Biblical Hebrew 102
Introduction to Grammatical Concepts
Lesson 16[1]
שִׁעוּר ט״ז[1]
Nominal Sentences & Personal Pronouns
Learning to Translate

A small synagogue replica constructed in the much the same way the village synagogue was during the time of Yeshua. Nazareth Village, Israel.

"And he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up. And as was his custom, he went to the synagogue on the Sabbath day, and he stood up to read.," Luke 4:16 ESV.

What we will learn in Lesson 16

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[1]The alpha-numeric Hebrew numeral for 16 is written as ט״ז (9+7, rather than 10+6 in order not to use a form or part of the Name of God with the וֹ)

16.01 *What is a nominal sentence?*

A Hebrew nominal sentence is a simple sentence (or clause) with two or more nouns and has no apparent verb.

An easy way to recognize a nominal sentence is when this sentence (or phrase) is translated into English, the verb "to be" must be added to complete the thought.

For example.

"דָּוִד אִישׁ". Translating this phrase word-for-word into English, it would be: David man. (The verb 'is' needs to be added to the English translation. Thus, it would be: David is a man.)

"הָאָב מֶלֶךְ". Translating this phrase word-for-word into English, it would be: The father king. (Again, 'is' needs to be added. Then, the sentence would be: The father is a king.)

16.02 *Exercises with nominal sentences*

Examples of nominal sentences (* note: In parsing, I like to add a forward slash (/), separating words.)		
1). הַתּוֹרָה סֵפֶר	The Torah is a book.	art; N-prop-fs/*N-ms
2). הָאָב מֶלֶךְ	The father is a king.	art; N-ms/N-ms
3). יַעֲקֹב יֶלֶד	Jacob is a boy.	N-prop-ms/N-ms
4). רִבְקָה בַּת	Rebecca is a daughter.	N-prop-fs/N-fs
5). יִשְׂרָאֵל הָאָרֶץ	Israel is the land.	N-prop-fs/art; N-fs
6). דָּוִד אִישׁ	David is a man.	N-prop-ms/N-ms
7). הַבַּת אֵם	The daughter is a mother.	art; N-fs/N-fs
8). אַבְרָהָם אִישׁ	Abraham is a man.	N-prop-ms/N-ms
9). דָּוִד מֶלֶךְ	David is a king.	N-prop-ms/N-ms
10). יְהוָה הָאֱלֹהִים	"YHVH is God" (Joshua 22:34 Literal Standard Version) The LORD is God," (Joshua 22:34, KJV)	N-prop-ms/N-mp

Write the English or Hebrew translation & abbreviation for the following words		
		(Answers to the exercises on 16.07)
Fill in Hebrew phrase	Fill in English Translation	Fill in parsing abbreviations Refer to 16.06 for list of abbreviations
1). דָּוִד אִישׁ		N-prop-ms/N-ms
2). הָאָב מֶלֶךְ		art; N-ms/N-ms
3).	David is a king.	
4). יִשְׂרָאֵל הָאָרֶץ		N-prop-fs/art; N-fs
5).	The Torah is a book.	
6). הַבַּת אֵם		
7). יַעֲקֹב יֶלֶד		N-prop-ms/N-ms
8).	Abraham is a man.	
9). רִבְקָה בַּת		
10). יְהוָה הָאֱלֹהִים	YHVH is God. (Joshua 22:34, Literal Standard Version)	

16.03 *What are personal pronouns?*

A personal pronoun replaces or takes the place of a specific noun. (A specific noun is the name of a person, place, or thing.) Personal pronouns eliminate the need for repeating that specific noun.

For example, "Last summer we visited the Temple Mount. <u>It</u> was amazing." Note: the pronoun "it" refers to "Temple Mount", which was mentioned in the previous sentence.)

(Note: While these pronouns take the place of the specific noun, they cannot be used as the object of a preposition nor as a direct object.)

English grammar review of singular personal pronouns:

1st person = "I"

2nd person = "you": when you are speaking <u>directly to</u> an individual

3rd person = "he, she, or it": when speaking <u>about</u> someone or something.

Example: singular personal pronoun: "I am David." אֲנִי דָּוִד (Note: often a form of the verb "to be" ("am," in this case) is added to the English translation of the Hebrew sentence.

SINGULAR PERSONAL PRONOUNS			
SINGULAR			
Person	English	Gender	Hebrew
1st person singular (speaker is speaking about himself: "I")			
1st	I	**common**: may be either masculine or feminine	אֲנִי אָנֹכִי* * Pronouns with an asterisk are the Biblical, classical, or archaic.
2nd person singular (speaker is speaking directly to someone: "you")			
2nd	you (singular)	masculine	אַתָּה This appears to be feminine (because of the הָ), however, it is masculine. ☺
2nd	you (singular)	feminine	אַתְּ
3rd person singular (speaker is speaking about someone or something: "him" or "her" or "it")			
3rd	he/it	masculine	הוּא
3rd	she/it	feminine	הִיא הוּא* * Pronouns with an asterisk are the Biblical, classical, or archaic. Note: both הוּא & הִיא mean 'she' and are pronounced הִיא

