**GRAMMATICAL INFORMATION:** noun
**METAPHORICAL MEANING:** a person who tends to have a short memory span; a person who tends to forget things too easily
**EXAMPLE:** 너 붕어냐? 왜 자꾸 똑같은 질문을 반복하는 거야?
**LITERAL TRANSLATION:** Are you a carp? Why do you keep asking the same question over and over?

**Chicken**

**AN UNFASHIONABLE PERSON FROM SMALL TOWN IS A COUNTRY CHICKEN**

13

**LEXICAL ITEM:** 촌닭
**LITERAL TRANSLATION:** a rural chicken
**GRAMMATICAL INFORMATION:** noun + noun; Register: colloquial
**METAPHORICAL MEANING:** a rural person who have not experienced urban life
**EXAMPLE:** 촌닭 주제에 누굴 넘봐?
**LITERAL TRANSLATION:** How dare do you make a move on me, you rural chicken?
A FORGETFUL PERSON IS A CHICKEN HEAD

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**METONYMY:** a chicken head stands for human brain
**LEXICAL ITEM:** 닭대가리
**LITERAL TRANSLATION:** a chicken head
**GRAMMATICAL INFORMATION:** noun
**METAPHORICAL MEANING:** a person who tends to have a short memory span; a person who tends to forget things too easily; a person who does not learn things quickly
**EXAMPLE:** 저 닭대가리는 어제 수업한 내용도 잊어버렸다.
**LITERAL TRANSLATION:** That chicken head forgot the content of yesterday’s lesson.

Cow

A HARD-WORKING PERSON IS A COW

15

**LEXICAL ITEM:** (황)소
**LITERAL TRANSLATION:** A (yellow) cow
**GRAMMATICAL INFORMATION:** noun
**METAPHORICAL MEANING:** a person who always works diligently
**EXAMPLE:** 그 사람이 완전히 소야, 소. 밤낮으로 일만 해.
**LITERAL TRANSLATION:** He is completely a cow, a cow. He works days and nights.

STUBBORNNESS IS COW OBSTINACY

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**METONYMY:** A person’s stubbornness refers to a person
**LEXICAL ITEM:** 황소 고집
**LITERAL TRANSLATION:** yellow-cow obstinacy
**GRAMMATICAL INFORMATION:** noun + noun
**METAPHORICAL MEANING:** extreme stubbornness
**EXAMPLE:** 저 인간 아주 황소고집이야.
**LITERAL TRANSLATION:** That person is complete yellow-cow obstinacy.

Dog

A RAMBUNCTIOUS DRUNKEN PERSON IS A DOG

17

**LEXICAL ITEM:** 개
**LITERAL TRANSLATION:** a dog
**GRAMMATICAL INFORMATION:** noun
**METAPHORICAL MEANING:** a person who acts rambunctiously and out control when drunk
**EXAMPLE:** 개는 다 좋은데, 술만 마시면 개가 돼.
**LITERAL TRANSLATION:** He is good in every way except that he becomes a dog whenever he drinks.
A SUBSERVIENT TRAITOR IS A DOG

LEXICAL ITEM: 개
LITERAL TRANSLATION: a dog
GRAMMATICAL INFORMATION: noun
METAPHORICAL MEANING: a person who leaves a group and is perceived as acting subserviently in another group is regarded as a traitor
EXAMPLE: 그 인간은 우리를 배신하고 다른 팀의 개가 되었다.
LITERAL TRANSLATION: The person betrayed us and became a dog of the other team.

MEANINGLESSNESS IS A DOG

LEXICAL ITEM: 개꿈
LITERAL TRANSLATION: a dog dream
GRAMMATICAL INFORMATION: noun + noun; Register: colloquial
FIGURATIVE MEANING: a dream that means nothing; a dream that does not require any special attention or interpretation
EXAMPLE: 그거 개꿈일거야. 신경 쓰지마.
LITERAL TRANSLATION: It’s probably a dog dream. Don’t worry about it too much.

MISBEHAVIOR IS A DOG

LEXICAL ITEM: 개망나니
LITERAL TRANSLATION: a dog gangster
GRAMMATICAL INFORMATION: noun + noun; Register: derogatory
METAPHORICAL MEANING: a wild, unruly person
EXAMPLE: 그 집 아들 개망나니로 유명하잖아! 항상 부모님과 선생님에게 대들어.
LITERAL TRANSLATION: The son in the family is well-known as a dog gangster. He always fights against his parents and teachers.

LEXICAL ITEM: 개수작
LITERAL TRANSLATION: a dog trick
GRAMMATICAL INFORMATION: noun + noun; Register: derogatory
METAPHORICAL MEANING: a trick to commit misdeed
EXAMPLE: 너 내 과제 옷보려고 개수작 하는 거지? 내가 모를 줄 알았어?
LITERAL TRANSLATION: Are you doing a dog trick to steal a glance at my assignment? Did you think I didn’t know?

NEGATIVE SEVERENESS IS A DOG

LEXICAL ITEM: 개고생
LITERAL TRANSLATION: a dog hardship
GRAMMATICAL INFORMATION: noun + noun; Register: colloquial
METAPHORICAL MEANING: a severe hardship
EXAMPLE: 너 때문에 개고생 해봤어!
LITERAL TRANSLATION: I went through a dog hardship because of you!
23 | **LEXICAL ITEM:** 개망신
**LITERAL TRANSLATION:** a dog embarrassment
**GRAMMATICAL INFORMATION:** noun + noun; Register: colloquial
**METAPHORICAL MEANING:** an extremely bad embarrassment
**EXAMPLE:** 나 오늘 개망신 당했어.
**LITERAL TRANSLATION:** I got dog embarrassed today.

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**Foodworm**

*A LAZY PERSON WHO ONLY EATS AND DOES NOTHING IS A FOODWORM*

24 | **LEXICAL ITEM:** 식충
**LITERAL TRANSLATION:** a food worm
**GRAMMATICAL INFORMATION:** noun; Register: derogatory
**METAPHORICAL MEANING:** a good-for-nothing; a glutton
**EXAMPLE:** 이 식충아, 밥만 졸내지 말고 나가서 돈 좀 벌어요.
**LITERAL TRANSLATION:** You food worm, stop wasting food and go out earn some money.

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**Fox**

*A FEMALE WHO IS SNEAKY AND SEDUCTIVE IS A FIRE FOX*

25 | **LEXICAL ITEM:** 불여우
**LITERAL TRANSLATION:** fire fox
**GRAMMATICAL INFORMATION:** noun + noun
**METAPHORICAL MEANING:** a female who tends to be mean and sneaky; a female who is good at seducing males
**EXAMPLE:** 저 여자 완전히 불여우어요. 항상 남자를 유혹해서 자기가 원하는 걸 얻어내요.
**LITERAL TRANSLATION:** That woman is completely a fire fox. She always gets what she wants by seducing males.

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*A FEMALE WHO IS CUNNINGLY CLEVER IS A FOX*

26 | **LEXICAL ITEM:** 여우
**LITERAL TRANSLATION:** a fox
**GRAMMATICAL INFORMATION:** noun
**METAPHORICAL MEANING:** a female who is clever and knows how to be skillfully subtle and sly
**EXAMPLE:** 걔가 둔해 보여도 진짜 여우야.
**LITERAL TRANSLATION:** She may look obtuse but in fact she is a real fox.
Frog

**A CONTRARIAN IS A BLUE [GREEN] FROG**

LEXICAL ITEM: 청개구리
LITERAL TRANSLATION: blue (actual meaning, green) frog
GRAMMATICAL INFORMATION: noun
METAPHORICAL MEANING: a person (usually a child) who frequently does the opposite of what is told intentionally
EXAMPLE: 너 도대체 언제까지 청개구리짓 할거야?
LITERAL TRANSLATION: Until when in the world are you going to do the blue frog behavior?

