Korean Grammar in Discourse and Interaction

Materials for Advanced / Heritage Korean

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Unit 3:
Markers of Newly Perceived Information

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Preface

Markers of Newly Perceived Information

This workbook unit has been designed to supplement current resources on Korean grammar. Its primary purpose is to demonstrate and explain aspects of Korean grammar from a discourse-pragmatic perspective and is intended for teachers/learners of Korean as well as for anyone interested in Korean discourse analysis. By "discourse-pragmatic" we mean that we appeal to a large database or corpus of naturally occurring language (discourse) produced in spoken, written, and hybrid (e.g., electronic communication) modes to analyze in depth the interactional/cognitive meanings and functions (pragmatics) of the particular grammatical forms that we investigate. Because we work with numerous occurrences of the same form as it emerges across a variety of contexts and across the three discourse modes, we are able locate crucial patterns with respect to how, when, and for what purpose the form is used in those contexts. We then determine an "underlying meaning" of the target form based on the patterns discovered, which may serve as a means to better understand and explain the pragmatic functions of the selected features of Korean grammar.

The exercises and grammatical explanations in this workbook unit focus on two sentence ending markers which express newly perceived information, i.e., S –군 vs. S –네. Advanced level and heritage learners (and teachers as well) report difficulties in pinpointing precisely how these three constructions differ—particularly in terms of meaning. That is, these grammatical constructions appear to be similar from the point of view of semantics and pragmatics, and while advanced/heritage learners tend to have enough linguistic and cultural knowledge to recognize the degree to which these forms overlap in meaning and function, they tend to be unable to systematically articulate how the forms differ and why. Even more challenging is the next step: to intentionally select one form over the other in order to express a particular communicative intent.

The explanations and exercises in this workbook have been designed to reflect actual patterns of the target forms within discourse. They are intended to guide you to both inductively and deductively focus on such patterns and to ultimately uncover the conceptual schemata that underlie each form. Once you succeed in pinpointing and articulating the conceptual schemata, you can then learn to disambiguate the target forms on the basis of their conceptual meaning and also to produce these forms in your own discourse in pragmatically appropriate ways.

We hope that you find this workbook useful. We would be pleased to receive your feedback on our exercises and explanations via e-mail.

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SENTENCE ENDERS –군 AND –네[1]

As you know, in Korean, speakers frequently mark attitude and stance through the use of various sentence ending markers or particles.

Note, for example, the following:

잘 어울려.   It looks good on you. (plain form)

잘 어울려요.   It looks good on you. (polite form)

These two sentences are neutral with regard to speaker stance. That is, they simply state a fact or observation without introducing any element of how the speaker feels about the situation.

But, there are a number of ways in which speakers can (and do) express some degree of evaluation, surprise, emphasis, counter-expectation, encouragement, and so forth, through sentence enders or particles such as: -군, -네, -더라, -거든, and –는데.

In the sentences below, note two such variations that could occur with the identical utterance잘 어울려 and잘 어울려요.

Plain form (반말)   Polite form (높임말)

잘 어울리는군 (new discovery/realization)   잘 어울리는군요(new discovery/realization)

잘 어울리네 (new discovery/realization)   잘 어울리네요(new discovery/realization)

Both –군 and –네 are similar in that they signal information, observations, or findings that might be brand new to the speaker-- similar in some ways to English "Oh!", which also signals elements of surprise when the speaker hears or notices something that s/he was not particularly expecting. In Korean, –군 and –네 both mark what we will be referring to as "NEW DISCOVERY."

We will illustrate the use of –군 and –네 as they signal "NEW DISCOVERY" in actual contexts. Examples 1, 2, and 3 below were excerpted from two popular Korean films. Example 1 is from "동갑내기 과외하기 (My Tutor Friend)" and examples 2 and 3 are from "집으로 (The Way Home)". The video clips referred to in the next section can be accessed from the Korean project site at the Center for Advanced Language Proficiency Education and Research (CALPER) at http://calper.la.psu.edu/korean.php

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[1] The analyses presented here are based entirely on Strauss (2005) and Strauss and Ahn (to appear).

[CLIP 1] 동갑내기 과외하기 (My Tutor Friend)   In Ji-hoon's living room

((Ji-hoon's mom and Su-wan are meeting for the first time; Ji-hoon's mother has a facial, mud mask on her face))

지훈모: 네가 수완이구나?
Ji-hoon's Mom: Oh, you must be Su-wan.

