

Biblical Hebrew 102

Introduction to Grammatical Concepts

Lesson 11

שְׁעוֹר י"א

Masculine Nouns



“...man does not live by bread alone, but man lives by everything that proceeds out of the mouth of the LORD,” Dt 8:3; Mt 4:4.

What we will learn in Lesson 11

- 11.01 *Review*: nouns
- 11.02 Introduce Hebrew masculine nouns
- 11.03 Exercise with masculine nouns
- 11.04 Grammar-Made-Simple: Nouns
- 11.05 Morphology and abbreviations – a time saver!
- 11.06 *Review*: the definite article
- 11.07 Homework Worksheet (Answer on 11.08)
- 11.08 Answers to Homework Sheet (Exercise 11.07)
- 11.09 *Review*: Vocabulary Words & Flash Cards
- 11.10 Weekly Parasha Reading

11.01 Review Nouns

Nouns are the largest class of words in most languages. They indicate a person (eg, man), place (eg, country), or thing (eg, house, animals, etc.).

In English, many nouns are neither masculine nor feminine; for example: a mountain or a house. Whereas, in Hebrew, all nouns are either masculine or feminine.

11.02 Introduce Hebrew masculine nouns

- Masculine singular nouns do not have a particular ending.
- Most masculine nouns are made plural by adding “chirek”, “yod/yud” & “mem sofit”- **ים**, to the end of the word. (Note: “chirek” is not under “yod”; it is under previous consonant.)

Examples of 3 Masculine Nouns			
masculine singular	סֵפֶר book	הַר mount	זָכָר male
masculine plural	סִפְרִים books	הָרִים mountains	זָכָרִים males

11.03 Exercise with masculine nouns

Copy Hebrew of English word below. (Hint: refer to Vocabulary in box→.)

- ¹King מֶלֶךְ
- ²Mountains _____
- ³Boy _____
- ⁴House _____
- ⁵Books _____
- ⁶Man _____
- ⁷Mount _____
- ⁸Kings _____
- ⁹Houses _____
- ¹⁰Children _____
- ¹¹Book _____
- ¹²People _____

Masculine Noun Vocabulary:	
סֵפֶר	book
סִפְרִים	books
יָלֵד	boy
יְלָדִים	boys or children
בֵּית	house
בָּתִּים	houses
מֶלֶךְ	king
מְלָכִים	kings
אִישׁ	man
אֲנָשִׁים	men or people (irregular)
הַר	mount (mountain)
הָרִים	mountains

11.04 Grammar-Made-Simple: Masculine Nouns

- Hebrew nouns are either masculine or feminine.
- Masculine singular nouns have no particular endings.
 - Masculine plural nouns generally are made plural by adding a “chirek,” “yud/yod,” and a “mem sofit” (**ים**) to the end of the word. eg: סֵפֶר (N-ms) סִפְרִים (N-mp)

11.05 *Morphology and abbreviations -- time saver!!*

Morphology is the study of word formation. Morphology helps us understand a word and what part of speech that word is whether it is a noun, verb, etc, and its breakdown.

For example, the morphology of סֵפֶר is: Noun-masculine singular.

Abbreviations simplify notating the morphology of particular word.

For example, the morphology for the word סֵפֶר (book) is: N-ms (“N” indicates that סֵפֶר is a noun. It is also “m” which tells that the word is masculine. “s” that the word is singular.)

➤ For this lesson, we will use the following 6 abbreviations:

N = **noun** (often the letter “N” will be followed by a “dash” to clarify the letters following refer to that noun. Refer to above)

f = **feminine**

m = **masculine**

s = **singular**

p = **plural**

art = **article** (“the”: generally written with a “hay”, “patach”, and a “dagesh”: הַ)

Hebrew abbreviations are 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.

11.06 *Review Definite Article: the word “the”*

Hint: look for patterns!

1. In English, the definite article “the” is a separate word; however, in Hebrew, the definite article is not a separate word.
 - a. In Hebrew, the definite article is attached to the noun.
 - b. Good news: the definite article for masculine nouns is generally designated by a “hay”, a “patach”, & a “dagesh chazak”.

2. Examples of masculine nouns with the definite article (הַ):

- דָּבָר (word or thing) becomes הַדָּבָר (the word or the thing)
- מֶלֶךְ (king) becomes הַמֶּלֶךְ (the king)
- נָעַר (young man) becomes הַנָּעַר (the young man)

3. Exceptions are when a definite article precedes a guttural (א, ה, ח, ע and sometimes ר).

The vowel under the “hay” changes from a “patach” to a “kamats” (הָ) or a “segol” (הֶ). Also, the following letter does not have a “dagesh”. (Why is there no dagesh”? Because gutturals cannot take a dagesh. Later, we will learn why the grammatical changes with the article.)