Insect

**A SLAGGISH PERSON IS A CICADA LARVA**

LEXICAL ITEM: 긱뱅이
LITERAL TRANSLATION: a cicada larva
GRAMMATICAL INFORMATION: noun
METAPHORICAL MEANING: a sluggish person
EXAMPLE: 빨리 좀 준비해, 이 긱뱅이야.
LITERAL TRANSLATION: Hurry up and get ready, you cicada larva.

Leech

**A PERSON WHO ALWAYS CLINGS TO AND PREYS ON ANOTHER PERSON IS A LEECH**

LEXICAL ITEM: 거머리
LITERAL TRANSLATION: a leech
GRAMMATICAL INFORMATION: noun
METAPHORICAL MEANING: a person who stubbornly clings to someone for a personal gain; blood sucker
EXAMPLE: 스토커 한 명이 계속 거머리같이 달라붙어서 너무 무서워.
LITERAL TRANSLATION: I’m so scared because a stalker adheres to me like a leech.

Monkey

**TWO PEOPLE WHO ARE ALWAYS ON BAD TERMS ARE A DOG AND A MONKEY**

LEXICAL ITEM: 견원지간
LITERAL TRANSLATION: dog-and-monkey terms or relationship
GRAMMATICAL INFORMATION: noun
METAPHORICAL MEANING: two people who always fight with each other or who are always on bad terms
EXAMPLE: 그 둘은 견원지간이에요. 허구한 날 싸워.
LITERAL TRANSLATION: The two are on dog-and-monkey terms. They always fight with each other.
* Some Korean speakers use ‘dog-and-cat terms’ to convey the same meaning.
A FAT PERSON IS A PIG

31  LEXICAL ITEM: 돼지
LITERAL TRANSLATION: a pig
GRAMMATICAL INFORMATION: noun
METAPHORICAL MEANING: a fat and gluttonous person
EXAMPLE: 피자 한 판을 다 먹다니, 너 돼지 아냐?
LITERAL TRANSLATION: Eating a whole pizza alone, are you a pig?

A STUPID AND GREEDY PERSON IS A PIG

32  LEXICAL ITEM: 돼지
LITERAL TRANSLATION: a pig
GRAMMATICAL INFORMATION: noun
METAPHORICAL MEANING: a greedy person
EXAMPLE: 그 돼지가 내 몫의 돈까지 빼어갔다.
LITERAL TRANSLATION: That pig robbed my share of money.

Snake

AN ILL-MINDED SEDUCTIVE FEMALE IS A FLOWER SNAKE

33  LEXICAL ITEM: 꽃뱀
LITERAL TRANSLATION: a flower snake
GRAMMATICAL INFORMATION: noun
METAPHORICAL MEANING: a female who exploits men with sex appeal
EXAMPLE: 옆집 아저씨가 그 꽃뱀 때문에 전 재산을 잃었대.
LITERAL TRANSLATION: The man living in the next door lost all his fortune because of that flower snake.

A PERSON WHO IS DECEITFUL AND CONCEALS ACTUAL INTENTIONS [EMOTIONS, PLAN] IS A RED SPOTTED SNAKE

34  LEXICAL ITEM: 능구렁이
LITERAL TRANSLATION: a red spotted snake
GRAMMATICAL INFORMATION: noun
METAPHORICAL MEANING: a sneaky person who is sly and plays tricks cautiously without arousing suspicion or being noticed easily
EXAMPLE: 그 애 완전히 능구렁이야. 사람들을 아주 응용하게 잘 다룬다니까.
LITERAL TRANSLATION: That kid is completely a red spotted snake. He knows how to control people in a deceitful manner.

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A SLY AND SNEAKY PERSON IS A RED SPOTTED SNAKE

LEXICAL ITEM: 능구렁이
LITERAL TRANSLATION: a red spotted snake
GRAMMATICAL INFORMATION: noun
METAPHORICAL MEANING: A sly and sneaky person who intentionally conceals his or her fault
EXAMPLE: 그는 항상 능구렁이처럼 자기 잘못을 덮는다.
LITERAL TRANSLATION: He always covers up his mistakes like a red spotted snake.

Tick

A PERSON WHO CONTINUOUSLY follows SOMEONE AROUND IS A TICK

LEXICAL ITEM: 진드기
LITERAL TRANSLATION: a tick
GRAMMATICAL INFORMATION: noun
METAPHORICAL MEANING: a person who follows someone around like a shadow
EXAMPLE: 그 인간 진짜 진드기야. 내 옆에 달라붙어서 떨어질 생각을 안 하더라고.
LITERAL TRANSLATION: The person is a real tick. S/he wouldn't think of being apart from me by fastening on me.

Tiger

A STRICT TEACHER IS A TIGER TEACHER

LEXICAL ITEM: 호랑이 선생님
LITERAL TRANSLATION: a tiger teacher
GRAMMATICAL INFORMATION: noun + noun
METAPHORICAL MEANING: a strict (but warm-hearted) teacher
EXAMPLE: 호랑이 선생님이 어째 저리 부드러워지셨을까?
LITERAL TRANSLATION: How come the tiger teacher has softened out like that?

TO LOSE POWER IS TO BECOME A TIGER WITHOUT TEETH

LEXICAL ITEM: 이빨 빠진 호랑이
LITERAL TRANSLATION: a tiger without teeth
GRAMMATICAL INFORMATION: relative clause + noun
METAPHORICAL MEANING: a non-influential person who used to have great power in the past
EXAMPLE: 그 전직 대통령 이제 이빨 빠진 호랑이야.
LITERAL TRANSLATION: That former president now is a tiger without teeth.
A MALE WHO SHOWS STRONG SEXUAL INTEREST TOWARD WOMEN IS A WOLF

LEXICAL ITEM: 늑대
LITERAL TRANSLATION: a wolf
GRAMMATICAL INFORMATION: noun
METAPHORICAL MEANING: a man who tends to chase women for sexual interest is a wolf
EXAMPLE: 남자는 늑대야.
LITERAL TRANSLATION: All men are wolves.
A FOUL MIND IS BLACK

LEXICAL ITEM: 검은 속내
LITERAL TRANSLATION: black inside
GRAMMATICAL INFORMATION: adjective + noun
METAPHORICAL MEANING: foul [impure; wicked] mind
EXAMPLE: 그는 점점 검은 속내를 드러내기 시작했다.
LITERAL TRANSLATION: He gradually began to disclose his black inside.

EVIL INTENTION IS BLACK

LEXICAL ITEM: 검은 돈
LITERAL TRANSLATION: black money
GRAMMATICAL INFORMATION: adjective + noun
METAPHORICAL MEANING: money obtained by evil means
EXAMPLE: 서울시장이 검은 돈을 받아서 감옥에 갔다.
LITERAL TRANSLATION: A mayor of Seoul was sent to jail because he received black money.

EXTREME ANXIOUSNESS IS BLACK

LEXICAL ITEM: 속이 까맣게 타다
GRAMMATICAL INFORMATION: noun + adverb + verb
METAPHORICAL MEANING: burning one’s inside black
EXAMPLE: 어머니는 전쟁에 끌려간 자식 때문에 속이 까맣게 탔다.
LITERAL TRANSLATION: The mother’s inside was burned black because of her son who was dragged into a war.