지훈모: 나 지훈이 엄마.
Ji-hoon's Mom: I'm Ji-hoon's mom.

수완: 아, 안녕하세요?
Su-wan: How do you do?

지훈모: 저 이층.. 끝방.. 어 어떡해 어
Ji-hoon's Mom: I   t's the last room upstairs. My poor face...

((수완, 2층으로 향하는 계단을 올라간다. 양탄자 깔린 계단. 예쁘장하게 생긴 남학생 하나가 책을 읽으며 내려오고 있다. 익숙하게 내려오다가 수완 앞에서 딱 멈춘다. 수완을 보는 얼굴이 귀엽고, 눈동자가 까만 게 총명해 보인다. — (Su-wan goes up the carpeted steps to the second floor. A good looking boy is coming down the steps, reading a book—they are about to cross paths. He stops right in front of Su-wan and his face seems cute to her; his dark eyes make him look smart))

세훈: 아, 새로 오신 선생님이구나.
Sae-hoon: Oh, you're the new teacher.

수완: 그래 반갑다. 아이구 잘생겼네. 김지훈?
Su-wan: Nice to meet you. Wow, you're handsome. Kim Ji-hoon?

세훈: 지훈이는 우리 형이구요 전 세훈이에요.
Sae-hoon: Ji-hoon is my elder brother. I'm Sae-hoon.

수완: 아...
Su-wan: I see.

세훈: 반갑습니다.
Sae-hoon: Nice to meet you.

수완   어, 그래...
Su-wan: Same here.

세훈:	선생님 참 예쁘시<mark>네</mark>요.
Sae-hoon:	You're very pretty. ((tone is a little cynical))

수완 마음의 소리	(이런 귀여운 자식. 보는 눈은 있<mark>네</mark>.)
	((this is what she is thinking; she doesn't vocalize the words))
Su-wan:	Cute boy. He's got good taste.

세훈:	우리 형이랑 잘해 보세요.
Sae-hoon:	Good luck with my brother ((his brother is a little mischievous)).

EXAMPLE 2:

[CLIP 2] 집으로 (Way Home) On the train to Grandma's home

((Sangwoo asks his mom questions about Grandma))

상우:	귀머거리는 아니야?
Sangwoo:	Is she deaf?

상우엄마:	아니라니까
Sangwoo's Mom:	She's not.

상우:	정말 벙어리야?
Sangwoo:	Is she really a mute?

상우엄마:	몇번씩 물어.
Sangwoo's Mom:	Stop asking me.

상우:	그럼 엄마처럼 잔소리는 안하겠<mark>네</mark>.
Sangwoo:	Then, I guess she won't nag like you.

상우:	안무서워?
Sangwoo:	Is she scary?

상우엄마:	어
Sangwoo's Mom:	No.

상우:	얼마나?
Sangwoo:	How scary?

상우엄마:	어
Sangwoo's Mom:	No.

상우:	아이 씨
Sangwoo:	Forget it! ((Sangwoo's mom is not really engaged in the conversation)).

EXAMPLE 3:

[CLIP 3] –집으로 (The Way Home) --At a shoe seller's stand

((상우 외할머니는 상우에게 새신발을 사주려고 신발 가게에 왔다. 신발 가게 아저씨가 신발을 골라 상우에게 신기고 잘 맞는지 신발을 만져본다—Sang-woo's grandmother and Sang-woo come to the shoe seller's stand (in the traditional market). Sang-woo tried on the shoes that the vendor chose for him))

신발가게 아저씨:	내가 잘 골랐제. 맞춤 모냥 딱 맞네. 모양이나 색깔이나 이게 제일이여. 어따. 발이 훤하니께 인물까지 사네. ((사투리))
Shoe store owner:	I picked the right one, huh? They fit you perfectly. They are the best design and color. Wow. The shoes make you look great.

So, we can see that both markers –군 and –네appear to be rather similar in their functions of marking "NEW DISCOVERY." How can we determine when each sentence ender is used and in what types of contexts?

We'll start by looking at two examples that are parallel in terms of contextual usage. That is, Example 4 below, as you will see, contains the marker –군 and Example 5 contains –네. What makes both examples parallel is that the speaker in each context has discovered something related to the time of day.

