

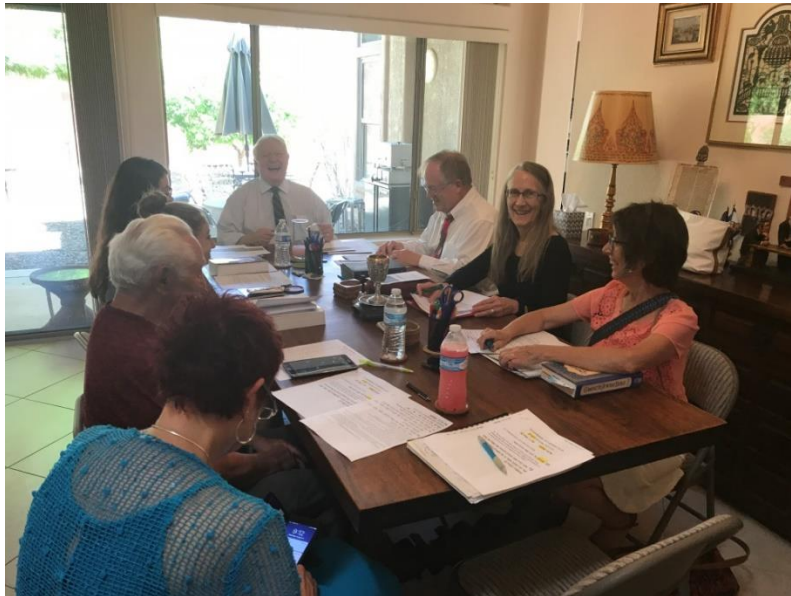
Biblical Hebrew 101

Learning to Read Biblical Hebrew

Lesson 4

שְׁעוֹר ד'

Introduce final letters of aleph-bet



Hebrew Class at Congregation Faithful Stewardship

Learning Hebrew is fun, stimulating ... & helps increase cognitive skills!

Study to show yourself approved to God, a workman that needs not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth of God," 2Tim 2:15.

Continue learning the Hebrew aleph-bet

- 4.01 Introduce final letters of aleph-bet & another vowel
- 4.02 Tips: sofits
- 4.03 Practice reading and writing these letters with 5 vowels
- 4.04 Let's put these sounds together and read actual Hebrew words
- 4.05 More practice reading
- 4.06 Review: How shall I study Hebrew?
- 4.07 Identify letters we've learned in Genesis 1:1

Learn the last letters – new vowel (chirek vowel)

In this lesson, we will:

- Begin to learn the remaining letters in the Hebrew aleph-bet.
- Learn the chirek vowel

4.01 Introduce the final letters of aleph-bet & another vowel

1. Read the name of each letter below. (Refer to Sound of Letter column for pronunciation)
2. Do *the hand*: make a fist with your right hand. Point thumb down and say *aleph*. Raise index finger



Letters (aka consonants) & Vowels (aka nikkudot נִקּוּדוֹת) Please note: there are 2 forms of the פּ. The 1 st is פּ (pay, which has a dot) while the 2 nd is פ (fay, with no dot). (There is also the <i>fay sofit</i> ף which has the same sound as the <i>fay</i> פ).					
Book print	Numeric Value	Name of letter	Sound of letter	Block Print (as in English, there are slight variations in letters' shapes)	Write each letter
ע	70	ayin	<i>silent</i>	ע	
פּ & פ & ף	80	pay fay & fay sofit	p as in pet f as in far	פּ & פ & ף	
צ & ץ	90	tsade & tsade sofit	ts in cats	צ & ץ	
ק	100	koof	k in kept	ק	
ר	200	resh	r in ran	ר	
שׁ & שׂ	300	shin (<i>sheen</i>) sin (<i>seen</i>)	sh in shoe s in set	שׁ & שׂ	
ת	400	tav	t in top	ת	
Vowel (the aleph is used for illustration purposes. The chirek can be used with most consonants)		Name of vowel	Sound of vowel	Print	Write
		<i>chirek</i> : חֵירֵק	ee in sleep	חֵירֵק	

- say *bet*. Lift middle finger - say *gimmel*. Lift ring finger – say *dalet*. And finally lift pinkie – say *hay*