FRUSTRATION IS BLACK

LEXICAL ITEM: 눈앞이 깜깜하다
LITERAL TRANSLATION: the front of one’s eyes is black
GRAMMATICAL INFORMATION: noun + adjectival phrase
METAPHORICAL MEANING: one is frustrated due to unknown and uncertain future
EXAMPLE: 취직할 생각만 하면 눈앞이 깜깜해.
LITERAL TRANSLATION: Whenever I think of getting a job, the front of my eyes gets black.
**ILLITERACY IS BLACK**

| 44 | LEXICAL ITEM: 까막눈 | LITERAL TRANSLATION: black eye (balls) |
|    | GRAMMATICAL INFORMATION: noun | METAPHORICAL MEANING: someone who is illiterate |
|    | EXAMPLE: 나 사실 까막눈이야. 어렸을 때 가난 때문에 학교에 가질 못했어. | LITERAL TRANSLATION: In fact, I am a black eye. I couldn’t go to school because of poverty when I was young. |

**Blue [Green]**

**AUSPICIOUSNESS IS A BLUE [GREEN] SIGN**

| 45 | LEXICAL ITEM: 청신호 | LITERAL TRANSLATION: a blue sign |
|    | GRAMMATICAL INFORMATION: noun | METAPHORICAL MEANING: an indication of auspiciousness |
|    | EXAMPLE: 해외 투자 덕분에 우리 사업에 청신호가 켜졌다. | LITERAL TRANSLATION: Thanks to foreign investment, a blue sign was turned on for our business. |

**HOPEFULNESS IS BLUE [GREEN]**

| 46 | LEXICAL ITEM: 푸른 꿈 | LITERAL TRANSLATION: a blue dream |
|    | GRAMMATICAL INFORMATION: adjective + noun | METAPHORICAL MEANING: a hopeful dream |
|    | EXAMPLE: 진솔이는 푸른 꿈을 안고 미국에 도착했다. | LITERAL TRANSLATION: Jinsol arrived at the United States with a blue dream. |

**TERROR IS BLUE [GREEN]**

| 47 | LEXICAL ITEM: 파랗게 질리다 | LITERAL TRANSLATION: to turn blue |
|    | GRAMMATICAL INFORMATION: adverbial phrase + verb | METAPHORICAL MEANING: be terrified or frightened with fear |
|    | EXAMPLE: 공포영화 때문에 파랗게 질렸다. | LITERAL TRANSLATION: I turned blue because of a horror movie. |

**SHARPNESS IS BLUE [GREEN]**

| 48 | LEXICAL ITEM: 시퍼런 눈 | LITERAL TRANSLATION: a very blue eye |
|    | GRAMMATICAL INFORMATION: adjective + noun | METAPHORICAL MEANING: a sharp and keen attitude; intense viewing |
|    | EXAMPLE: 심사위원들이 시퍼런 눈으로 경기를 지켜보고 있었다. | LITERAL TRANSLATION: The judges were watching the competition with very blue eyes. |
LEXICAL ITEM: 시퍼런 칼날
LITERAL TRANSLATION: a very blue blade
GRAMMATICAL INFORMATION: adjective + noun
METAPHORICAL MEANING: a sharp blade
EXAMPLE: 시퍼런 칼날이 내 팔을 찔렀다.
LITERAL TRANSLATION: A very blue blade stabbed my arm.

YOUTH IS BLUE [GREEN]

LEXICAL ITEM: 새파란 놈
LITERAL TRANSLATION: a very blue fellow
GRAMMATICAL INFORMATION: adjective + noun; Register: derogatory
METAPHORICAL MEANING: a very young brat (‘nom’ = a derogatory word to refer to a male)
EXAMPLE: 새파란 놈이 어디서 대들어?
LITERAL TRANSLATION: How dare do you come back at me, you very blue fellow?

PROSPEROUS FUTURE IS GOLD

LEXICAL ITEM: 황금빛 미래
LITERAL TRANSLATION: gold-lighted [gold-colored] future
GRAMMATICAL INFORMATION: noun + noun
METAPHORICAL MEANING: a prosperous future
EXAMPLE: 네 앞엔 황금빛 미래가 있어.
LITERAL TRANSLATION: There is gold-lighted future in front of you.

Grey

A PERSON WHO INTENTIONALLY DOES NOT REVEAL HIS/HER PREFERENCES IS A GREY MEMBER (OF A GROUP)

LEXICAL ITEM: 회색 분자
LITERAL TRANSLATION: a grey member
GRAMMATICAL INFORMATION: noun + noun
METAPHORICAL MEANING: an individual who intentionally does not reveal preferences
EXAMPLE: 저 사람은 회색분자야.
LITERAL TRANSLATION: That person is a grey member.
### Gloominess is Ash-Color

**Lexical Item**: 잿빛 미래

**Literal Translation**: ash-lighted [ash-colored] future

**Grammatical Information**: noun + noun

**Metaphorical Meaning**: gloomy or depressing future

**Example**: 최근의 경제위기로 인해 잿빛 미래가 전망된다.

**Literal Translation**: Ash-lighted future is anticipated due to the recent economic crisis.

---

### Pink

**Naïve Romance is Pink**

**Lexical Item**: 분홍빛 연애

**Literal Translation**: pink-lighted [pink-colored] romance

**Grammatical Information**: noun + noun

**Metaphorical Meaning**: naïve and pure romance

**Example**: 누군 뭐 분홍빛 연애 안 해봤나?

**Literal Translation**: Who hasn't done pink-lighted dating?

---

### Red

**A Complete Lie is Red**

**Lexical Item**: 새빨간 거짓말

**Literal Translation**: a very red lie

**Grammatical Information**: adjective + noun

**Metaphorical Meaning**: complete [downright] lie(s)

**Example**: 그건 새빨간 거짓말이에요.

**Literal Translation**: That is a very red lie.

---

**A Communist is Red**

**Lexical Item**: 빨갱이

**Literal Translation**: a Red

**Grammatical Information**: noun

**Metaphorical Meaning**: a communist; or “leftist” as labeled by a conservative party

**Example**: 그는 빨갱이로 의심받았다.

**Literal Translation**: He was suspected as a Red.
**WARNING IS A RED SIGN**

**LEXICAL ITEM:** 적신호
**LITERAL TRANSLATION:** a red sign
**GRAMMATICAL INFORMATION:** noun
**METAPHORICAL MEANING:** a warning
**EXAMPLE:** 만성 피로는 건강의 적신호이다.
**LITERAL TRANSLATION:** Chronic fatigue is a red sign of health.

---

**White**

---

**TERROR IS WHITE**

**LEXICAL ITEM:** 얼굴이 하얘지다
**LITERAL TRANSLATION:** a face turns white
**GRAMMATICAL INFORMATION:** subject + verb
**METAPHORICAL MEANING:** be terrified or frightened with fear
**EXAMPLE:** 도둑이 내 옆집에 살았었다고 깨달은 순간 얼굴이 하얘졌다.
**LITERAL TRANSLATION:** My faced turned white at the moment when I realized a thief had lived my next door.

---

**FORGETTING EVERYTHING DUE TO SHOCK IS TURNING ONE’S HEAD WHITE**

**LEXICAL ITEM:** 머릿속이 하얘지다
**LITERAL TRANSLATION:** the inside of head turns white
**GRAMMATICAL INFORMATION:** subject + verb
**METAPHORICAL MEANING:** to forget everything out of shock or terror
**EXAMPLE:** 어머니의 사망 소식을 듣는 순간, 머릿속이 하얘졌다.
**LITERAL TRANSLATION:** At the moment when I heard the news that my mother died, the inside of my head turned white.

