

Textbooks in South Korea:

Public education from Grades 1 to 12 in South Korea is free, meaning there are no fees for tuitions, admission, and curriculum books (textbooks and instructional guides) among other expenses. Curriculum books are required to reflect the key elements of the curriculum; and they get published in both print and digital versions and accompanied by resources for both teachers and students. There are various publishers to choose textbooks from and each school has freedom to select textbooks their students will use. Each student receives their own textbooks for all subjects. Also, textbooks are affordable (\$2 ~ \$10 per textbook – depends on the subject area) and can be easily purchased and accessed from bookstores and via online.

3 Types of Textbooks (Ministry of Education):

- a) *Guk-jung* Textbooks / “Government-designated” Textbooks
: The Ministry of Education (MOE) participates in developing textbooks and has the copyright.
- b) *Geom-jung* Textbooks / “Government-authorized” Textbooks
: Published and written by private publishers and approved by the Ministry of Education
: Publishers must go through an inspection by the Minister of Education and their textbooks must acquire approval from the superintendent of education, a delegator of the Ministry of Education.
- c) *In-jung* Textbooks / “Government-approved” Textbooks
: Published by private publishers and/or public district school boards
: These textbooks are used only when there are no textbooks available for specific subjects/topics from the government-designated or government-authorized textbooks.
: These textbooks are used as supplementary to the government-designated or authorized textbooks.

** Adopted from Ministry of Education ([KOR](#), [ENG](#)), Korea Authorized and Approved Textbook ([KOR](#))

Types of Textbooks by Grades and Subject Areas

| Grades | <i>Guk-jung</i> Textbooks | <i>Geom-jung</i> Textbooks | <i>In-jung</i> Textbooks |
|--------------------------|--|--|--|
| | Subjects/Topics | | |
| 6 (Elementary School) | Korean Geography Moral education | Science Math Social Studies Music Art Physical Education English Practical Arts | Public Health Citizenship Chinese Characters Essay Computer (ICT) |
| 7 ~ 9 (Middle School) | n/a | Korean English Math Social Studies Geography History Science Moral Education | ICT/Home Economics Art Music Physical Education ICT Foreign Languages: <i>German, Russian, Vietnamese, Spanish, Japanese, Arabic, French, Chinese, Chinese Character</i> Others: <i>Religion, Digital Literacy, Programming, Media, AI and Physical Computing, Apps and Coding, Democratic Citizenship, Public Health, Environmental Studies, Cultural Diversity, Career and Portfolio, etc.</i> |
| | | Korean English Math Social Studies Geography History Science | ICT Foreign Languages: <i>German, Russian, Vietnamese, Spanish, Japanese, Arabic, French, Chinese, Chinese Character</i> Others: <i>Religion, Digital Literacy, Programming, Media, AI and Physical Computing, Apps and Coding, Democratic Citizenship, Public Health, Environmental Studies, Cultural Diversity, Career and Portfolio, etc.</i> |

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Examples of Curriculum Books from Different Publishers:

- Please note that all the textbooks are in Korean.

| Grades | Math | Science |
|--------|--|--|
| 6 | <i>MiraeN</i> Textbook (for students) Textbook (for teachers) Workbook (for students) Teacher's Resource | <i>Chunjae Education</i> Textbook (for students) Lab Report Book (for students) Textbook (for teachers) Teacher's Resource |
| 7 | <i>Chunjae Education</i> Textbook (for students) Textbook (for teachers) Teacher's Resource | <i>Visang</i> Textbook (for students) Teacher's Resource |
| 8 | <i>DongA</i> Textbook (for students) | <i>MiraeN</i> Textbook (for students) |
| 9 | <i>Jihaksa Publishing</i> Textbook (for students) | <i>DongA Education</i> Textbook (for students) |

Example of an online educational platforms:

- Korea Educational Broadcasting System (EBS): Complements public educational system
 - a) [Elementary School](#) (Gr. 1 - 6)
 - b) [Middle School](#) (Gr. 7-9)
 - c) [High School](#) (Gr. 10 - 12)