

Biblical Hebrew 103

Developing Grammatical Concepts

Lesson 24

שְׁעוֹר כֹּד

Reviewing Concepts, etc



*Mahane Yehuda market during Covid quarantine
– everyone is wearing masks 😊*

What we will learn in Lesson 24

24.01 *Review:* BeGeD KeFeT

24.02 *Review:* diphthongs

24.03 *Review:* parsing Hebrew words in the Parasha

24.04 *Review:* construct chains

24.05 Exercise with parsing construct chains

24.06 Answers to exercises with parsing construct chains in 24.05

24.07 Weekly Parasha

In this lesson, we are going to quickly review grammatical concepts that essential for understanding the Hebrew text.

24.01 **REVIEW: BeGeD KeFeT**

Six letters in the Hebrew aleph bet can be written with or without a dagesh. They are called the BeGeD KeFeT letters. This term is simply a device for the easy memorization of these 6 letters. These 6 consonants are: bet (בּ); gimmel (גּ); dalet (דּ); kaf (כּ); pay (פּ); and tav (תּ).

Only three of the six letters change their sound, depending upon whether there is a dagesh in the letter or not. These are bet (בּ); kaf (כּ); pay (פּ). (The blue-highlighted letters below show how the sound changes with these three letters.)

| BeGeD KeFeT | Name of letter | Sound | Example | Explanation |
|-------------|---------------------|----------------------------|--------------------|---|
| בּ | with dot: bet | as in b all | רַבָּה (rahb-bah) | NOTE: the bet and vet are pronounced differently |
| ב | without dot: vet | as in v ice | שֶׁבֶט (sheh-veht) | |
| גּ | with dot: gimmel | as in g et | גַּם (gahm) | Note: the gimmel is pronounced the same with and without the dagesh |
| ג | without dot: gimmel | as in g et | חָג (chahg) | |
| דּ | with dot: dalet | as in d og | דָּג (dahg) | Note: the dalet is pronounced the same with and without the dagesh |
| ד | without dot: dalet | as in d og | עוֹד (od) | |
| כּ | with dot: kaf | as in k ee p | כֶּן (kehr) | NOTE: the kaf and chaf are pronounced differently |
| כ | without dot: chaf | as in Ba ch | נְכוּן (nah-chon) | |
| פּ | with dot: pay | as in p et | פַּעַם (pah-ahm) | NOTE: the pay and fay are pronounced differently |
| פ | without dot: fay | as in f ar | סוּפֵת (so-feet) | |
| תּ | with dot: tav | as in t ell | תּוֹדָה (to-dah) | Note: the tav is pronounced the same with and without the dagesh |
| ת | without dot: tav | as in t ell | שֶׁבֶט (shahb-bat) | |

24.02 **REVIEW: Diphthongs**

When a vowel is combined with a yud/yod, a new sound is formed. We encourage you to learn the new sounds.

| HEBREW VOWELS SOUNDS | | | | |
|--|-------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------|
| Standard Sounds: | | | | |
| אֵ ("ee") | אֶ ("eh") | אֶ ("eh") | אָ ("ah") | אָ ("ah") |
| Vowels with the addition of a yod, that vowel becomes a diphthong & the sound changes: | | | | |
| “ee” as in sleep | “ay” as in stay | “ay” as in stay | “I” as in isle | “I” as in isle |
| אֵי | אֵי | אֵי | אֵי | אֵי |
| Chirek Yod חֵירֶק יוֹד | Tsere Yod צֵרֵי יוֹד | Segol Yod סֵגוֹל יוֹד | Kamats Yod קָמֵץ יוֹד | Patach Yod פָּתַח יוֹד |
| NOTE: | | | | |
| 1. There are only 3 diphthong sounds to remember : “I” (as in isle); “ay” (as in stay); and “ee” (as in sleep). | | | | |
| 2. Diphthongs are long vowels. | | | | |

24.03 **REVIEW: Parsing Hebrew words in the Parasha**

DEFINITIONS

- Parsing** is a standard technique used in the field of natural language processing.
- Morphology** notates whether the word is a noun, verb, etc.

For example, the morphology of תּוֹרָה (Torah) is: Noun, feminine, singular.

- Abbreviations** helps individuals understand each particular word.

Hebrew abbreviations are fairly uniform; however, they not totally standardized. Once you are familiar with these abbreviations, you will find it is easy to understand the slight variations that some study books may use.

