

Biblical Hebrew 103

Developing Grammatical Concepts

Lesson 27

שְׁעוֹר כֹּז

Adjectives & Demonstrative Pronouns



A typical morning at Jerusalem's famous Mahane Yehuda market

What we will learn in Lesson 27

27.01 *Review:* what are adjectives?

27.02 *Introduce:* demonstrative pronouns

27.03 Homework Worksheet: demonstrative pronouns & adjectives

27.04 *Answers:* Quick Review: demonstrative pronouns 28.02

27.05 *Answers:* Homework Worksheet: demonstrative pronouns 28.03

27.06 Weekly Parasha

27.01 **REVIEW: What are adjectives?**

Adjectives are words that describe or modify a noun. No matter what we describe, we always use adjectives – regardless of whether we are describing a book, a house, or a person.

In these examples below, “Good,” “nice,” and “interesting” are adjectives.

The book is good. The house is nice. The person is interesting.

How much less would we understand YHVH or His TaNaKh if we had no adjectives! Adjectives have been called the ‘coloring book’ of the Bible.

Adjectives which describe YHVH: Ex 34:6

... “The LORD, the LORD, a God merciful and gracious, slow to anger, & abounding in steadfast love & faithfulness

יְהוָה אֱלֹהִים רַחוּם וְסִגְנוּן אֶרְךָ אַפַּיִם וְרַב־תְּשׁוּבָה וְאֱמֶת:

Parsing & Morphology of Ex 34:6		
יְהוָה	YHVH	prop N-ms
אֱלֹהִים	God	N-ms
רַחוּם	merciful	adj-ms
וְסִגְנוּן	and gracious	conj; adj-ms
אֶרְךָ	slow (literally means “long” - from the shoresh אָרַךְ)	adj; adj-ms cstr
אַפַּיִם	anger (literally means “nose” - from the shoresh אָפַּךְ)	N-md
וְרַב־	& much	conj; adj-ms cstr
תְּשׁוּבָה	goodness	N-ms
וְאֱמֶת	& truth	conj; N-fs

27.02 **Introduce: demonstrative pronouns**

Demonstrative pronouns are translated into English as *this*, *that*, *these*, and *those*.

HEBREW DEMONSTRATIVES				
	Singular		Plural	
Masculine	This	זֶה	These	אֵלֶּה
Feminine	This	זֹאת	These	אֵלֶּה
Masculine	That	הוּא	Those	הֵמָּה or הֵם
Feminine	That	הִיא	Those	הֵנָּה or הֵן

There are 2 types of demonstrative pronouns:

1. **Attributive demonstrative pronouns** function as adjectives & point out specific people or things. They follow the noun & agree in gender, number, & definiteness (like attributive adjectives).

➤ Example:

הַיְלֵד הַזֶּה (this boy): both words are masculine, singular, & definite (“the”); they both begin with a hay, patach, & have a dagesh in the letter following the hay הֶ (the).

➤ In this example, the word “horse” changes as the gender and/or number changes:

- | | |
|------------------------------|---|
| This horse. | הַסּוּס הַזֶּה – note: both words are singular & both have the article |
| This mare (female horse). | הַסּוּסָה הַזֹּאת |
| These horses. | הַסּוּסִים הָאֵלֶּה (note: mp & fp pronouns for “these” are the same: הָאֵלֶּה) |
| These mares (female horses). | הַסּוּסוֹת הָאֵלֶּה (note: mp & fp pronouns for “these” are the same: הָאֵלֶּה) |
| That horse. | הַסּוּס הַהוּא |
| That mare (female horse). | הַסּוּסָה הַהִיא |
| Those horses. | הַסּוּסִים הַהֵם (note: mp & fp pronouns for “those” are different) |
| Those mares (female horses). | הַסּוּסוֹת הַהֵן (note: mp & fp pronouns for “those” are different) |

2. **Predicative demonstrative pronouns** generally precede the noun & agree only in gender & number – *not* in definiteness – **like predicative adjectives**.