---

**PURITY IS WHITE**

**LEXICAL ITEM:** 하얀 마음
**LITERAL TRANSLATION:** a white mind
**GRAMMATICAL INFORMATION:** adjective + noun
**METAPHORICAL MEANING:** a pure mind
**EXAMPLE:** 어린이들은 하얀 마음을 가졌어요.
**LITERAL TRANSLATION:** Children have a white mind.
STAYING UP ALL NIGHT IS WHITE

61  LEXICAL ITEM: 하얗게 새우다
LITERAL TRANSLATION: staying up whitely
GRAMMATICAL INFORMATION: adverb + verb
METAPHORICAL MEANING: staying up all night without any sleep
EXAMPLE: 응급실 의사와 간호사들은 밤을 하얗게 새웠다.
LITERAL TRANSLATION: Doctors and nurses in the emergency room stayed up all night whitely.

Yellow

A STINGY PERSON IS YELLOW

62  LEXICAL ITEM: 노랑이
LITERAL TRANSLATION: a yellow
GRAMMATICAL INFORMATION: noun
METAPHORICAL MEANING: a person who is very stingy
EXAMPLE: 저 영감 노랑이로 유명해.
LITERAL TRANSLATION: That old man is well-known for being a yellow.

FUTURE PROSPECT IS COLOR OF SEED LEAF AND A PERSON IS A PLANT

63  METONYMY: Color of a seed leaf stands for a person's future prospect
LEXICAL ITEM: 떡잎이 노랗다
LITERAL TRANSLATION: (one’s) seed leaf is yellow
GRAMMATICAL INFORMATION: subject + adjective phrase
METAPHORICAL MEANING: (one’s) future is expected to be unsuccessful
EXAMPLE: 저 녀석 아주 떡잎이 노랗군.
LITERAL TRANSLATION: The boy's seed leaf is very yellow.

ILLNESS IS A YELLOW COMPLEXION

64  LEXICAL ITEM: 얼굴이 누렇게 뜬다
LITERAL TRANSLATION: a face floats yellow
GRAMMATICAL INFORMATION: subject + adverb + verb
METAPHORICAL MEANING: someone looks sick
EXAMPLE: 너 아프니? 얼굴이 누렇게 뜬네.
LITERAL TRANSLATION: Are you sick? Your face floated yellow.
Anger

### ANGER IS FIRE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>LEXICAL ITEM</th>
<th>불</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>LITERAL TRANSLATION</td>
<td>fire</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GRAMMATICAL INFORMATION</td>
<td>noun</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>METAPHORICAL MEANING</td>
<td>anger</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EXAMPLES</td>
<td>그 사람은 불같이 화를 냈다.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LITERAL TRANSLATION</td>
<td>He was angry like fire.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>LEXICAL ITEM</th>
<th>열불(이) 나타</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>LITERAL TRANSLATION</td>
<td>to have burning fire</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GRAMMATICAL INFORMATION</td>
<td>subject + verb</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>METAPHORICAL MEANING</td>
<td>to be extremely angry and upset</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EXAMPLE</td>
<td>나 지금 속에서 열불이 나고 있어.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LITERAL TRANSLATION</td>
<td>Fire is burning inside of me now.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### ANGER IS HIGH BLOOD PRESSURE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>LEXICAL ITEM</th>
<th>혈압이 오르다</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>LITERAL TRANSLATION</td>
<td>one’s blood pressure increases</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GRAMMATICAL INFORMATION</td>
<td>subject + verb</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>METAPHORICAL MEANING</td>
<td>one is getting angry</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EXAMPLE</td>
<td>더 이상 내 혈압 오르게 하지 마.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LITERAL TRANSLATION</td>
<td>Don’t increase my blood pressure anymore.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### ANGER IS HEATED LIQUID IN A CONTAINER

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>LEXICAL ITEM</th>
<th>(울)화통이 터지다</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>LITERAL TRANSLATION</td>
<td>to have an anger container explode</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GRAMMATICAL INFORMATION</td>
<td>subject + verb, Register: colloquial</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>METAPHORICAL MEANING</td>
<td>to be extremely angry, frustrated, and stressed out</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EXAMPLE</td>
<td>울화통이 터져서 잠이 안와요.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LITERAL TRANSLATION</td>
<td>I can’t sleep because my anger container is exploding.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>LEXICAL ITEM</th>
<th>화가 끓다 / 속이 끓다</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>LITERAL MEANING</td>
<td>to have anger boil / to have inside [stomach] boil</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GRAMMATICAL INFORMATION</td>
<td>subject + verb</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FIGURATIVE MEANING</td>
<td>to get angry</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EXAMPLES</td>
<td>그는 화가 부글부글 끓어오르다 결국 폭발했다.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EXAMPLES</td>
<td>지금 속이 끓고 있어.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LITERAL TRANSLATION</td>
<td>His anger was boiling hard and finally exploded.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LITERAL TRANSLATION</td>
<td>My stomach is boiling right now.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
70. **LEXICAL ITEM**: 화가 치밀다 / 화가 치밀어 오르다  
**LITERAL MEANING**: to have anger thrust up / to have anger push hard and mount up  
**GRAMMATICAL INFORMATION**: subject + verb  
**METAPHORICAL MEANING**: to get very angry  
**EXAMPLE**: 그는 화가 치밀어 오르고 있는 것처럼 보였다.  
**LITERAL TRANSLATION**: He looked like his anger was pushed hard and mounting up.

---

**AN ANGRY PERSON IS A DANGEROUS ANIMAL**

71. **LEXICAL ITEM**: 성난 황소  
**LITERAL TRANSLATION**: an angry bull  
**GRAMMATICAL INFORMATION**: noun  
**METAPHORICAL MEANING**: a mad person who cannot control his/her outrage  
**EXAMPLES**: 그 남자는 성난 황소였다. 마치 성난 황소처럼 그는 미친듯이 날뛰었다.  
**LITERAL TRANSLATION**: He was a raging bull. He was jumping up and down like a raging bull as if he was crazy.

---

**ANGER IS AN ENEMY**

72. **LEXICAL ITEM**: 분노를 이기다  
**LITERAL TRANSLATION**: to defeat anger/rage  
**GRAMMATICAL INFORMATION**: object + verb  
**METAPHORICAL MEANING**: to control rage  
**EXAMPLE**: 그는 분노를 이기지 못하고 결국 범죄를 저질렀다.  
**LITERAL TRANSLATION**: He could not defeat his rage and committed a crime after all.

---

**CALMING ANGER IS DIGESTIVE PROCESS**

73. **LEXICAL ITEM**: 화를/분을 찹이다  
**LITERAL MEANING**: to digest anger/rage  
**GRAMMATICAL INFORMATION**: object + verb  
**METAPHORICAL MEANING**: to mitigate anger  
**EXAMPLE**: 휴를 좀 찹이고 내 말을 들어봐.  
**LITERAL TRANSLATION**: Digest your anger a little and listen to me.

---

**ANGER IS AN OBJECT THAT SUBMERGES**

74. **LEXICAL ITEM**: 분을 가라앉히다  
**LITERAL MEANING**: to make rage sink down  
**GRAMMATICAL INFORMATION**: object + verb  
**METAPHORICAL MEANING**: to mitigate anger; to calm down  
**EXAMPLE**: 화를 좀 가라앉히세요.  
**LITERAL TRANSLATION**: Sink your anger down, please.
ANGER IS AN ENTITY THAT CAN BE GOVERNED

**Lexical Item:** 화를/분을 가라앉히다
**Literal Meaning:** to govern anger
**Grammatical Information:** object + verb
**Metaphorical Meaning:** to control/manage anger
**Example:** 사람이 화를 다스릴 줄을 알아야지.
**Literal Translation:** If you are a human being, you need to know how to govern your anger.