Example: the abbreviation for תּוֹרָה is: N-fs (“N” tells word is a noun. “f” word is feminine. “s” word is singular.)

➤ **Short list of basic abbreviations used in Biblical Hebrew:**

| | | | |
|---------|--------------------------------|--------|---------------------|
| abs | absolute**refer to 24.05 | p | plural |
| art | article* | part | particle |
| pf. | perfect (past tense) | (pf) | prefix |
| conj. | conjunctive | prep. | preposition |
| consec. | consecutive/conversive | prop N | proper noun |
| cstr. | construct | Qal | verb |
| d.o.m. | direct object marker (or DDOM) | rel. | relative pronoun |
| f. | feminine | s | singular |
| impf | imperfect (future tense) | (sf) | suffix |
| impv | imperative | V | verb |
| m. | masculine | wci | vav conversive impf |
| N. | noun | | |

02/02/2021

EXAMPLE

Vayeshev (וַיֵּשֶׁב, & he settled) - wk 9

Torah reading: וַיֵּשֶׁב (בְּרֵאשִׁית), Gen Gen 37:1-40:23

Haftarah reading: Amos 2:6-3:8

Apostolic Scripture reading: Act 7:9-16 (spec 7:9-10)

א פסוק (verse) -- לז פקדן (chapter) -- פקדת וישב (Parasha or portion of Torah reading)

Hear Vayeshev read in Hebrew: www.RestoringTorah.org

- To listen & practice Gen 37:1, go to link above & scroll to appropriate reading for Classroom Hebrew reading by Les'a.
- Shmuel of reading: <https://www.mechon-mamre.org/mp3/t0137.mp3>

Genesis 37:1

NIV¹Jacob lived in the land where his father had stayed, the land of Canaan.

ESV¹Jacob lived in the land of his father's sojournings, in the land of Canaan. (English Standard Version)

BSB¹Now Jacob lived in the land where his father had resided, the land of Canaan. (Berean Study Bible)

YOUR TRANSLATION: Jacob dwelt in the land of his father his father, in the land of Canaan
The sojournings of

Westminster Leningrad Codex: (note: the Hebrew Bible reference is: Gen 37:1 א ,לז, בראשית)

Handwritten annotations for the Hebrew text: **וַיֵּשֶׁב יַעֲקֹב בְּאֶרֶץ מְגוּרֵי אָבִיו בְּאֶרֶץ כְּנָעַן**

Annotations include: "Canaan in the land of his father resided in the land of Jacob lived dwelt", "The sojournings of", and various grammatical markers like "prep N", "cstr", "prep NPs", "3ms (sg)", "cstr", "impf", "prep NPs", "prep N", "wci Dal 3ms".

24.04 **REVIEW: construct chains**

A construct chain is a series of two or more nouns. When translating a construct chain into English, the word “of” is generally inserted between the nouns.

1. **Masculine singular** constructs use the masculine form of a noun; often the vowel is modified.
 - a. Example: **בֶּן** (son) becomes **בְּנֵי** (son of). Notice the only change is that the tseré under the bet changes to a segol in the construct form.
2. **Masculine plural** nouns are changed to a plural construct noun by dropping the chirek, yud, & mem sofit ending & adding a tseré and a yud/yod.
 - a. Example: **בָּנִים** (sons) becomes **בְּנֵי** (sons of).
3. **Feminine singular** nouns are generally made construct by replacing the final hay with a tav.
 - a. Example: **אִשָּׁה** (woman or wife) becomes **אִשְׁת** (wife of)
 - b. Example: **תּוֹרָה** (Torah) becomes **תּוֹרַת** (Torah of)
4. **Feminine plural** constructs do not change the ending when turning feminine plural noun into a construct
 - a. Example: **אַרְצוֹת** (lands) becomes **אַרְצוֹת** (lands of)

Grammar-Made-Simple: construct chains

Absolute & Construct Nouns:

Remember: the first noun (or nouns) in a construct chain is the **construct noun. (They are called construct nouns because they are changed or ‘constructed’)

The final noun in the chain is the **absolute noun**. (Absolute nouns are how nouns appear in a lexicon or dictionary.)

