

-아/어/해요 – informal speech, polite to the listener

1) Verbs/Adjectives that end with -하다 : -해요

If verbs/adjectives end with -하다, change it into -해요.

공부를 하다 ➔ 공부를 해요

좋아하다 ➔ _____

청소를 하다 ➔ _____

피곤하다 (tired) ➔ 피곤해요

심심하다 (bored) ➔ _____

좋아해요, 청소를 해요, 심심해요

2) Verbs/Adjectives that have vowel -아 or -오 in the stem : -아요

For example, in verb '알다(to know)', the syllable right before -다, '알' has vowel '아'.

In this case, '-아요' is added after '알'. 알다 (to know): 알 + 아요

알다 (to know): 알 + 아요 ➔ 알아요

살다 (to live) : 살 + 아요 ➔ _____

닫다 (to close) : 닫 + 아요 ➔ 닫아요

많다 (many) : 많 + 아요 ➔ 많아요

좋다 (good) : 좋 + 아요 ➔ _____

살아요, 좋아요

* '가다'류

In '가다', '가' has vowel '아', so '-아요' is added. 가다 (to go) : 가 + 아요

There are two '아's consecutively. In this case, '아' is deleted. 가 + 아요 ➔ 가요

가다 (to go) : 가 + 아요 ➔ 가요

만나다 (to meet) : 만나 + 아요 ➔ 만나요

싸다 (cheap) : 싸 + 아요 ➔ _____

비싸다 (expensive) : 비싸 + 아요 ➔ _____

싸요, 비싸요

* '보다'류

In '보다', '보' has vowel '오', so '-아요' is added. 보다 (to watch/look at) : 보 + 아요

If we have vowels '오' + '아' consecutively, they become '와'. So we have : 보 + 아요 ➔ 봐요

보다 (to watch/look at) : 보 + 아요 ➔ 보아요 ➔ 봐요

오다 (to come) : 오 + 아요 ➔ 오아요 ➔ _____

와요

* '아프다'류

In '아프다', '프' has vowel '으'. '으' is a weak sound. If it is followed by vowels, it is deleted. In that case, we should look at the syllable in front of '프'. It is '아', so '-아요' is added. 아프다 (sick) : 아프 + 아요
'으' is deleted, then we will have: 아프 + 아요 → 아ㅍ + 아요 → 아파요

아프다 (sick): 아프 + 아요 → 아파요

배가 고프다 (hungry): 고프 + 아요 → 고파요

나쁘다 (bad): 나쁘 + 아요 → _____

바쁘다 (busy): 바쁘 + 아요 → _____

나빠요, 바빠요

3) Verbs/Adjectives that have a vowel other than -아 or -오 in the stem : -어요

If verbs and adjectives don't end with '-하다', nor they have -아 or -오 in the stem as in examples of 2), -어요 is added.

먹다 (to eat) : 먹 + 어요 → 먹어요

읽다 (to read) : 읽 + 어요 → 읽어요

있다 (to have) : 있 + 어요 → _____

없다 (not to have) : 없 + 어요 → _____

있어요, 없어요

* '주다'류

In '주다', '주' has vowel '우'. So '-어요' is added. 주다 (to give) : 주 + 어요

And if we have vowels '우' + '어' consecutively, they become '워'. 주어요 → 줘요

주다 (to give) : 주 + 어요 → 주어요 → 줘요

배우다 (to learn) : 배우 + 어요 → 배우어요 → _____

배워요

* '되다'류

In '되다', '되' has vowel '외'. So '-어요' is added. 되다 (to become) : 되 + 어요

Vowels '외' + '어' become '왜'. 되어요 → 돼요

되다 (to become) : 되 + 어요 → 되어요 → 돼요

* '마시다'류

In '마시다', '시' has vowel '이'. So '-어요' is added. 마시다 (to drink) : 마시 + 어요

Vowels '이' + '어' become '여'. 마시어요 → 마셔요

마시다 (to drink) : 마시 + 어요 → 마시어요 → 마셔요

다니다 (to go somewhere and come back home regularly) : 다니 + 어요 → 다니어요 → _____

가르치다 (to teach) : 가르치 + 어요 → 가르치어요 → _____

다녀요, 가르쳐요

* '지내다'류

In '지내다', '내' has vowel '애'. So '-어요' is added. 지내다 (to spend time) : 지내 + 어요
If we have vowels '애' + '어' consecutively, '어' is deleted. 지내 + 어요 → 지내요

지내다 (to spend time) : 지내 + 어요 → 지내요

보내다 (to spend time/ send) : 보내 + 어요 → _____

보내요

* '쓰다'류

In '쓰다', '쓰' has vowel '으'. '으' is a weak sound. So it is deleted if it is followed by vowels.
'쓰' has no syllables in front of it. In that case, '-어요' is added. 쓰다 (to write) : 쓰 + 어요
'으' is deleted, then we have: 쓰 + 어요 → 써요

쓰다 (to write/ wear a hat/to be bitter) : 쓰 + 어요 → 써요

크다 (big) : 크 + 어요 → _____

써요

* '예쁘다'류

In '예쁘다', '쁘' has vowel '으'. '으' is a weak sound, so if it is followed by vowels, it is deleted. In that case, we should look at the syllable in front of '쁘'. It is '예', so '-어요' is added. 예쁘다 (pretty) : 예쁘 + 어요
'으' is deleted, then we will have: 예쁘 + 어요 → 예뻐요

예쁘다 (pretty) : 예쁘 + 어요 → 예뻐요

기쁘다 (pleased) : 기쁘 + 어요 → _____

슬프다(sad): 슬프 + 어요 → _____

예뻐요, 슬퍼요

4) "덥다"류 (Most of adjectives and some of verbs with 받침 'ㅂ' follow this rule, not all verbs n adjectives.)

In '덥다', '덥' has 받침 'ㅂ'. When it is followed by vowels, 'ㅂ' becomes '우'. 덥 + 어요 => 더+우+어요
Vowels '우' + '어' become '워' when they are next to each other. 더 + 우 + 어요 → 더워요
(In '덥다', delete 받침 'ㅂ' and then add '-워요' for your easy remembrance.)

덥다 (hot) : 덥 + 어요 => 더 + 우 + 어요 → 더워요

춥다 (cold) : 춥 + 어요 => 추 + 우 + 어요 → 추워요

맵다 (spicy) : 맵 + 어요 => 매 + 우 + 어요 → 매워요

귀엽다 (cute) : 귀엽 + 어요 => 귀여 + 우 + 어요 → 귀여워요

아름답다 (beautiful) : 아름답 + 어요 => 아름다 + 우 + 어요 → 아름다워요

쉽다 (easy) : 쉽 + 어요 => 쉬 + 우 + 어요 → 쉬워요

어렵다 (difficult) : 어렵 + 어요 => 어려 + 우 + 어요 → _____

무섭다 (scary) : 무섭 + 어요 => 무서 + 우 + 어요 → _____

어려워요, 무서워요