



Lesson 8

שְׁעוֹר שְׁמִינִי



Children have fun learning Hebrew with the puppet 'Shalom'!

“... and you are to teach them carefully to your children,” from the Shema Deut 6:7a CJB

- Sheva: vocal and silent
- Supplemental info: words/phrases from class & short definitions of terms

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Website class for Biblical

Hebrew:

1. Torah readings
2. Pronunciation
3. Terms
4. Hebrew blessings
5. Grammar explanations

Vocal & Silent Sheva

In this lesson, we will begin to understand the 4 different levels of Vocal Shevas.

Level 1 of the Vocal Sheva

When the sheva that is under the first letter of a word is vocal. It is a sheva na (שְׁוֹא נָע). This sheva generally has a quick and an almost indistinguishable sound: “eh”.		
Word	Meaning	Transliteration Explanation: 1. The small “eh” signifies the quick & almost indistinguishable “eh” sound. 2. The bolded, highlighted syllable is accented.
שְׁמָע	Shema	sheh- mah (commonly pronounced: sh' mah)
שְׁוֹא	one of the vowels in Hebrew	sheh- vah (commonly pronounced: sh' vah)
שְׁוֹא נָע	a vocal sheva: quick “eh”	sheh- vah – nah; <u>vocal sheva</u> . (commonly pronounced: sh' vah nah)
שְׁוֹא נָח	a quiet or silent sheva	sheh- vah – nach; <u>silent sheva</u> . (commonly pronounced: sh' vah nach)
קְדוֹשׁ	holy, sacred (Is 1:4, the holy one; smichut)	keh- dosh (commonly pronounced: k' dosh)
בְּרָכָה	blessing (noun; Gen 12:2) NOTE: The בּ has a dagesh kal (דְּגִישׁ קָל) – because it is the 1 st letter of the word	beh-rah- chah (commonly pronounced: b'rah- chah)
כְּתָב	writing, text, decree, registration of text (noun, masculine; Esther 4:8)	keh- tahv
שְׁאוּל	Sheol, hell, or grave (noun)	Sheh- ol
שְׁאֵלָה	question (noun, singular)	sheh-eh- lah
שְׁאֵלוֹת	questions (noun, plural)	sheh-eh- lot
שְׁלֹשׁ - רְגָלִים	3 annual pilgrimage festivals: <i>Chag HaMatzot, Chag HaShavu'ot, Chag HaSukkot</i> (Ex 23:14)	sheh- losh -- reh-gah- leem
מֹשֶׁה	Moses NOTE: dot on the sheen doubles as a cholam; also in שְׁלֹשׁ above.	Mo- sheh
שְׁפָטִים	judgment, punishment (noun)	sheh-fah- teem (commonly pronounced: (sh'fah- teem))
תְּהִלִּים	Psalms: praises (noun)	teh-hil- leem
קְרִיאָה	calling, election (noun)	keh-ree- ah
קְרִיאַת הַתּוֹרָה	called for public Torah reading (noun)	keh-ree- aht -- haht-to- rah (commonly pronounced: k'ree- aht – haht-to- rah)

Level 2 of the Vocal Sheva

When 2 Shevas are consecutive (in a row), the 1st is silent (שָׁוָא נָח) & 2nd is vocal (שָׁוָא נָע).		
1. If a sheva is under the 1 st letter of the word, it is vocal & does not count as one of the 2 consecutive shevas. 2. The first of two consecutive shevas closes the syllable <i>and</i> this sheva is silent (שָׁוָא נָח) 3. The second of 2 consecutive shevas is vocal (שָׁוָא נָע) <i>and</i> has a quick “eh” sound.		
Word	Meaning	Transliteration
קִדְשֶׁךָ	your (2 nd person, masculine singular) holiness	kahd-sheh- chah
וַיִּשְׁמְרוּךָ	and you (2 nd person, masculine, singular) will guard or keep. From the Aaronic Blessing. NOTE: The וַי is a vocal sheva (שָׁוָא נָע) & does not count as one of the 2 consecutive shevas	veh-yeesh-meh- reh -chah
יִשְׁמְרוּ	they will guard or keep	yihsh-meh- ru
שֹׁמֵר שַׁבָּת	Shomer Shabbat; to guard or observe Shabbat (Is 56:2, 6)	sho- mehr – shahb- baht
יִרְמְיָהוּ	Jeremiah (YHVH lifts up)	Yihr-meh- yah -hu
רָם	high (verb) Is 6:1, 57:15; Ps 138:6	rahm
יְהוָה	This is not an actual word; it comes from YHVH – יהוה When studying a word, it is important to look for the root. (The shoresh or root of the word is made up of 3-4 consecutive consonants. Vowels are not part of the root.) In יִרְמְיָהוּ , יְהוָה are the first 3 letters of יהוה. (It would be considered desecration to include all the letters of יהוה)	This is not an actual word; it comes from YHVH – יהוה
יִכְתְּבוּ	they (3 rd person, masculine, future) will write	yich-teh- vu
כְּתָב	writing, text, decree, registration of text (noun, masculine; Esther 4:8)	keh- tahv
תִּלְבָּשׁוּ	you (masculine, plural) will put on	til-beh- shu
רַגְלֵכֶם	your (masculine, plural) feet (noun)	rahg-leh- chem