The article “the” in Hebrew

*When translating the construct chain into English, the article “the” is added if the absolute noun has:

1. An article “ה” (the) eg: **הַמַּיִם** (English, the waters) or **הַבְּרִית** (the covenant)
2. Or a pronominal suffix? eg: **אֱלֹהֶיךָ** (your God) or **בְּנֵי** (his son)
3. Or a proper noun? eg: **יִשְׂרָאֵל** (Israel) or **יַעֲקֹב** (Jacob)

24.05 **Exercises with parsing construct chains (answers are on 24.06)**

| English translation of construct chain | Hebrew | Write the morphology |
|---|--------------------------|--|
| 1) The people of the land (Jer 37:2) | וְעַם הָאָרֶץ | conj; N-ms (construct); art; N-fs (absolute) |
| 2) The words of YHVH (Jer 37:2) | דְּבַרֵי יְהוָה | |
| 3) by the hand (or authority) of Jeremiah (Jer 37:2) | בְּיַד יִרְמְיָהוּ | |
| 4) king of Jerusalem (Josh 10:1) | מֶלֶךְ יְרוּשָׁלַם | |
| 5) way of the wilderness (Ex 13:18) | דֶּרֶךְ הַמִּדְבָּר | |
| 6) children (sons) of Israel (Ex 13:18) | בְּנֵי־יִשְׂרָאֵל | |
| 7) from the land of Egypt (Ex 13:18) | מֵאֶרֶץ מִצְרַיִם | prep N-fs; prop.n |
| 8) house of Israel (Ex 16:31) | בֵּית־יִשְׂרָאֵל | |
| 9) like the seed of coriander (Ex 16:31) | כְּזֶרַע גָּד | |
| 10) the servant of YHVH (Josh 8:31) | עֶבֶד־יְהוָה | |
| 11) in the book of the Torah of Moses (Josh 8:31) | בְּסֵפֶר תּוֹרַת מֹשֶׁה | |
| 12) the altar of stones (Josh 8:31) | מִזְבֵּחַ אֲבָנִים | |
| 13) in the land of the sojourner of his father (Gen 37:1) | בְּאֶרֶץ מְגוּרֵי אָבִיו | prep; N-fs cstr; N-mp cstr; N-ms (sf) abs |

24.06 **Answers to Exercises with parsing construct chains (Exercises are on 24.05)**

| English translation of construct chain | Hebrew | Write the morphology |
|---|--------------------------|---|
| 1) The people of the land (Jer 37:2) | וְעַם הָאָרֶץ | conj; Nn-ms (construct); art; N-fs (absolute) |
| 2) The words of YHVH (Jer 37:2) | דְּבַרֵי יְהוָה | N-mp cstr; prop N-ms abs |
| 3) by the hand (or authority) of Jeremiah (Jer 37:2) | בְּיַד יְרֵמְיָהוּ | prep N-fs cstr; prop N-ms abs |
| 4) king of Jerusalem (Josh 10:1) | מֶלֶךְ יְרוּשָׁלַם | N-ms cstr; prop N-fs abs |
| 5) way of the wilderness (Ex 13:18) | דֶּרֶךְ הַמִּדְבָּר | N-ms cstr; art N-ms abs |
| 6) children (sons) of Israel (Ex 13:18) | בְּנֵי־יִשְׂרָאֵל | N-mp cstr; prop N abs |
| 7) from the land of Egypt (Ex 13:18) | מֵאֶרֶץ מִצְרַיִם | prep N-fs; prop.n |
| 8) house of Israel (Ex 16:31) | בֵּית־יִשְׂרָאֵל | N-ms cstr; prop N abs |
| 9) like the seed of coriander (Ex 16:31) | כְּזֶרַע גָּד | prep N-ms cstr; N-ms abs |
| 10) the servant of YHVH (Josh 8:31) | עֶבְד־יְהוָה | N-ms cstr; prop N-ms abs |
| 11) in the book of the Torah of Moses (Josh 8:31) | בְּסֵפֶר תּוֹרַת מֹשֶׁה | prep N-ms cstr; prop N-fs cstr; prop N-ms abs |
| 12) the altar of stones (Josh 8:31) | מִזְבֵּחַ אֲבָנִים | N-ms cstr; prop N-fp abs |
| 13) in the land of the sojourner of his father (Gen 37:1) | בְּאֶרֶץ מְגוּרֵי אָבִיו | prep; N-fs cstr; N-mp cstr; N-ms (sf) abs |

24.07 **Weekly Parasha reading** (go to www.RestoringTorah.org)