Grammar-made-simple: pronouns

All <u>1st person</u> pronouns (both singular & plural) <u>begin with "א"</u> – the basis is "אֲנִי" (meaning "I")

All <u>2nd person</u> pronouns (both singular & plural) <u>begin with "את"</u> – the basis is "את" (meaning "you")

All <u>3rd person</u> pronouns (both singular & plural) <u>begin with "ה"</u> – the basis is "הוּא" (meaning "he")

Homework exercises with singular personal pronouns

Examples of personal pronouns with nominal sentences	
1. הִיא מִצְוָה	It (3fs) is a mitzvah/commandment (3fs).
2. אַתְּ רָחֵל	You are Rachel.
3. הוּא יְהוָה	He is YHVH.
4. רִבְקָה אִשָּׁה	Rebecca is a woman.
5. הִיא יִשְׂרָאֵל	It (3fs) is Israel (3fs).
6. הִיא יַרְדֵּן	It (3fs) is Jordan (3fs).
7. אַתָּה אֱלֹהִים	You are God.
8. אֲנִי דָּוִד	I am David.
9. הִיא סוּסָה	It (3fs) is a mare (fs)
10. אָנֹכִי שָׂרָה (Biblical or archaic form of pronoun)	I am Sarah.
11. אֲנִי אִישׁ	I am a man.
12. הוּא הַר	It (3ms) is a mountain (3ms).
13. הִיא תּוֹרָה	It (3fs) is a Torah (3fs).
14. הוּא סוּס	It (3ms) is a horse (3ms).
15. הוּא רִבְקָה (Biblical or archaic form of pronoun)	She is Rebecca.

Fill in the blanks below:

1. I am David. _____
2. He is YHVH. _____
3. הִיא סוּסָה _____ (consider using the English pronoun "it")
4. הִיא יִשְׂרָאֵל _____ (consider using the English pronoun "it")
5. It*is a mountain. _____ * "it" is ms, because "mountain" is ms
6. You are God. _____
7. הוּא רִבְקָה _____ (Biblical or archaic form of pronoun)
8. It is Jordan. (N-fs) _____
9. Rebecca is a woman. _____
10. אֲנִי אִישׁ _____
11. I am Sarah. _____ (use Biblical or archaic form of pronoun)
12. You are Rachel. _____
13. It is a Torah. _____
14. It is a horse. (N-ms) _____
15. It is a mitzvah. (N-fs) _____

16.05 *Three essential fundamentals of Scripture study*

Literal: *"What is the word-for-word translation?"*

Literal interpretation of the Biblical text is interpreting Scripture as it was written in the original language. It is not deciding that passages are parables nor allegories.

Historical: *"What did the passage mean during that time?"*

Historical interpretation of the Biblical text is examining the passage within the setting in which it was written - from a social, economic, political, and religious perspective.

Contextual: *"Is my understanding of this passage consistent with all of Scripture?"*

Contextual interpretation of the Biblical text is examining a word or phrase:

1) within the context of that passage,
2) within the book in which it is located, and
3) within entire Bible. (It is dangerous to pull out a verse without studying it within the Scripture at large.)

16.06 *Introduction to translation the Biblical text*

We are often asked which translation of the Bible is best. Truthfully, the very best translation is your personal translation. While this concept may seem over-whelming, we are here to help you step-by-step. Good news: we have already begun this process by parsing phrases!

Parsing abbreviations which we will use in Biblical Hebrew 102:

Person

1	1st person (I or we)
2	2nd person (you singular or you plural)
3	3rd person (he, she, or they)

Gender

m	masculine
f	feminine
c	common (used for either masculine & feminine)

Additional abbreviations

adj	adjective
adv	adverb
art	article
c	common gender
conj	conjunction
consec	consecutive
cstr	construct
dem pro	demonstrative pronoun
do	definite direct object marker (also abbreviated: DOM or DDOM)
inf	infinitive
inter	interrogative
N	Noun
N-prop	Noun-proper (proper noun)
part	particle
pers pro	personal pronoun
(pf)	prefix

prep	preposition
pro	pronoun
ptc	participle
rel	relative pronoun
segh	segholate
(sf)	suffix
V	Verb
wci	vav *Conversive* Imperfect (also abbreviated: conj-w)
wcp	vav *Conversive* Perfect

Example of how to utilize parsing

Va'era (וָאֵרָא, & I appeared) – wk 14

Torah reading: וָאֵרָא (שְׁמוֹת, Exodus) Exodus Ex 6:2-9:35
Haftarah reading: Ezekiel 28:25-29:21
Apostolic Scripture reading: Rom 9:14-17; 2Cor 6:14-7:1

פָּסוּק ב (verse) -- פֶּרֶק ו (chapter) -- פָּרָשַׁת וָאֵרָא (Parasha or portion of Torah reading)

Hear *Va'era* read in Hebrew: www.RestoringTorah.org
- *Classroom Hebrew reading of Exodus 6:2 & 3 by Les'a (go to link and scroll to appropriate reading):*
- *Shmuelof reading (wait until 0.13: https://www.mechon-mamre.org/mp3/t0206.mp3)*

Exodus 6:2

NIV [2]God also said to Moses, "I am the LORD [YHVH].