RECAP of the Vocal Sheva levels 1 & 2:

1. If the sheva is under the 1st letter of the word, it is vocal.
2. If there are 2 shevas in a row (consecutive), the 1st is silent & the 2nd is vocal.

“By studying Hebrew, we are able to get the treasures out the Word,” Donna

Level 3 of the Vocal Sheva

When a Sheva is under dagesh chazak* דָּגֵשׁ חֲזָק (aka dagesh strong or dagesh forte), the sheva is vocal (שְׂוֵא נָע).		
For example: עֲמָהּ = (עֲמָ+מָהּ) - pronounced: ahm-meh-chah		
Word	Meaning	Transliteration Explanation: 1. The small “eh” signifies the quick & almost indistinguishable “eh” sound. 2. The bolded, highlighted syllable is accented.
כֹּלְכֶם	all of you (2 nd person: you: masculine, plural) *When a vowel is in front of a dagesh, the dagesh is chazak (which doubles the consonant with the dagesh.) And the sheva is vocal. Eg: כֹּלְכֶם = כָּם + לָ + כָּ . Pronounced cool-leh- chem	cool-leh- chem
עֲמָהּ	your (2 nd person: you: masculine, singular) people	ahm-meh- chah
הַשְּׁבִיעִי	the seventh	hahsh-sh’vee- ee
הַדְּבָרִים	the words	hahd-deh-vah- reem
דְּבָרִים	literally “words” Hebrew name for the book of Deuteronomy	d’vah- reem
טַפְּכֶם	your (2 nd person: you: masculine, plural) children	tahp-peh- chehm
קִדְּשָׁנוּ	sanctifies us (1st person, plural; from Festival Candle Blessing)	keed-deh- shah -nu

Level 4 of the Vocal Sheva

When Sheva follows a long vowel*, it is vocal (שְׂוֵא נָע).		
*Long vowels: kamatz קָמֶץ // tsere צִירֵי // cholam חֹלָם // cholam vav (cholam male) מְלֵאָה // shurek שְׁוֹרֵק Also, all diphthongs are long.		
For example: הִיְתָה (In this word, note: the sheva immediately follows the chamatz, which is a long vowel. Therefore, the sheva is vocal. הִיְתָה is pronounced: hah-ye- tah)		
Word	Meaning	Transliteration
הִיְתָה	it (3 rd person: feminine, singular) was	hah-ye- tah
לְבָבְךָ	your heart (from the V’ahavta from the Shema, Deut 6:5)	leh-vah- veh -chah
וּבְכָל-נַפְשְׁךָ	and with all your soul (from the V’ahavta from the Shema, Deut 6:5)	oo-veh- chol -- nahf-sheh- chah
כֹּתְבִים	write (masculine, plural)	ko-teh- veem
וּבְאָלְתוֹ	and his oath	oo-veh-ah-lah- to

More Practice with Vocal Sheva		
Word	Meaning	Transliteration 1. Accented syllables are bold & highlighted 2. Vocal sheva (quick “eh”) is written small
בְּיַד	by hand of	beh- yahd
לְךָ	to you	leh- chah
לְדַבֵּר	to speak	leh-dah- behr
דָּבַר	he spoke	deeb- behr
יְדַבֵּר	he will speak	yeh-dahb- behr
בָּרָא	created	b' rah
מְאֹד	very	meh- od
בְּהַר	in or on mount	beh- hahr
בְּמִדְבָּר	in desert	beh-meed- bahr
הַבְּדִלָּה	Havdalah (ceremony which distinguishes Shabbat from the common of other 6 days)	hahv-dah- lah
לְחֹל	to common (Lev 10:10 & the Havdalah)	leh- chol
וּלְהַבְדִּיל	to distinguish (Lev 10:10 & the Havdalah)	leh-hahv- deel
בְּסֻדָּר	ok; everything is in order	beh- seh -dehr
סֻדָּר	order, seder (Passover service: includes elaborate table & telling the Exodus story.)	seh -dehr
בְּנֵי	sons of	beh- nay
וְרוּחַ	and spirit	veh- roo -ahch
מִצְוָה	mitzvah	meets- vah
לְזִמְנֵה הַזֶּה	to this time	lahz -z'mahn hahz- zeh
זֶמֶן	time	z'mahn
לְזִמְנֵה	to the time	lahz -z'mahn
הַזֶּה	this	hahz- zeh
שְׂמֹאל	left	s' mol
יְמִין	right	yah- meen
וַיְהִי-כֵן	and it was so (Gen 1:9, 11, 15, etc)	vay-yeh- hee chehn
אֲהִיָּה אֲשֶׁר אֲהִיָּה	I am that I am (Ex 3:14)	eh- yeh -- ah- shehr -- eh- yeh

