

Korean formalities and verb conjugation

Korean basic verbs aren't used. They are always conjugated based on formality level and tense.

Korean has many levels of formality but for simplicity we will just consider three, for convenience we will call them casual (반말), polite and formal (존댓말).

For examples : 가다 go 나 / 저 I or me

저 is the respectful form 나

- Casual : speaking to younger people or close friends (of the same age) :
가
 - 나가

~~저가~~ you don't say because 저 is formal noun but “가” is informal.
- Polite: everyday and everybody including younger children : 가요
 - 나가요 (not very good apart from really close family)
 - 저 가요.
 - 가요? You can make it question.
 - 어디 가요? Where are you going?
- Formal : for public service announcements and when talking particularly respectfully to people : 갑니다.
 - 나 갑니다. (not very good apart from really close family)
 - 저 갑니다.