WEB[2]God spoke to Moses, and said to him, "I am Yahweh; (World English Bible)

YLT [2]And God speaketh unto Moses, and saith unto him, 'I am Jehovah, (Young's Literal Translation)

YOUR TRANSLATION: _____

_____

_____

Steps to parsing
1. Draw lines between the specific Hebrew & English words or phrases
2. Draw vertical lines, signifying where breath marks (or pauses) are
3. Below each Hebrew word in the verses, write the parsing, using the abbreviations
4. Above each Hebrew word write the English word translation
5. DO NOT FRUSTRATE yourself by attempting to fill in parsing we've not yet covered in class ☺

Westminster Leningrad Codex: (note: the Hebrew Bible reference is: Ex 6:2 ב, ו ,שְׁמוֹת)

YHVH I | Tohim and He said | Moses To | God and said (spoke)

ב וַיְדַבֵּר אֱלֹהִים אֶל־מֹשֶׁה וַיֹּאמֶר אֵלָיו אֲנִי יְהוָה:

N-prop / pers pro 1cs / prep / wci Qal 3ms (sf) / N-prop / prep / N-mp / wci pi 3ms

16.07 *Answers to Homework Exercises:*

ANSWERS to nominal sentences 16.02		
1. דָּוִד אִישׁ	David is a man.	N-prop-ms/N-ms
2. הָאָב מֶלֶךְ	The father is a king.	art; N-ms/N-ms
3. דָּוִד מֶלֶךְ	David is a king.	N-prop-ms/N-ms
4. יִשְׂרָאֵל הָאָרֶץ	Israel is the land.	N-prop-fs/art; N-fs
5. הַתּוֹרָה סֵפֶר	The Torah is a book.	art; N-prop-fs/N-ms
6. הַבַּת אֵם	The daughter is a mother.	art; N-fs/N-fs
7. יַעֲקֹב יֶלֶד	Jacob is a boy.	N-prop-ms/N-ms
8. אַבְרָהָם אִישׁ	Abraham is a man.	N-prop-ms/N-ms
9. רִבְקָה בַּת	Rebecca is a daughter.	N-prop-fs/N-fs
10. יְהוָה הָאֱלֹהִים	"YHVH is God" (Joshua 22:34) The LORD is God," (Joshua 22:34, KJV)	N-prop-ms/N-mp

ANSWERS to singular personal pronouns with nominal sentences 16.04	
1. אֲנִי דָוִד	I am David.
2. הוּא יְהוָה	He is YHVH.
3. הִיא סוּסָה	It is a mare. (fs)
4. הִיא יִשְׂרָאֵל	It is Israel.
5. הוּא הַר	It is a mountain.
6. אַתָּה אֱלֹהִים	You are God.
7. הוּא רִבְקָה (Biblical or archaic form of pronoun)	She is Rebecca.
8. הִיא יַרְדֵּן	It is Jordan.
9. רִבְקָה אִשָּׁה	Rebecca is a woman.
10. אֲנִי אִישׁ	I am a man.
11. אָנֹכִי שָׂרָה (Biblical or archaic form of pronoun)	I am Sarah.
12. אַתְּ רָחֵל	You are Rachel.
13. הִיא תּוֹרָה	It is a Torah.
14. הוּא סוּס	It is a horse.
15. הִיא מִצְוָה	It is a mitzvah.

16.08 *Vocabulary for Lesson 16:*

The words in this lesson include high frequency words in the Biblical text; in other words, words which appear frequently in the TaNaKh.

We encourage you to review these until this vocabulary becomes familiar.

Vocabulary		
סֵפֶר	book	N-ms
תּוֹרָה	Torah	N-prop-fs
מֶלֶךְ	king	N-ms
אָב	father	N-ms
יַעֲקֹב	Jacob	N-prop-ms
יֶלֶד	boy	N-ms
רִבְקָה	Rebecca	N-prop-fs
בַּת	daughter	N-fs
יִשְׂרָאֵל	Israel (the country)	N-prop-fs
דָּוִד	David	N-prop-ms
אִישׁ	man	N-ms
אֵם	mother	N-fs
בַּת	daughter	N-fs
אַבְרָהָם	Abraham	N-prop-ms
יְהוָה הָאֱלֹהִים	"YHVH is God" (Joshua 22:34, Literal Standard Version) The LORD is God," (Joshua 22:34, KJV)	N-prop-ms/N-mp

16.09 *Weekly Parasha reading* (go to https://www.faithfulstewardship.org/bible-readings-schedule/)

Challenge: try following the example in 16.06 of parsing the first verse of this Parasha.

Remember what the Roman stateman Marcus Tullius Cicero (106-43BC) said:
'Repetition is the mother of learning.'