Definition of a Korean native speaker:

A native speaker of Korean is defined as someone who was born and raised in Korea receiving education in Korean as the primary instruction language at school (from elementary to high school). If a student is a native speaker of Korean, such a student is not allowed to take the Korean placement test nor Korean language courses of 100- to 200-level. No credit will be granted. However, a native Korean student can take any Korean literature, culture, and history courses taught in Korean.

Definition of a Korean heritage speaker:

A Korean heritage language learner is defined as one who has an ethnolinguistic affiliation to the Korean heritage, but may have a broad range of proficiency from high to none in Korean oral or literacy skills. These students could have grown up outside of Korea, and they have acquired a certain level of proficiency in Korean listening or writing skills. For example, a student grew up in US hearing and speaking Korean to some degree at home. Her or his primary language could have been Korean at some point during childhood, but English—or any language other than Korean—became this person’s dominant and primary language with very limited or some knowledge of reading and writing in Korean by early adulthood.

If a heritage Korean speaker plans to take a Korean language course at Purdue University for the first time, such a student needs to take Purdue Korean Placement Test. For more information, please visit: https://www.cla.purdue.edu/academic/slc/placement/index.html

Questions or Concerns?

Should you have any question, please contact Dr. Huai-Rhin Kim at kim2754@purdue.edu or Dr. S. No at sno1@purdue.edu.