ANGER IS AN OBJECT THAT CAN BE UNTIED

**Lexical Item:** 화를 풀다
**Literal Meaning:** to untie/untangle anger
**Grammatical Information:** object + verb
**Metaphorical Meaning:** to appease anger / to let off steam
**Example:** 화 풀어.
**Literal Translation:** Untie your anger.

**Lexical Item:** 화풀이 하다
**Literal Meaning:** to do anger-untying
**Grammatical Information:** verb
**Metaphorical Meaning:** to vent one’s anger (on something or someone)
**Example:** 저한테 화풀이 하지 마세요.
**Literal Translation:** Don’t do anger-untying to me.

Happiness

HAPPINESS IS UP

**Lexical Item:** 기분이 최고(조)
**Literal Meaning:** feeling is the climax
**Grammatical Information:** noun phrase + complement
**Metaphorical Meaning:** feeling extremely happy
**Example:** 나 지금 기분이 최고(조)야.
**Literal Meaning:** My feeling right now is at its climax.

HAPPINESS IS BEING OFF THE GROUND

**Lexical Item:** 하늘을 나는 기분
**Literal Meaning:** a feeling of flying in the sky
**Grammatical Information:** relative clause + noun
**Metaphorical Meaning:** extremely happy feeling
**Example:** 나는 지금 하늘을 나는 기분입니다.
**Literal Translation:** I feel like I’m flying in the sky right now.
80  LEXICAL ITEM: 비행기(를) 태우다
LITERAL MEANING: to take a person on board the plane
GRAMMATICAL INFORMATION: object + verb
METAPHORICAL MEANING: to make someone feel proud of
EXAMPLE: 비행기 태우지 마세요.
LITERAL TRANSLATION: Don’t put me on a plane.

81  LEXICAL ITEM: 띄우다
LITERAL MEANING: to make something fly or float
GRAMMATICAL INFORMATION: verb
METAPHORICAL MEANING: to make someone feel proud
EXAMPLE: 너무 띄우지 말아요.
LITERAL TRANSLATION: Don’t make me fly too much.

HAPPINESS IS BRIGHTNESS

82  LEXICAL ITEM: 표정이 밝아지다
LITERAL MEANING: one’s facial expression brightens
GRAMMATICAL INFORMATION: subject + verb
METAPHORICAL MEANING: to become to feel happier
EXAMPLE: 그 말에 그녀의 표정이 밝아졌다.
LITERAL TRANSLATION: Hearing the words, her facial expression turned brighter.

HAPPINESS IS A FLUID IN A CONTAINER

83  LEXICAL ITEM: 얼굴에 행복이/기쁨이 흘러넘치다
LITERAL MEANING: one’s face overflows with happiness/joy
GRAMMATICAL INFORMATION: prepositional phrase + object + verb
METAPHORICAL MEANING: one’s face shows happy feelings
EXAMPLE: 그의 얼굴에는 행복이 흘러넘치고 있었다.
LITERAL TRANSLATION: His face was overflowing with happiness.

84  LEXICAL ITEM: 얼굴이 기쁨으로 가득하다/가득차다
LITERAL MEANING: to have one’s face filled with happiness
GRAMMATICAL INFORMATION: subject + prepositional phrase + verb
METAPHORICAL MEANING: to look happy
EXAMPLE: 그녀의 얼굴은 기쁨으로 가득했다.
LITERAL TRANSLATION: Her face was full of joy.

HAPPINESS IS A FLOWER THAT BLOOMS ON A FACE

85  LEXICAL ITEM: 얼굴에 꽃이 피다
LITERAL MEANING: a flower blooms on a face
GRAMMATICAL INFORMATION: prepositional phrase + subject + verb
METAPHORICAL MEANING: to show happiness on a face
EXAMPLE: 좋아서 얼굴에 꽃이 피네.
LITERAL TRANSLATION: You’re so happy that a flower is blooming on your face.
**Happiness Is Air in a Pressurized Container**

**Lexical Item:** 행복에 부풀다  
**Literal Meaning:** to become puffed up with happiness  
**Grammatical Information:** prepositional phrase + verb  
**Metaphorical Meaning:** to be excited with happiness  
**Example:** 행복에 부풀어 잠을 이루지 못했다.  
**Literal Translation:** I became puffed up with happiness and could not fall asleep.

**Intensity of Happiness Is Density of Liquids**

**Lexical Item:** 진한 행복  
**Literal Translation:** dense/thick happiness  
**Grammatical Information:** adjective + noun  
**Metaphorical Meaning:** great amount of happiness  
**Example:** 키스보다 더 진한 행복  
**Literal Translation:** Happiness that is denser/thicker than a kiss

**Happiness Is a Fragile Object**

**Lexical Item:** 행복이 깨지다  
**Literal Translation:** to have happiness broken  
**Grammatical Information:** subject + passive verb  
**Metaphorical Meaning:** to be unhappy  
**Example:** 내 행복이 이렇게 깨졌는데 나한테 어떻게 그런 말을 할 수 있어?  
**Literal Translation:** How can you say such a thing to me when my happiness is broken like this?

**Happiness Is a Searchable Object**

**Lexical Item:** 행복을 찾아 나서다  
**Literal Translation:** to take on a trip to search for happiness  
**Grammatical Information:** object + verb  
**Metaphorical Meaning:** to attempt to be happy  
**Example:** 그녀는 현재의 불행에 안주하지 않고 스스로 행복을 찾아 나서기로 결심했습니다.  
**Literal Translation:** She decided to actively look for happiness instead of staying at the current unfortunate situation.
HAPPINESS IS A COMMODITY

91  LEXICAL ITEM: 행복을 돈 주고 사다
LITERAL TRANSLATION: to buy happiness with money
GRAMMATICAL INFORMATION: object + verb
METAPHORICAL MEANING: to attempt to be happy
EXAMPLE: 행복은 돈 주고도 못 사는 거지.
LITERAL TRANSLATION: Happiness is something you can’t buy even with money.

HAPPINESS IS A TRANSFERABLE OBJECT

92  LEXICAL ITEM: 행복을 주다
LITERAL TRANSLATION: to give/hand over happiness
GRAMMATICAL INFORMATION: object + verb
METAPHORICAL MEANING: to make someone happy
EXAMPLE: 당신은 내게 행복을 주는 사람이에요.
LITERAL TRANSLATION: You are the person who gives me happiness.

Love

LOVE IS AN OBJECT THAT CAN BE SET ON FIRE

93  LEXICAL ITEM: 불 붙은 사랑
LITERAL TRANSLATION: fired up love
GRAMMATICAL INFORMATION: adjective phrase + noun
METAPHORICAL MEANING: passionate love
EXAMPLES: 그들의 불 붙은 사랑을 누가 말리리오?
LITERAL TRANSLATION: Who would stop their fired up love?

LOVE IS A FLOWER

94  LEXICAL ITEM: 사랑이 피어나다
LITERAL TRANSLATION: to have love blossom
GRAMMATICAL INFORMATION: subject + verb
METAPHORICAL MEANING: to begin to have love that prospers
EXAMPLE: 그녀의 가슴 속에 사랑이 피어났죠.
LITERAL TRANSLATION: Love blossomed in her heart.

LOVE IS A FRUIT

95  LEXICAL ITEM: 꽃벚한 사랑
LITERAL TRANSLATION: fresh love
GRAMMATICAL INFORMATION: adjective + noun
METAPHORICAL MEANING: love between young people
EXAMPLE: 그들의 꽃벚한 사랑은 계속되었습니다.
LITERAL TRANSLATION: Their fresh love continued.
LOVE IS A LIQUID

96  | LEXICAL ITEM: 사랑이 넘치다
   | LITERAL TRANSLATION: to have love overflow
   | GRAMMATICAL INFORMATION: subject + verb
   | FIGURATIVE MEANING: to have much love
   | EXAMPLE: 그는 사랑이 넘치는 집안에서 자랐다.
   | LITERAL TRANSLATION: He grew up in a family where love overflows.