In Example 4, a talk show host has just noticed a digital clock and realized that the time is now 8:43.

<u>**EXAMPLE 4** –from a morning talk show</u>

((쇼호스트인 재용과 윤영이 영어공부에 대해 말하고 있다))
((The two hosts, 재용and 윤영 are discussing English language education in Korea))

재용: 어 영어 잘하면 좋으니까 어쨌든 영어 공부는 아이들 좀 하면 좋지요.
                     …Uh. I think speaking English well is a good thing. So anyway if kids study English well, that would be great.
윤영: 네.
                     Yes.

재용: 근데 부모님도 같이 하시면 더 재밌을 거구요.
                     If parents studied English together with their kids, it would be more fun.
윤영: 예.
                     Yes.

재용: →   예. 여덟시 사십삼분이==군==요.
                     Yes. It's 8:43 -==KWUN==.

Similarly, in <u>Example 5</u>, the speaker, a protagonist from a popular children's program in Korea (뽀뽀뽀), suddenly realizes that it is nighttime:

<u>**EXAMPLE 5**—from a children's program (뽀뽀뽀)</u>
((시계가 재깍거린다; 시계의 시침이 12시 정오에서 저녁 9시로 재빨리 움직인다; 대니는 의자위에 앉아서 뭔가를 적고 있다; 대니는 갑자기 늑대의 울음소리를 듣는다.) ((We hear a clock ticking; the hands of the clock move quickly from 12:00 noon to 9 o'clock; Danny is sitting on a bench and taking notes. Suddenly, he hears a wolf howling))
대니: 어 벌써 밤이==네==.
                          Oh. It's nighttime already! –==NEY==
바비: **What time is it? ((in English))**
((돌리는 노래를 부르면서, 9시를 가르키고 있는 큰 시계와 함께 춤을 춘다.))
((Dolly sings and dances with a big clock (picture), indicating 9 o'clock))

As we progress through some more examples, you will soon come to see that there is a qualitative difference between the use of –군 vs. –네 with respect to what, precisely, is being marked in relation to the "NEW DISCOVERY."   Let's focus on –군 first.   Examples 6 – 10 all contain at least one token of –군.

EXAMPLE 6 – (face to face conversation involving Korean housewives)

미진:	결혼 사진 아냐?
	Aren't these wedding pictures?
영애:	음
	Yes.
철우:	음
	Yes.
영애:	드레스가 웨딩 드레스가 저 애 방에 걸려 있길래.
	Her dress, her wedding dress is hanging in her kid's room.
희경: →	아 그니까 나두 아 그 드레스 맞<mark>구나</mark>.
	Ah, so I also thought… Ah, this is exactly the dress –<mark>KWUN</mark>
영애:	맞지? 그 드레스 맞지?
	Right? Isn't it the same?

In this conversation, four Korean adults are visiting the home of철우's professor, who is currently out of town. The women are looking at the professor's wedding photos and영애 indicates that the professor's wife's wedding dress is hanging in their child's room. At this point, 희경 makes the immediate discovery and realization that the dress in the photo is indeed the identical dress she'd seen hanging in the child's room. Example 7 below reflects a similar type of immediate discovery/realization.

EXAMPLE 7 – (from a Shopping Channel broadcast)
((카메라가 홈쇼핑에서 현재 판매하고 있는 특수 용기에 담겨 있는 두부와 일반 용기에 저장된 두부를 비춘다--the camera focuses on a piece of tofu that has been stored in a special container, i.e., the product being sold on the show, and a piece of tofu stored in a regular container))

현주: →	야. 두부 상한 냄새가 아주 지독하<mark>군</mark>요. 이렇게
	Oh my, the smell of spoiled tofu is so bad –<mark>KWUN</mark>.
동옥:	예 두부 같은 경우에는 한모를 사시면은
	Yes, when you buy one "mo" of tofu,
현주:	어우
	Oh my,
동옥:	다 못드세요 찌개 끓이실 때
	You can't eat the whole thing. When you cook *ccikay*,
현주:	예
	Yes.
동옥:	반모는 찌개를 끓이시고 반모는 그냥 냉장고에 있는데
	You use half and the other half stays in the refrigerator.
현주:	네
	Yes.