3. Print each letter. (Copy the Block print below & refer to Aleph-Bet chart for letter formulation.)

4.03 Practice reading and writing these letters with 5 vowels

The last 7 letters (consonants # 16-22) and 5 vowels: patach & kamats, and segol & tsere, and chirek				
Letter	Name	Sound	Block	Write letter & vowel
א	ayin	<i>silent</i>	א	
אֵ	ayin with patach	ah as in spa	אֵ	
אִ	ayin with segol	eh as in bed	אִ	
אֶ	ayin with tsere	eh as in bed	אֶ	
אֲ	ayin with chirek	ee as in sleep	אֲ	
פ	pay (has a dagesh (dot) inside)	p as in pay	פ	
פֵּ	pay with a dagesh & kamats	pah	פֵּ	
פִּ	pay with a dagesh & segol	peh	פִּ	
פֶּ	pay with a dagesh & tsere	peh	פֶּ	
פֲ	pay with a dagesh & chirek	pee	פֲ	
פ	fay has no dagesh (NOTE: both פ & פֿ have the same sound)	fay as in far	פ	
פֵּ	fay with kamats	fah	פֵּ	
פִּ	fay with segol	feh	פִּ	
פֶּ	fay with tsere	feh	פֶּ	
פֲ	fay with chirek	fee	פֲ	
פֿ	fay sofit (final letter of word; same sound as פ)	f as in far	פֿ	
צ	tzade	ts , in cats	צ	
צֵ	tsade with patach	tsah	צֵ	
צִ	tsade with segol	tseh	צִ	
צֶ	tsade with tsere	tseh	צֶ	

צ	tsade with chirek	tsee	צ	
ץ	ts in cats (final letter of word; same sound as צ)	tsade sofit	ץ	
ק	koof	k in keep	ק	
קָ	koof with kamats	kah	קָ	
קֶ	koof with segol	keh	קֶ	
קֶ	koof with tsere	keh	קֶ	
קֶ	koof with chirek	kee	קֶ	
ר	resh	r in ran	ר	
רָ	resh with kamats	rah	רָ	
רֶ	resh with segol	reh	רֶ	
רֶ	resh with tsere	reh	רֶ	
רֶ	resh with chirek	ree	רֶ	
ש	shin (<i>sbeen</i>)	sh in shoe	ש	
שָ	shin with patach	shah	שָ	
שֶ	shin with segol	sheh	שֶ	
שֶ	shin with tsere	sheh	שֶ	
שֶ	shin with chirek	shee	שֶ	
שׂ	sin (<i>seen</i>)	s in set	שׂ	
שָׂ	sin with patach	sah	שָׂ	
שֶׂ	sin with segol	seh	שֶׂ	
שֶׂ	sin with tsere	seh	שֶׂ	
שֶׂ	sin with chirek	see	שֶׂ	
ת	tav	t in top	ת	

תָּ	tav with kamats	tah	תָּ	
תֵּ	tav with segol	teh	תֵּ	
תֶּ	tav with tserere	teh	תֶּ	
תִּ	tav with chirek	tee	תִּ	

4.04 Let's put these sounds together & read actual words!

Our objective is to become familiar with the letters and their sounds not to memorize words.

Reminder: How to read Hebrew

1. Hebrew is read right to left and top to bottom. Begin by reading the right-most letter. Then add the vowel that is written below it.
2. For example: with the word אֶהָב. Begin by reading the א; then add the ה. We now have אֶה (ah-ha). Now, we add the ב. Because there is no vowel below this letter, it only has the sound of the consonant. When we put the word altogether we have: אֶהָב (ah-hav).



Always remember read: right to left and top to bottom.

Read & Write words below			
Hebrew	Translation	Transliteration (please, try to read before looking at transliteration)	Practice writing each word (Use Block print on page 1 of this lesson.)
בַּר	son of (Aramaic, Bar Mitzvah)	bahr	
אֶרֶץ	land	eh-rehtz (note: when a 3 or 4-letter word has 2 segols, the first gets the accent)	
הִנֵּה	behold ('listen up')	hee-neh	
אָמֵן	Amen (truly, truth, 'let it be')	ah-mayn (ah-mehn)	
אֶלֶף	1000	eh-lehf (note: when a 3 or 4-letter word has 2 segols, the first gets the accent)	
דָּוִד	David	Dah-veed	
מָה זֶה?	What is this?	Mah zeh?	
בְּטָח	of course, certainly, for sure, security, safely, securely	beh-tach	
פָּאֵרָן	Paran (Num 13:3)	Pah-rahn	

Refer to laminated aleph-bet sheet to review the entire aleph-bet.

4.05 More practice reading

More Hebrew words		
Hebrew	Translation	Transliteration (please, try to read before looking at transliteration)
אָשָׁה	he, or it, did	ah-sah
לְגַן־עֵדֶן	to the vine, Judges 9:12	lahg-gah-fehn
אַתָּה	you (masculine)	ah-tah
חֲזַק	be strong	chah-zahk
חֲצֵר	permanent (as in settlement)	chah-tzehr
צָעַק	cry out	tzah-ahk

4.06 Review: How Shall I Study Hebrew?

1. Today, you read 14 more words!!!
2. Consider taking your lesson with you & review it during lunch.
3. Practice saying the all the letters of the aleph-bet *using the hand*.
4. Read again the Hebrew words in this lesson. (Repetition helps reinforce sounds in our minds.)



4.07 Identify the letters we've learned in Genesis 1:1

On the Scripture below, please **write the name of the letter above that particular letter & the name of the vowel below the letter**. Do the same for each letter. (Identify letters & vowels which we have introduced.)

← resh

א בְּרֵאשִׁית בָּרָא אֱלֹהִים אֶת הַשָּׁמַיִם וְאֶת הָאָרֶץ:

chirek →

“In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth,” Gen 1:1.