LOVE IS AN OBJECT

97  | LEXICAL ITEM: 가슴에 품은 사랑
   | LITERAL TRANSLATION: love that is held in the chest/heart
   | GRAMMATICAL INFORMATION: adjective phrase + noun
   | METAPHORICAL MEANING: to love someone or something
   | EXAMPLE: 드디어 그녀에게 가슴에 품은 사랑을 전했어.
   | LITERAL TRANSLATION: I finally conveyed my love held in the chest/heart.

LOVE IS A BREAKABLE OBJECT

98  | LEXICAL ITEM: 사랑이 깨지다
   | LITERAL TRANSLATION: to have love broken
   | GRAMMATICAL INFORMATION: subject + verb
   | METAPHORICAL MEANING: to be stopped from loving someone
   | EXAMPLE: 우리 사랑 결국 깨졌어요.
   | LITERAL TRANSLATION: Our love broke eventually.

LOVE IS A TASTE

99  | LEXICAL ITEM: 달콤한 사랑
   | LITERAL TRANSLATION: sweet love
   | GRAMMATICAL INFORMATION: adjective + noun
   | METAPHORICAL MEANING: love that makes you feel happy
   | EXAMPLE: 그는 비로소 달콤한 사랑의 맛을 알게 되었다.
   | LITERAL TRANSLATION: He finally began to realize the sweet taste of love.

AN OUTCOME OF LOVE IS A CRYSTAL

100 | LEXICAL ITEM: 사랑의 결정체
      | LITERAL TRANSLATION: a crystal of love
      | GRAMMATICAL INFORMATION: noun
      | METAPHORICAL MEANING: an outcome of love
      | EXAMPLE: 이 아이는 우리 사랑의 결정체예요.
      | LITERAL TRANSLATION: This child is the crystal of our love.
LOVE IS AN INTOXICATING SUBSTANCE

101 | LEXICAL ITEM: 사랑에 중독되다  
    | LITERAL TRANSLATION: to be addicted in love  
    | GRAMMATICAL INFORMATION: verb  
    | METAPHORICAL MEANING: to be addicted to love  
    | EXAMPLE: 그는 그녀의 사랑에 중독되고야 말았다.  
    | LITERAL TRANSLATION: He ended up being intoxicated with her love.

LOVE IS A PLANT

102 | LEXICAL ITEM: 사랑이 시들다  
    | LITERAL TRANSLATION: to have love wither  
    | GRAMMATICAL INFORMATION: subject + verb  
    | METAPHORICAL MEANING: love loses its vitality and perishes  
    | EXAMPLE: 우리의 사랑은 시들어갔죠.  
    | LITERAL TRANSLATION: Out love started to wither.

103 | LEXICAL ITEM: 사랑이 씨앗다  
    | LITERAL TRANSLATION: to sprout love  
    | GRAMMATICAL INFORMATION: subject + verb  
    | METAPHORICAL MEANING: to begin love  
    | EXAMPLE: 둘 사이에 사랑이 씨앗다.  
    | LITERAL TRANSLATION: Love sprouted between the two.

FINDING SOMEONE TO LOVE IS FISHING

104 | LEXICAL ITEM: 낚다  
    | LITERAL TRANSLATION: to fish (someone)  
    | GRAMMATICAL INFORMATION: verb, Register: colloquial  
    | METAPHORICAL MEANING: to find someone to hook up with  
    | EXAMPLE: 그 바람둥이 오늘 여자 하나 낚았더라.  
    | LITERAL TRANSLATION: That playboy fished a girl today.

LOVE IS A COLD OR HOT OBJECT

105 | LEXICAL ITEM: 사랑이 식다  
    | LITERAL TRANSLATION: to have love get cold [cool off]  
    | GRAMMATICAL INFORMATION: subject + verb  
    | METAPHORICAL MEANING: love becomes less passionate  
    | EXAMPLE: 너희 둘 사랑이 이제 식은거니?  
    | LITERAL TRANSLATION: Did love between you two get cold?
**LOVE IS A CONTAINER**

**106**

**LEXICAL ITEM:** 사랑에 빠지다

**LITERAL TRANSLATION:** to fall into love

**GRAMMATICAL INFORMATION:** prepositional phrase + verb

**METAPHORICAL MEANING:** to fall in love

**EXAMPLE:** 나 사랑에 빠진 것 같아.

**LITERAL TRANSLATION:** I think I fell in love.

**LOVE IS A WATER SPRING**

**107**

**LEXICAL ITEM:** 사랑이 샘솟다

**LITERAL TRANSLATION:** to have love spring out

**GRAMMATICAL INFORMATION:** subject + verb

**METAPHORICAL MEANING:** to be full of love

**EXAMPLE:** 둘이 아주 사람이 샘솟는 분위기구먼.

**LITERAL TRANSLATION:** It looks like love between you two is springing out.

**Sadness**

**SADNESS IS DARKNESS**

**108**

**LEXICAL ITEM:** 표정이 어둡다

**LITERAL TRANSLATION:** one’s facial expression darkens

**GRAMMATICAL INFORMATION:** subject + adjective phrase

**METAPHORICAL MEANING:** to begin to feel sad

**EXAMPLE:** 나쁜 소식을 들은 후 내 표정이 어두워졌다.

**LITERAL TRANSLATION:** My facial expression darkened after I heard the bad news.

**SADNESS IS DOWN**

**109**

**LEXICAL ITEM:** 깊은 슬픔

**LITERAL TRANSLATION:** deep sadness

**GRAMMATICAL INFORMATION:** adjective + noun

**METAPHORICAL MEANING:** great sadness

**EXAMPLE:** 아버지의 교통사고 이후 우리 가족은 깊은 슬픔에 빠졌다.

**LITERAL TRANSLATION:** My family fell into deep sadness after my father’s car accident.

**SADNESS IS FLUID**

**110**

**LEXICAL ITEM:** 슬픔에 잠기다

**LITERAL TRANSLATION:** to be submerged in sadness

**GRAMMATICAL INFORMATION:** prepositional phrase + verb

**METAPHORICAL MEANING:** to feel very sad

**EXAMPLE:** 15년 동안 키웠던 강아지가 죽는 바람에 난 슬픔에 잠겼다.

**LITERAL TRANSLATION:** I am submerged in sadness because my dog whom I raised for 15 years is dead.
**Lexical Item:** 슬픔에 젖다  
**LITERAL TRANSLATION:** to be wet with sadness  
**GRAMMATICAL INFORMATION:** prepositional phrase + verb  
**METAPHORICAL MEANING:** to feel very sad  
**EXAMPLE:** 그 장례식장에 있는 모든 사람들이 전부 슬픔에 잠겨 있더라.  
**LITERAL TRANSLATION:** All people in the funeral hall were wet with sadness.

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**SADNESS IS FLUID IN A CONTAINER**

**Lexical Item:** 슬픔이 가슴에 차오르다  
**LITERAL TRANSLATION:** to fill up sadness in a heart  
**GRAMMATICAL INFORMATION:** subject + prepositional phrase + verb  
**METAPHORICAL MEANING:** to feel immensely sad  
**EXAMPLE:** 죽은 누나를 생각할 때면 슬픔이 가슴에 차오른다.  
**LITERAL TRANSLATION:** Whenever I think of my dead older sister, sadness fill up in my heart.