In this excerpt, as we saw in Example 6, the speaker of the –군-marked utterance signals an immediate discovery and/or realization of something. In this case, the hostess of the program has just opened the container in which tofu had been stored for a while and suddenly realizes how bad the stored food has come to smell.   Example 8 below is nearly identical with regard to the context as well as the type of discovery being made.

EXAMPLE 8 – (Shopping Channel for kitchenware—item sold: vacuum container)

여자: 휘슬빽 하나면 아이들 간식에서 간단한 요기까지 문제 없다구요. 좋은 이유 다섯째,

습기 차단. <u>저런</u>. 일반 용기의 김은 다 녹았<mark>군</mark>요. 눅눅해지게 쉬운 김. 이제

바삭바삭하게 보관하세요. 지혜로운 주부의 행복한 시간. 이제 알파인 휘슬빽과

함께 행복하고 건강하게 주방을 가꾸세요.

Only with the whistle bag, there is no problem, from making snacks for children to cooking a simple dish. The fifth benefit: Preventing dampness. <u>Oh my</u>, dried seaweed in regular canisters gets all soggy--<mark>KWUN</mark>. Dried seaweed gets soggy easily. Now (you can) keep it crispy. A wise housewife's happy time. Now with 'alpine whistle bag' take care of your kitchen happily and healthily.

As we saw in Example 7, the speaker here has opened a food canister and immediately discovers that the dried seaweed has become soggy, signaling a high degree of surprise.

Example 9, also from a Shopping Channel broadcast, illustrates a similar pattern.

EXAMPLE 9– (Shopping Channel for men's shoes)
선희: 발볼이 약간 넓으신 편인가요?
             Is your foot on the wide side?
정길: 음
             Well.
선희: 어떠세요?
             What do you think?
정길: 그냥 보통 볼이에요.
             Just average (width).
선희: 보통 편이세요? 그렇다면 그
             Just average. (I see). Then,
정길: 음
             Um
선희: 인제 그 국내 슈즈나 외국 슈즈하고 다른 게 외국 슈즈는 칼발을 위주로 만들구

국내 슈즈는 볼과 발등을 위주로 만들게 된대요.

	Imported shoes are different from Korean shoes because imported shoes are made for a narrower foot whereas Korean shoes have a wider width and instep.
정길:	문화 차인 거 같아요.
	It seems like there is a cultural difference (in making shoes).
선희:	그래서 수제화로 전부다 만들었기 때문에
	Because (England) is all handmade,
정수:	아
	I see.
선희:	이백육십오를 신으셨을 때 딱 적합하게
	When you wear this pair of 265mm shoes,
정수:	맞<mark>구나</mark> 아.
	Oh, size 265mm fits (Cengkil). — <mark>KWUN</mark>
선희:	지금 맞으신 거에요. 그리구 끈형이기 때문에 여유가 있는 거죠
	It fits you perfectly. Since it's a lace-style, it feels a little bigger.

In this excerpt, 이정길, a television star, is a guest on the program. The show is dedicated to selling R.SS England brand shoes for men. 정길's regular shoe size is 270mm, and when one of the other guests, 박정수, a female TV star, sees that the smaller size (i.e., 265 mm) fits정길 perfectly, she expresses her surprise at the new discovery.

Finally, in Example 10, we note that the person who produces the –군-marked sentence does so through a type of direct discourse. That is, the speaker is imagining the exact words that someone else might be thinking.

EXAMPLE 10– (from a morning talk show)

재용:	지하철 안의 모습입니다. 이 분이 아주 깊게 잠이 드신 거 같죠? 뭐
	This is the scene inside the subway. It looks like this man has fallen into a deep sleep.
윤영:	여러분들이 저러구 아 주무시고 계시는 모습을 볼 수가 있어요. 지하철을 보면, 네 뭐 보셨죠 자 방금
	You may have seen people sleeping like that inside the subway. Yes. You just saw the clip a second ago.
재용:	앞에 오려고 앉아 있다가 보-다가요. 야. 이게 깊게 잠들었겠<mark>구나</mark> 그러면은 뭐 아는 사람인 것처럼 가서 툭 툭 쳐 봅니다.

