

Biblical Hebrew 102

Introduction to Grammatical Concepts

Lesson 13

שְׁעוֹר יג

Special 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 13

- 13.01 *Review*: feminine & masculine nouns
- 13.02 Introduce: special nouns: gender & proper nouns
- 13.03 *Review*: the definite article
- 13.04 *Review*: morphology with abbreviations
- 13.05 High frequency vocabulary words
- 13.06 Homework Worksheet (Answer on 13.08)
- 13.07 Practice reading & printing exercise: The Shema - Deuteronomy 6:4-5
- 13.08 Answers to Homework worksheet (Exercise 13.06)
- 13.09 Weekly Parasha Reading

13.01 Review basic feminine & masculine nouns

1. **Most feminine singular nouns** end with a “kamats” + a “hay” (הַ) or a “tav” (ת). Most feminine nouns are made **plural** by adding “cholam vav” (or a “cholam”) & a “tav” (ות) to the end of the word. (For additional review, refer to 11:02.)

Singular	Definition	Plural	Definition
תּוֹרָה	Torah or instruction	תּוֹרוֹת	Torahs or instructions
מִשְׁפָּחָה	family	מִשְׁפָּחוֹת	families

2. **Masculine singular nouns**, unlike feminine nouns, do not have a particular ending. Most masculine nouns are made **plural** by adding “chirek”, “yod” & a “mem sofit” (ים) to the end of the word. (For additional review, refer to 12:01.)

Singular	Definition	Plural	Definition
סֵפֶר	book	סִפְרִים	books
הַר	mount or mountain	הָרִים	mountains

Grammar-Made-Simple: basic feminine & masculine nouns

- All Hebrew nouns are either masculine or feminine
- Feminine singular nouns generally end with a kamats and hay (הַ). Also, nouns which end with a tav (ת), are usually feminine.
 - Feminine nouns generally are made plural by adding a cholam vav & a tav (ות) to the end of the word.
- Masculine singular nouns have no particular endings.
 - Masculine nouns generally are made plural by adding a chirek, yud/yod, and a mem sofit (ים) to the end of the word.

13.02 Special nouns: gender nouns and proper nouns

1. **Gender nouns** are very easy in Hebrew. Gender nouns are nouns that change according to the gender of the person to which they are referring.

In English, gender nouns generally are different words. For example: boy & girl, man & woman, king & queen, etc.

In Hebrew, gender nouns are not different words, but a modification of the masculine.

For example: יָלֵד (boy) changes to יְלֵדָה (girl). The masculine noun is changed to feminine by “kamats” and a “hay” (הַ) to the end of the word.

Below are examples of Hebrew gender nouns:

- יָלֵד (boy) → changes to יְלֵדָה (girl)
- אִישׁ (man) → changes to אִשָּׁה (woman)
- מֶלֶךְ (king) → changes to מַלְכָּה (queen)
- סוּס (horse) → changes to סוּסָה (mare or female horse)
- דּוֹד (uncle) → changes to דּוֹדָה (aunt)

2. **Proper nouns** are the specific names for a person (eg: Abraham; Sarah), place (eg: Israel; Dead Sea), or a thing (eg: Temple; the Land). Hebrew proper nouns are the transliteration of the Hebrew name into English. When looking at the English name, you can often guess what the name is in Hebrew!

Examples of the proper nouns in Hebrew:

אַבְרָהָם (Abraham)	יִצְחָק (Isaac)
יַעֲקֹב (Jacob)	שָׂרָה (Sarah)
רִבְכָּה (Rebecca)	רָחֵל (Rachel)

13.03 **Review Definite Article: the word “the”** (For additional review, refer to 11:06.)

The Hebrew definite article is neither masculine nor feminine. It is not a separate word, but is a prefix attached to the beginning of a noun. It is written with a “hay,” “patach,” & a “dagesh chazak”: (הַ)

Example of a masculine noun with the article:

Word (דָּבָר) → becomes the word (הַדָּבָר)

Example of a feminine noun with the article:

Torah (תּוֹרָה) → becomes the Torah (הַתּוֹרָה)

The exceptions to the הַ are when the “hay” (the definite article) precedes a guttural*

The 5 Hebrew gutturals are א, ה, ח, ע, & ר. Note: gutturals cannot take dageshes. So, when an article precedes a guttural, the vowel under the “hay” changes from a “patach” to “kamats” (הָ) or to a “segol” (הֶ).