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**SADNESS IS NATURAL FORCE**

**Lexical Item:** 슬픔이 휘몰아치다  
**LITERAL TRANSLATION:** sadness blows violently  
**GRAMMATICAL INFORMATION:** subject + verb  
**METAPHORICAL MEANING:** to feel tremendous sadness  
**EXAMPLE:** 여자친구와 헤어지고 나니 슬픔이 휘몰아쳤어.  
**LITERAL TRANSLATION:** After I broke up with my girlfriend, sadness blew violently.

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**Lexical Item:** 슬픔이 밀려오다  
**LITERAL TRANSLATION:** sadness surges  
**GRAMMATICAL INFORMATION:** subject + verb  
**METAPHORICAL MEANING:** to experience great sadness  
**EXAMPLE:** 소설 속의 남자 주인공이 죽었을 때 내 안에 슬픔이 밀려오더라.  
**LITERAL TRANSLATION:** When the male protagonist in the novel died, sadness surged within me.

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**SADNESS IS ILLNESS**

**Lexical Item:** 슬픔을 전염시키다  
**LITERAL TRANSLATION:** to have sadness transmitted  
**GRAMMATICAL INFORMATION:** object + verb  
**METAPHORICAL MEANING:** to make another person feel sad  
**EXAMPLE:** 엄마의 울음이 우리 가족 모두에게 슬픔을 전염시켰다.  
**LITERAL TRANSLATION:** My mom's cry transmitted sadness to all in the family.

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**Lexical Item:** 슬픔을 치료하다  
**LITERAL TRANSLATION:** to have sadness cured  
**GRAMMATICAL INFORMATION:** object + verb  
**METAPHORICAL MEANING:** to alleviate someone's sadness  
**EXAMPLE:** 웃음은 슬픔을 치료해 주지.  
**LITERAL TRANSLATION:** Laughing cures sadness.
117

**LEXICAL ITEM:** 슬픔에 시달리다

**LITERAL TRANSLATION:** to suffer from sadness

**GRAMMATICAL INFORMATION:** prepositional phrase + verb

**METAPHORICAL MEANING:** to be distressed by sadness

**EXAMPLE:** 슬픔에 시달렸지만 겨우 시험을 봤어.

**LITERAL TRANSLATION:** I managed to take the exam even if I was suffering from sadness.

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**INTENSITY OF SADNESS IS DENSITY OF LIQUID**

118

**LEXICAL ITEM:** 짙은 슬픔

**LITERAL TRANSLATION:** dense/thick sadness

**GRAMMATICAL INFORMATION:** adjective + noun

**METAPHORICAL MEANING:** great amount of sadness

**EXAMPLE:** 그의 눈 속에 숨겨진 짙은 슬픔을 봤어.

**LITERAL TRANSLATION:** I saw dense/thick sadness that is hidden inside of his eyes.

---

**SADNESS IS A SINKABLE OBJECT**

119

**LEXICAL ITEM:** 가슴에 사무치는 슬픔

**LITERAL TRANSLATION:** sadness that sinks in the heart

**GRAMMATICAL INFORMATION:** adjective phrase + noun

**METAPHORICAL MEANING:** to be extremely sad

**EXAMPLE:** 그들은 가슴에 사무치는 슬픔과 함께 참사 현장을 떠났습니다.

**LITERAL TRANSLATION:** They left the tragic scene with the sadness that sinks deep into their hearts.

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**SADNESS IS AN ENEMY**

120

**LEXICAL ITEM:** 슬픔을 이기다

**LITERAL TRANSLATION:** to win over sadness

**GRAMMATICAL INFORMATION:** object + verb

**METAPHORICAL MEANING:** to get over sadness

**EXAMPLE:** 나 드디어 슬픔을 이겨냈다.

**LITERAL TRANSLATION:** I finally won over sadness.

121

**LEXICAL ITEM:** 슬픔과 싸우다

**LITERAL TRANSLATION:** to fight against sadness

**GRAMMATICAL INFORMATION:** prepositional phrase + verb

**METAPHORICAL MEANING:** to try to let out sadness

**EXAMPLE:** 슬픔과 싸우느라 내 마음은 만신창이가 되었다.

**LITERAL TRANSLATION:** My mind became a wreck because of fighting against sadness.

122

**LEXICAL ITEM:** 슬픔을 극복하다

**LITERAL TRANSLATION:** to overcome sadness

**GRAMMATICAL INFORMATION:** object + verb

**METAPHORICAL MEANING:** to get over sadness

**EXAMPLE:** 난 네가 슬픔을 극복해낼 거라고 확신해.

**LITERAL TRANSLATION:** I am certain that you will overcome sadness.
SADNESS IS A TASTE

123
LEXICAL ITEM: 슬픔을 맛보다
LITERAL TRANSLATION: to taste sadness
GRAMMATICAL INFORMATION: object + verb
METAPHORICAL MEANING: to experience sadness
EXAMPLE: 잇따른 패배 이후 슬픔을 맛보았다.
LITERAL TRANSLATION: After successive defeat, I tasted sadness.

SADNESS IS A TANGIBLE OBJECT

124
LEXICAL ITEM: 슬픔을 간직하다
LITERAL TRANSLATION: to keep sadness
GRAMMATICAL INFORMATION: object + verb
METAPHORICAL MEANING: to hold on to sadness
EXAMPLE: 이 세상 누구나 슬픔을 간직하고 있어.
LITERAL TRANSLATION: Everyone in the world keeps sadness.

125
LEXICAL ITEM: 슬픔을 나누다
LITERAL TRANSLATION: to share sadness
GRAMMATICAL INFORMATION: object + verb
METAPHORICAL MEANING: to feel sad with others
EXAMPLE: 슬픔은 나누면 반이 돼.
LITERAL TRANSLATION: Sadness halves if you share it.
Archery

**TO GET TO THE POINT IS TO HIT THE MARK**

**126**

**LEXICAL ITEM:** 정곡을 찌르다

**LITERAL TRANSLATION:** to hit the mark; to hit the innermost ring of an archery target

**GRAMMATICAL INFORMATION:** object phrase + verb

**METAPHORICAL MEANING:** to get to the point; to pinpoint the most important and essential point of an event, act, intention, problem, or explanation

**EXAMPLE:** 토론자의 질문이 최근 경제 문제의 정곡을 찌렀다.

**LITERAL TRANSLATION:** A debater’s question hit the mark of the recent economic problem.

**TO PREDICT ACCURATELY IS TO HIT THE MARK**

**127**

**LEXICAL ITEM:** 적중하다

**LITERAL TRANSLATION:** to hit the mark

**GRAMMATICAL INFORMATION:** verb

**METAPHORICAL MEANING:** one’s a prediction or guess turns out to be true

**EXAMPLE:** 예지는 간호사가 될 거라고 생각했었는데, 내 예상이 적중했어.

**LITERAL TRANSLATION:** I thought Yeji will become a nurse, and my prediction hit the mark.

**AN IRREVERSIBLE ACT IS AN ARROW THAT LEFT THE BOWSTRING**

**128**

**LEXICAL ITEM:** 시위를 떠난 화살

**LITERAL TRANSLATION:** an arrow that left the bowstring

**GRAMMATICAL INFORMATION:** relative clause + noun

**METAPHORICAL MEANING:** an irreversible, out-or-control act whose future is already determined but cannot be predicted

**EXAMPLE:** 이 사업의 결과는 시위를 떠난 화살이다.

**LITERAL TRANSLATION:** The result of this business is an arrow that left the bowstring.

Diving

**TO HIDE IS TO DIVE**

**129**

**LEXICAL ITEM:** 잠수하다

**LITERAL TRANSLATION:** to dive under the water

**GRAMMATICAL INFORMATION:** verb, Register: colloquial

**METAPHORICAL MEANING:** to hide and avoid others’ calls or messages

**EXAMPLE:** 방학 동안 잠수하느라 전화 안 받았어.

**LITERAL TRANSLATION:** I didn’t answer calls because I was diving during the vacation.
**Long Jump**

**PREPERATION IS THE APPROACH RUN**

130  
**LEXICAL ITEM:** 도움닫기  
**LITERAL TRANSLATION:** the approach run  
**GRAMMATICAL INFORMATION:** noun  
**METAPHORICAL MEANING:** preparation to achieve something  
**EXAMPLE:** 세계적인 디자이너가 되기 위해 협차게 도움닫기를 하고 있다.  
**LITERAL TRANSLATION:** I am doing the approach run strongly in order to become a world-class designer.