Important: learn to recognize the definite article!

Definite article with masculine nouns which begin with a guttural:

- אָב (father) becomes הָאָב (the father)
- רֹאשׁ (head) becomes הָרֹאשׁ (the head)
- אִישׁ (man) becomes הָאִישׁ (the man)
- הָרִים (mountains) becomes הֶהָרִים (the mountains)
- חָכָם (wise) becomes הֶחָכָם (the wise ‘man*’)

11.07 Homework Worksheet

Vocabulary for the exercise below:

אִישׁ	man (N-ms)	סוּס	horse (N-ms)	הַבַּיִת	the house (art; N-ms)
הָאִישׁ	the man (art; N-ms)	הַסּוּסִים	the horses (art; N-mp)	מֶלֶךְ	king (N-ms)
בַּיִת	house (N-ms)	הַדְּבָר	the word (art; N-ms)	הַמְּלָכִים	the kings (art; N-mp)
בָּתִּים	houses (N-mp)	הַדְּבָרִים	the words (art; N-mp)		

HOMEWORK WORKSHEET (answers 11.08) <i>Write the English or Hebrew translation & abbreviation for the following words</i>		
Write Hebrew Translation (refer to vocabulary above)	Write English Translation (refer to vocabulary above)	Write Hebrew Abbreviations (refer to list of Abbreviations on 11.05)
¹ בַּיִת	house (Gen 12:30)	N-ms (Noun-masculine singular)
² הַבַּיִת	the house	art; N-ms (article; Noun-masculine singular)
³ הַדְּבָר	the word	art; N-ms (article; noun-masculine singular)
⁴ הַדְּבָרִים	the words	art; N-mp (article; Noun-masculine plural)
⁵ שָׁנָה	year (feminine noun)	N-fs (Noun-feminine singular)
⁶ מִצְוָה	commandment	
⁷ הַמִּצְוָה		
⁸	man	
⁹	woman	
¹⁰ יֶלֶד		
¹¹ מֶלֶךְ		
¹²	the kings (Gen 14:5)	
¹³ סוּס		
¹⁴ הַסּוּסִים	the horses (I Kings 10:28)	

The way we are learning Hebrew in these classes really makes the weekly Torah readings come alive. FD

11.08 *Answers to Homework Worksheet* (from 11.07)

Write Hebrew Translation	Write English Translation	Write Hebrew Abbreviations
¹ בֵּית	house (Gen 12:30)	N-ms (Noun-masculine singular)
² הַבַּיִת	the house	art; N-ms (article; Noun-masculine singular)
³ הַדָּבָר	the word	art; N-ms (article; noun-masculine singular)
⁴ הַדְּבָרִים	the words	art; N-mp (article; Noun-masculine plural)
⁵ שָׁנָה	year (feminine noun)	N-fs (Noun-feminine singular)
⁶ מִצְוָה	commandment	N-fs
⁷ הַמִּצְוָה	the commandment	Art; N-fs
⁸ אִישׁ	man	N-ms
⁹ אִשָּׁה	woman	N-fs
¹⁰ יָלֵד	boy, child	N-ms
¹¹ מֶלֶךְ	king	N-ms
¹² הַמְּלָכִים	the kings (Gen 14:5)	Art; N-mp
¹³ סוּס	horse	N-ms
¹⁴ הַסּוּסִים	the horses (I Kings 10:28)	Art; N-mp

11.09 *Review: Vocabulary Words & Flash Cards:*

These vocabulary words include high frequency words, which appear frequently in the TaNaKh. We encourage you to review these words until they become familiar.

➤ Lesson 11 Vocabulary Words:

אִישׁ	man (N-ms)	סוּס	horse (N-ms)	מֶלֶךְ	king (N-ms)
הָאִישׁ	the man (art; N-ms)	הַסּוּסִים	the horses (art; N-mp)	הַמְּלָכִים	the kings (art; N-mp)
יָלֵד	boy (N-ms)	הַדָּבָר	the word (art; N-ms)	בֵּית	house (N-ms)
יְלָדִים	boys or children (N-mp)	הַדְּבָרִים	the words (art; N-mp)	הַבַּיִת	the house (art; N-ms)
		סֵפֶר	book (N-ms)	בָּתִּים	houses (N-mp)
		סִפְרִים	books (N-mp)		

11.10 *Weekly Parasha Reading*

1. Go to: www.RestoringTorah.org
2. Click on **Calendar** & select the current year
3. Scroll down to current month