For example: זֶה הַיְלֵד (this “is” the boy) – both words are masculine and singular, but this demonstrative pronoun is *not* definite: it does not have a הֶ(the) as does יֵלֵד

Write the Hebrew translation of sentences below. (answers on 27.04)

- | | |
|-----------------------|---------------------|
| This is the king. | _____ זֶה הַמֶּלֶךְ |
| This is the daughter. | _____ |
| These are the kings. | _____ |
| Those are the kings. | _____ |

Grammar-made-simple: difference between attributive & predicative adjectives

1. **Attributive adjectives** must agree in gender, number, and definiteness.
2. **Predicative adjectives**, agree in only gender and number – not in definiteness. Only the noun may have an article, or the noun will be a proper noun, or the noun will have a pronominal suffix.

Example of an attributive adjective & predicative adjective:

Attributive adjective: The big house. הַבַּיִת הַגָּדוֹל (note: both words have the article)

Predicative adjective: The house is big. הַבַּיִת גָּדוֹל (noun only has article; adjective does not have article)

Demonstrative pronouns in a nutshell:

Predicative demonstrative pronouns when only one of the two nouns has an article, then you add the verb “to be.”

Attributive demonstrative pronouns both two nouns are the same – either both have the article or neither does. In this case, you translate without the verb “to be.”

27.03 **Homework Worksheet: pronouns & adjectives**

Write the Hebrew translation. (Hint: refer to Vocabulary in box ↓. Answers on 27.05)

1. The sons are great. **הַבָּנִים גְּדוּלִים**

2. The Shabbats are blessed.

3. These are holy words.

4. The fathers are great kings.

5. You (fp) are good daughters.

6. We are holy mothers.

7. The son is blessed.

8. The Shabbat is holy.

9. The daughter is good.

10. You are the good father.

11. This is the good word.

Vocabulary:

Note: the vocabulary words below may need to be inflected for the sentences on the right.

גְּדוּל	big, large, great (adj-ms)
גְּדוּלִים	big, large, great (adj-mp)
מְלָכִים	kings (N-mp)
אַתָּן	you (art; N-fp)
בָּנוֹת	daughters (N-fp-irregular)
בֵּן	son (N-ms)
בָּנִים	sons (N-mp)
זֶה	this (demon pro-ms)
שַׁבָּתוֹת	Sabbaths (N prop-fp)
אָבוֹת	fathers (N-mp-irregular)
שַׁבַּת	Shabbat (N-fs)
אַנְחֵנוּ	we (pron-1cp)
טוֹב	good (adj-ms)
בָּנִים	sons (N-mp)
דָּבָר	word (N-ms)
בַּת	daughter (N-fs)
קְדוֹשׁ	holy (adj-ms)
אִמֵּהוֹת	mothers (N-fp-irregular)
אַתָּה	you (pro-ms)
בְּרוּךְ	blessed (adj-ms)

27.04 **ANSWERS: Quick Review: demonstrative pronouns on 27.02**

This is the king.	זֶה הַמֶּלֶךְ
This is the daughter.	זֹאת הַבֵּת
These are the kings.	אֵלֶּה הַמְּלָכִים
Those are the kings.	הֵם הַמְּלָכִים

27.05 **ANSWERS: Homework Worksheet: demonstrative pronouns & adjectives on 27.03**

1. The sons are great.	הַבָּנִים גְּדוּלִים
2. The Shabbats are blessed.	הַשַּׁבָּתוֹת בְּרוּכוֹת
3. These are holy words.	אֵלֶּה דְבָרִים קְדוּשִׁים
4. The fathers are great kings.	הָאָבוֹת הֵם מְלָכִים גְּדוּלִים
5. You are good daughters.	אַתָּן בָּנוֹת טוֹבוֹת
6. We are holy mothers.	אַנְחֵנוּ אִמָּהוֹת קְדוּשׁוֹת
7. The son is blessed.	הַבֵּן בְּרוּךְ
8. The Shabbat is holy.	הַשַּׁבָּת קְדוּשָׁה
9. The daughter is good.	הַבֵּת טוֹבָה
10. You are the good father.	אַתָּה הָאָב הַטוֹב
11. This is the good word.	זֶה הַדְּבָר הַטוֹב

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