Sitting in front of the sleeping man, the pickpocket watches him. When the pickpocket thinks 'Oh, he has fallen into a deeper sleep—KWUN', he goes and taps the man a few times as if he knows him.

재용: 그리고 옆에 앉죠. 지갑을 쑥 뺀 (걸 보세요)

Then he sits next to the man and lifts his wallet very quickly

윤영: 와, 정말 순식간에요.

Oh my. It's so fast.

Now, having examined a number of instances of how and in what situations speakers use the sentence ender –군, try and come up with as many preliminary observations as you can that might help to account for its use in natural discourse. In other words, what do ALL of the examples have in common? What do <u>some </u>of the examples have in common? Do you notice any patterns in the discourse or situations that might help you to figure out with a bit more precision what this marker is accomplishing?

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

More than likely you've been able to list a few observations with regard to –군. Let's now have a detailed look at –네. Once we examine a number of typical instances, we predict that the differences between –군and –네 will begin to emerge much more clearly.

Examples 11-18 all contain tokens of –네. As you read through these examples, try and note other surrounding markers that might have something to do with the "meaning" of –네. Examples 11 and 12 are parallel in terms of context and usage – the excerpts will appear one after the other.

EXAMPLE 11– (from a morning talk show)

요셉: 이등이 아제르바이잔이었구요. 삼등이 나이지리아.
          The second happiest nation was Azerbaijan and the third, Nigeria.
청중: 아.
          Uh-uh
요셉: 한국은 이십 삼위.
           Korea ranked 23rd.
인석: 어 상당히 높네요. 우리도.
          Oh, we ranked pretty high--NEY.
청중: 아.
          Uh-uh
요셉: 그렇죠. 오십사개국이었습니다 ((웃음)) 그러니까 중간 정도였죠.
          Right. Participants included 54 countries. So, Korea was in the middle.

EXAMPLE 12– (from a morning talk show)

재용: 한 해에 오만명이랍니다. 그리고 하루에 백서른 일곱명이 돌연사로
          사망한답니다.
          But it is reported that 50,000 people die of this sudden death per year. In other words, 137 people die of sudden death per day.
윤영: 아
          Ah
재용: 아 이거 놀라운 수친데요.
          Oh my. This is a surprisingly large number.
지윤: 어우 상당한 수치네요
          Oh my. That is really high number.—NEY
재용: 예
          Yes.
재용: 예
          Yes.

In what ways are Examples 11 and 12 parallel?

_____

_____

Now, have a look at Examples 13 and 14, which are also similar in many respects to 11 and 12.

EXAMPLE 13– (from a morning talk show—topic: Rental Services)

인석:	아 그럼요. 야구가 한 팀이 아홉명
	Right. One baseball team is composed of 9 people.
성진:	아홉명, 네.
	Nine people. Yes.
미화:	네
	Yes.
인석:	그리고 두 팀이니까 열 여덟명.
	And there are 18 people because there are two teams in a baseball game.
윤주:	네.
	Yes.
인석:	열 여덟명이서 팔만원을 하면은
	If 18 people pay 80,000 won.
미화:	저렴하<mark>네</mark>요.
	So, it is very cheap-- -<mark>NEY</mark>.

EXAMPLE 14– (Korean houswives' face-to-face conversation)

미진:	그니까 거기 하나 있구. 하나는 이노베이션 파크 있는데 하나 있구.
	So, one (day care center) is there. The other one is located in Innovation Park.
희경:	아니 그 놀이터 있는데 말구. 데이케어는 ((미진에게)) 그 바바라 수업 언니 들어 본 적 있어요? 학교 안에?
	Well. I don't think (the day care center) is located in the place around the playground. The day care is (located in…. ((Asking미진)) Have you taken Barbara's class? on campus?
미진:	아니?
	No.
희경:	그러니까여 학교 안에 집인데 좀 오래 된 집 있는 거 알아? 학생들 사는 집인데 거기 거기
	So, do you know that on campus, there is a house, a bit of an old house, where students live. There, there.
미진:	어 어 어
	Yes.
희경:	있는데 하나가 또 있어.
	One more is located there.