Examples of a definite article added to a noun, which begin with a guttural:

- Father (אָב) → becomes the father (הָאָב)
- Land (אֶרֶץ) → becomes the land (הָאֶרֶץ)
- Head (רֹאשׁ) → becomes the head (הָרֹאשׁ)
- Man (אִישׁ) → becomes the man (הָאִישׁ)
- Woman (אִשָּׁה) → becomes the woman (הָאִשָּׁה)
- mountains (הָרִים) → becomes the mountains (הַהָרִים)

Grammar-Made-Simple: definite article

- **Good news!** There is no difference in Hebrew definite article when it is used with a masculine or a feminine, singular or plural noun.

1. The prefix (הַ: “hay” & “patach” & “dagesh chazak”) are added to noun.

Example: word (דָּבָר) → becomes the word (הַדָּבָר)

2. Exceptions are when the article precedes a guttural: * (א, ה, ח, ע, & ר)
 3. When the article precedes a guttural, generally the vowel under the “hay” will be a kamats. Sometimes, the vowel will be a tsere; and rarely a segol.

Example: father (אָב) → becomes the father (הָאָב)

Example: mountains (הָרִים) becomes the mountains (הַהָרִים)

13.04 *Review morphology with abbreviations* (For additional review, refer to 11:05.)

Morphology is the study of word formation. Morphology identifies whether a particular word is a noun, verb, etc.

Abbreviations enable individuals to quickly write the morphology of each word.

For this lesson, we will review the following 7 abbreviations:

art = **article** (“the” is generally written with a “hay”, “patach”, & a “dagesh chazak”:



N = **noun** (the abbreviation for noun is a “capital N-” is followed by a “dash”)

f = **feminine**

m = **masculine**

s = **singular**

p = **plural**

N-prop = **proper noun**

Example: the morphology with its abbreviation for סֵפֶר is N-ms (The N- means it is a noun; “m,” it is masculine; and “s,” it is singular.)

(Please note: Hebrew abbreviations are fairly uniform, they not totally standardized world-wide. However, once you become familiar with these abbreviations, you will find it is easy to understand the slight variations in some study books.

13.05 *High frequency vocabulary words:*

This list of high frequency words (words used often in Torah) incorporates masculine & feminine nouns, gender & proper nouns, the article (“the” in English), & morphology with abbreviations.

We encourage you to learn these words that are used often in Scripture					
1 אִישׁ	man (N-ms)	8 בָּנִים	sons or children (N-mp)	15 דְּבָר	word, thing (N-ms)
2 הָאִישׁ	the man (art; N-ms)	9 יֶלֶד	boy or child (N-ms)	16 הַדְּבָר	the word, thing (art; N-ms)
3 אִשָּׁה	woman (N-fs)	10 יְלָדָה	girl (N-fs)	17 דְּבָרִים	words, things (N-mp)
4 הָאִשָּׁה	the woman (art; N-fs)	11 דּוֹד	uncle (N-ms)	18 הַדְּבָרִים	the words, things (art; N-mp)
5 אָב	father (N-ms)	12 דּוֹדָה	aunt (N-fs)	19 יִשְׂרָאֵל	Israel, the country (N-prop-fs)
6 הָאָב	the father (N-ms)	13 מִשְׁפָּחָה	family (art; N-fs)	20 אַבְרָהָם	Abraham (N-prop-ms)
7 בֶּן	son (N-ms)	14 מִשְׁפָּחוֹת	families (N-fp)	21 יַעֲקֹב	Jacob (N-prop-ms)

22 מֶלֶךְ	king (N-ms)	26 סוּס	horse (N-ms)	30 הָר	mount or mountain (N-ms)
23 הַמְּלָכִים	the kings (art; N-mp)	27 הַסּוּסִים	the horses (art; N-mp)	31 הָרִים	mountains (N-mp)
24 אֶרֶץ	land (N-fs)	28 מִצְוָה	commandment (N-fs)	32 תּוֹרָה	Torah or instruction (N-fs)
25 הָאֶרֶץ	the land (art; N-fs)	29 הַמִּצְוָה	the commandment (art; N-fs)	33 הַתּוֹרָה	the Torah or instruction (art; N-fs)

13.06 Homework Worksheet:

Putting together the concepts we've been learning: singular & plural nouns, gender & proper nouns, the Hebrew article, & morphology.