Review: Dagesh Kal & Dagesh Chazak

1. Dagesh Kal (דָּגֶשׁ קַל) is also called Dagesh Lene

- Changes the sound of the consonant.

The Dagesh Kal is only found in 6 letters: **בְּגֵד כֶּפֶת**

However, for this class we're only concerned with these 3 letters and their changes from בּ to בְּ; from כּ to כְּ; from פּ to פְּ.

- The Dagesh Kal never follows a vowel.
- The Dagesh Kal is either 1st letter of a word or opens a syllable.

2. Dagesh Chazak (דָּגֶשׁ חֲזָק) is also called Dagesh Forte or Dagesh Strong

- Doubles consonant in which it stands.
- Identical in appearance to Dagesh Kal.
- May be in any consonant except the 5 gutturals (aleph, hey, chet, ayin, & sometimes resh).
- When a dagesh is immediately preceded by a vowel, the dagesh is a Dagesh Chazek.

Example: **אֶתְהָ = אֶת+הָ** (aht-tah).

Supplemental info

- Words & Phrases from class
- Short definition of terms

Words/Phrases from our Hebrew class:

“וְ” & “וּ”	(veh & oo) Attached to 1 st letter of word & mean “and”
“הַ” & “הָ”	(hah) Attached to 1 st letter of a word; & mean “the”
לְמָה?	(lah-mah) Why?
מִדּוּעַ?	(mah-du-ah) Why?
מָה זֶה?	(mah zeh) What is this?
אֵיךְ אוֹמְרִים?	(ehch-om-reem) How do you say?
כֵּן כֵּן כֵּן!	(kehn, kehn, kehn) Yes, Yes, Yes!
לֹא לֹא לֹא!	(lo, lo, lo!) No, No, No!
עוֹד פַּעַם	(od--pah-ahm) Again
כָּל הַזְּמַן יֵשֶׁר	(kol--hahz'mahn -- yah-shahr) All the time straight.
יֵשׁ לִי שְׁאֵלָה	(yehsh lee -- sheh-ch-lah). I have a question.
שְׁעוֹר	(shee-ur) Lesson
אַרְצוֹת הַבְּרִית	(ar-tsot—hab-breet) U.S. (covenanted lands)

Cardinal Numerals, 1-5 Feminine

1. אחת	(ah-chaht) One
2. שתים	(sh'tay-yeem) Two
3. שלוש	(shah-losh) Three
4. ארבע	(ahr-bah) Four
5. חמש	(chah-mehsh) Five

Short definitions of terms:

שְׁוֹא נָע	(sheva na) Vocal Sheva
שְׁוֹא נָח	(sheva nach) Quiet or Silent Sheva
דָּגֶשׁ קַל	(dagesh kal) Dagesh Lene. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Changes the sound of the consonant. eg: from בּ to בְּ; from כּ to כְּ; from פּ to פְּ (Only found in 6 letters: בְּגֵד כֶּפֶת) Never follows a vowel. 1st letter of a word or opens a syllable.
דָּגֶשׁ חֲזָק	(dagesh chazak) Dagesh Forte or dagesh strong <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Doubles consonant in which it stands. Identical in appearance to dagesh kal. May be in any consonant except the 5 gutturals (aleph, hay, chet, ayin, & sometimes resh). When a dagesh is immediately preceded by a vowel, the dagesh is a dagesh chazek. eg: אֶתְהָ = אֶת+הָ (aht-tah).
דוֹ-תְנוּעָה	(doo-teh-noo-ah) diphthong
נִקּוּד/נִקּוּדוֹת	(nikud/nikudot) symbols or Hebrew vowels
סְמִיכוֹת	(s'mee-chut) (aka construct). 2 words used as a single unit or word. It takes the place of “of”; means “of” or “belonging to”. eg: people <u>of</u> Israel -- עַם יִשְׂרָאֵל
שַׁרְשׁ	(sho-rehsh) 3-4 letter root of a word