**Martial Arts**

**TO STRUGGLE WITH A PROBLEM IS TO PLAY SSIREUM**

131  
**LEXICAL ITEM:** 씨름하다  
**LITERAL TRANSLATION:** to play ssireum  
**GRAMMATICAL INFORMATION:** verb  
**METAPHORICAL MEANING:** to struggle with a difficult problem or material  
**EXAMPLE:** 어제 수학 공식 하나랑 밤새 씨름했어.  
**LITERAL TRANSLATION:** I played ssireum with a math formula all night yesterday.

**TO HAVE EXTREME FATIGUE IS TO BE KNOCKED DOWN**

132  
**LEXICAL ITEM:** 녹다운되다  
**LITERAL TRANSLATION:** to be knocked down  
**GRAMMATICAL INFORMATION:** verb  
**METAPHORICAL MEANING:** to have extreme fatigue; to be too tired to move  
**EXAMPLE:** 어제 밤 새서 일한 뒤에 녹다운 됐어.  
**LITERAL TRANSLATION:** I was knocked down after I worked overnight yesterday.

**Parachute**

**AN EMPLOYEE WHO GOT A HIGH POSITION BECAUSE OF CONNECTION WITH POWERFUL PERSONNEL IS A PARACHUTE**

133  
**LEXICAL ITEM:** 낙하산  
**LITERAL TRANSLATION:** a parachute  
**GRAMMATICAL INFORMATION:** noun, register: derogatory  
**METAPHORICAL MEANING:** an employee who was hired or promoted to a high position, because of unjust connection with high-level personnel  
**EXAMPLE:** 새로온 팀장은 낙하산이라서 일을 정말 안 해.  
**LITERAL TRANSLATION:** The new head of the team does not do his work because he is a parachute.
A BEGINNING CONDITION/STAGE IS A STARTING LINE

LEXICAL ITEM: 출발선
LITERAL TRANSLATION: a starting line
GRAMMATICAL INFORMATION: noun
METAPHORICAL MEANING: a condition or stage to begin something new
EXAMPLE: 가난한 아이와 부유한 아이는 출발선이 다르다.
LITERAL TRANSLATION: A poor kid and a rich kid have different starting lines.

TO MAKE A SUDDEN HARD EFFORT IS TO SPURT

LEXICAL ITEM: 스파트를 내다
LITERAL TRANSLATION: to spurt
GRAMMATICAL INFORMATION: object + verb
METAPHORICAL MEANING: to make a sudden hard effort to achieve a short-term goal
EXAMPLE: 중간고사 직전이니 스파트를 내야 한다.
LITERAL TRANSLATION: I have to spurt because the mid-term is just around the corner.

TO FINISH HALF OF THE WORK IS TO PASS THE HALFWAY POINT

LEXICAL ITEM: 반환점을 돌다
LITERAL TRANSLATION: to pass the halfway point
GRAMMATICAL INFORMATION: object + verb
METAPHORICAL MEANING: to finish half of the work; to complete something halfway through
EXAMPLE: 새 교과서를 만드는 프로젝트가 드디어 반환점을 돌았다.
LITERAL TRANSLATION: The project for making a new textbook finally passed the halfway point.

TO SHIFT WORK IS TO PASS A BATON

LEXICAL ITEM: 바톤을 터치하다
LITERAL TRANSLATION: to pass a baton
GRAMMATICAL INFORMATION: object + verb
METAPHORICAL MEANING: to shift work
EXAMPLE: 나는 다음 근무자와 바톤을 터치했다.
LITERAL TRANSLATION: I passed a baton to the next shift worker.

LONG AND ENERGY-CONSUMING WORK IS MARATHON

LEXICAL ITEM: 마라톤
LITERAL TRANSLATION: marathon
GRAMMATICAL INFORMATION: noun
METAPHORICAL MEANING: work that requires much time and energy
EXAMPLE: 3일에 걸친 마라톤 회의 끝에 합의가 이루어졌다.
LITERAL TRANSLATION: A consensus was made after 3-day marathon discussion.
Soccer

TO GET MARRIED IS TO SCORE A GOAL

139

| LEXICAL ITEM: 결혼에 골인하다 |
| LITERAL TRANSLATION: to score a goal to marriage |
| GRAMMATICAL INFORMATION: prepositional phrase + verb phrase |
| METAPHORICAL MEANING: to succeed to get married |
| EXAMPLE: 그 늙은 농촌 노총각이 드디어 결혼에 골인했다. |
| LITERAL TRANSLATION: That rural old bachelor finally scored a goal to marriage. |

Tightrope Walking

TIGHTROPE WALKING IS GOING THROUGH AN UNSTABLE AND DANGEROUS EVENT

140

| LEXICAL ITEM: 줄타기 |
| LITERAL TRANSLATION: tightrope walking |
| GRAMMATICAL INFORMATION: noun |
| METAPHORICAL MEANING: going through an unstable and dangerous state |
| EXAMPLE: 빚쟁이를 피해 도망 다녔던 때가 나에게는 줄타기였다. |
| LITERAL TRANSLATION: The period I was on the run from the creditors was a tightrope walking for me. |

TIGHTROPE WALKING IS BALANCING TWO OPPOSING PARTIES [SIDES, CHOICES]

141

| LEXICAL ITEM: 줄타기 |
| LITERAL TRANSLATION: tightrope walking |
| GRAMMATICAL INFORMATION: noun |
| METAPHORICAL MEANING: balancing two opposing parties, sides, or choices |
| EXAMPLE: 일과 삶 사이의 줄타기가 너무 힘들다. |
| LITERAL TRANSLATION: Tightrope walking between work and life is too difficult. |

Tug-of-War

AN ARGUMENT BETWEEN TWO PARTIES IS TUG-OF-WAR

142

| LEXICAL ITEM: 줄다리기 |
| LITERAL TRANSLATION: tug-of-war |
| GRAMMATICAL INFORMATION: noun |
| METAPHORICAL MEANING: a state or event in which two parties are in direct opposition to each other, refusing to make compromises |
| EXAMPLE: 보수정당과 진보정당이 예산안을 놓고 줄다리기를 하고 있다. |
| LITERAL TRANSLATION: Conservative parties and liberal parties are playing tug-of-war over the budget proposal. |
About CALPER

The Center for Advanced Language Proficiency Education and Research (CALPER) at the Pennsylvania State University is a unit in the College of the Liberal Arts. Established in 2002 under a grant from the United States Department of Education, CALPER conducts research to inform foreign language pedagogy, it develops teaching and learning materials and assessment procedures and provides an array of educational opportunities for language professionals. The Center’s particular focus is to improve the environment of advanced-level foreign language teaching and learning, and assessment.

Center for Advanced Language Proficiency Education and Research
The Pennsylvania State University
305 Sparks Building
University Park, PA
16802-5203 USA

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