- Refer to 13.04 for morphology & abbreviations
- Refer to Vocabulary List on 13.05

answers on 13.08

Fill in blanks with Hebrew word	Fill in blanks with English Translation	Fill in blanks with abbreviations
1 הָר	mount or mountain	N-ms
2 סוּס		N-ms
3 אַבְרָהָם	Abraham	N-prop-ms (proper.noun-ms)
4 הַדָּבָר	the word or the thing	art; n-ms (article; noun-masculine singular)
5 דְּבָרִים	words or things	
6 הַדְּבָרִים		art; N-mp
7	the horses	art; N-mp
8 אִישׁ	man	N-ms
9	Torah or instruction	N-fs
10 אֶרֶץ	land	N-fs
11	the man	art; N-ms
12 בָּנִים	sons	
13 אִשָּׁה		N-fs
14	king	
15	commandment	N-nf
16 בִּי		
17	the woman	
18 הַתּוֹרָה	the Torah or the instruction	

13.07 Practice reading & printing exercise: The Shema - Deut 6:4-5

Mark 12:29-30 (NASB): *Note: Yeshua quoted Deut 6:4-5 verbatim in Mark 12:29-30:*

Jesus answered, "The foremost is, 'Hear, Israel! The LORD [YHVH] is our God, the LORD [YHVH] is one; and you shall love the LORD [YHVH] your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind, and with all your strength.'

Deuteronomy 6:4-5 (NASB):

"Hear, O Israel! The LORD [YHVH] is our God, the LORD [YHVH] is one! And you shall love the LORD [YHVH] your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength.

שְׁמַע יִשְׂרָאֵל יְהוָה אֱלֹהֵינוּ יְהוָה אֶחָד.

וְאַהֲבָתָּ אֶת יְהוָה אֱלֹהֶיךָ בְּכָל-לִבְבְּךָ וּבְכָל-נַפְשְׁךָ וּבְכָל-מְאֹדְךָ:

Hebrew	Translation	Print each word in Hebrew (with vowels)
שְׁמַע	Hear	
יִשְׂרָאֵל	Israel	
יְהוָה	YHVH (the LORD)	
אֱלֹהֵינוּ	our God	
יְהוָה	YHVH	
אֶחָד	one ("is" is understood)	
וְאַהֲבָתָּ	& you shall love	
אֶת		
יְהוָה	YHVH (the LORD)	
אֱלֹהֶיךָ	your God	
בְּכָל-	with all of	
לִבְבְּךָ	your heart	
וּבְכָל-	& with all of	
נַפְשְׁךָ	your soul	
וּבְכָל-	& with all of	
מְאֹדְךָ:	your strength	

13.08 *ANSWERS to Homework Worksheet 13.06*

Fill in blanks with Hebrew word	Fill in blanks with English Translation	Fill in blanks with abbreviations
¹ הַר	mount or mountain	N-ms
² סוס	horse	N-ms
³ אַבְרָהָם	Abraham	N-prop-ms (Noun-proper-ms)
⁴ הַדָּבָר	the word or the thing	art; n-ms (article; Noun-masculine singular)
⁵ דְּבָרִים	words or things	N-mp
⁶ הַדְּבָרִים	the words or the things	art; N-mp
⁷ הַסּוּסִים	the horses	art; N-mp
⁸ אִישׁ	man	N-ms
⁹ תּוֹרָה	Torah or instruction	N-fs
¹⁰ אֶרֶץ	land	N-fs
¹¹ הָאִישׁ	the man	art; N-ms
¹² בָּנִים	sons	N-mp
¹³ אִשָּׁה	woman	N-fs
¹⁴ מֶלֶךְ	king	N-ms
¹⁵ מִצְוָה	commandment	N-nf
¹⁶ בֶּן	son	N-ms
¹⁷ הָאִשָּׁה	the woman	art; N-fs
¹⁸ הַתּוֹרָה	the Torah or the instruction	art; N-fs

13.09 *Weekly Parasha Reading*

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

Marcus Tullius Cicero (a Roman statesman, orator, lawyer, and philosopher, who lived from 106BC to 43BC). He is credited with the wise saying “**Repetition is the mother of learning**” ... *this is a truism that we need to heed in our study of Hebrew.*