미진:	많네 그럼.
	So, there are many (day care centers around here).—NEY
희경:	근데 데이케어라구 보내는 건 거기하구 이노베이션 파크이던데?
	But, (as far as I know), the day care that people send their kids to is located there (i.e., in that house) or in Innovation Park.
미진:	음.-- **I see.**

What do you notice about Examples 11, 12, 13, and 14 with regard to the TYPE of NEW DISCOVERY being expressed by the speakers of the –네-marked utterances? That is, are they simply expressing "surprise" at having discovered or realized something new, or do you see some ADDITIONAL mental processing taking place?

What is that type of process? _____

_____

What are some of the linguistic markers that signal this process? _____

_____

So far, so good. Now, we'll examine just a few more instances with –네, which should provide more clues with respect to the "meaning" of –네 and how it is used differently from –군.

Examples 15 through 18 all share something in common with regard to the TYPE of utterance that contains the token of –네. Read through each example and try to come up with a way to characterize what each speaker is doing in the interaction. In other words, is the utterance a complaint? an apology? a compliment? a disagreement? an expression of empathy?

EXAMPLE 15– (from a morning talk show)

윤영:	아니 우산으로 아우
	Oh my. ((Cengwun is wearing an apron made of the cloth)) from an umbrella. Wow.
정운:	저는 지금 우산으로 된 그 앞치마를 입고 있거든요.
	I'm wearing an apron made from an umbrella.
윤영:	예.
	Yes.
숙경:	잘 어울리시네요((웃음))
	It looks good on you--NEY.

TYPE OF UTTERANCE:_____
                                    (fill in)

EXAMPLE 16– (from a morning talk show)

사장: 그 집안에 아궁이 불때는 가마솥 그리고 창고 화장실

              **There was a large kettle above the fireplace, a storage place, a bathroom in
              the house.**

범수: 음 흠

              Um Hmn

사장: 이게 민영이가 다 그린 그림이에요.

              This is what he drew.

범수: 아우 예.

              Oh, my. Yes.

금희: 아 아우 그림을 아주 잘 그리셨<mark>네</mark>요.

              Wow. He drew a very good map--<mark>NEY</mark>.

사장: 예.

              Yes.

TYPE OF UTTERANCE:_____
                                    (fill in)

EXAMPLE 17– (from a morning talk show)

현숙: 저는 지금 서울

              I'm living in Seoul now.

상벽: 서울에 있고

              You are in Seoul.

정혜: 이모는 저기

              Our aunt is uh

현숙: 할머니는

              Our grandmother

정혜: 나는 충주

              I'm in Chwungcwu.

상벽: 음

정혜: 충주

              Chwungcwu.

상벽: 천지 사방에 그 흩어져 사셨<mark>네</mark>.

              Your family has been scattered all over the place-- <mark>NEY</mark>

TYPE OF UTTERANCE:_____

(fill in)

EXAMPLE 18– (from a morning talk show)

금희: 그러면 양부모님께서는 지금 생존해계신가요?
          So, are your step-parents alive now?

이쁜: 아뇨 놀아가셨어요.
          No, they passed away.

금희: 아
          Ah

금희: 외롭게 지내시겠네요.
          You must be lonely.--NEY

TYPE OF UTTERANCE:_____

(fill in)

So, to re-cap the contexts and types of usages with –네, we can say, first, that Examples 11, 12, 13, and 14 all involve some element of brand new discovery. However, in addition to NEW DISCOVERY, we see that these utterances also express some degree of CALCULATION, all are related to a mental process in which the speaker has just PIECED TOGETHER some information that pertains to NUMBERS or PRICE or RANK.

In Examples 15, 16, 17, and 18, we see that all of the –네-marked utterances express particular types of speech acts.   In other words, in all four examples, the speaker is expressing some type of POSITIVE EVALUATION. In 15 and 16. the type of speech act could be characterized as a *compliment.* In 17 and 18, the speaker is expressing empathy toward the interlocutor.

With respect to –군, we note that all of the utterances express the speaker's IMMEDIATE and PUNCTUAL realization or discovery of something new. In many cases, the –군-marked utterance is preceded by an exclamatory 아, 야, 어, 오, 와, 저런, etc.

Similarly, many of the –네-marked utterances are also preceded by these exclamatory vocalizations, thus pointing to the fact that it, too, signals a NEW DISCOVERY or realization. However, we also note that –네 frequently co-occurs with markers that signal logical deduction, such as 그럼, 그러면, 그래서, and 그러니까.

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