

Biblical Hebrew Course 101

– Boot Camp –

Lesson 4

שְׁעָרָה

Introduce the last consonants + another vowel



Learning Hebrew is fun, stimulating ... & helps increase cognitive skills!

“Study to show yourself approved to God, a workman that needs not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth of God,” 2Tim 2:15.

- 4.01 Introduce the last consonants (aka letters): ayin – tav; + chirek vowel
- 4.02 Last 2 sofits
- 4.03 Practice reading & writing these consonants with the 5 vowels
- 4.04 Let’s put these sounds together and read words
- 4.05 More practice reading
- 4.06 Review: How shall I study Hebrew?
- 4.07 Homework & practice identifying letters & vowels in Genesis 1:1

The last consonants (aka letters) + a new vowel (the chirek)

In this lesson, we will:

- Begin to learn the remaining letters in the Hebrew Aleph-Bet.
- Learn the chirek vowel

4.01 Introduce the last consonants (aka letters) of Aleph-Bet + another vowel

1. Read the name of each letter below. (Refer to Sound of Letter column for pronunciation)
2. Do the hand: make a fist with your right hand. Point thumb down and say *aleph*. Raise index finger - say *bet*. Lift middle finger - say *gimmel*. Lift ring finger – say *dalet*. And finally lift pinkie – say *hay*
3. Print each letter. (Copy the Block print below & refer to Aleph-Bet Chart for letter formulation.)



Letters (aka consonants) & Vowels (aka nikkudot ניקודות)

Please note: there are 2 forms of the **ב**.

The 1st is **ב** (*pay*, which has a dot) while the 2nd is **ב** (*fay*, which has no dot).

(There is also the *fay softit* **ף** which has the same sound as the *fay ב*).

Book Print	Numeric Value	Name of Letter	Sound of Letter	Block (as in English, there are slight variations in the how each person writes a letter)	Write Each Letter
ע	70	ayin	<i>silent</i>	ע	
ב	80	pay (has a dot/dagesh)	p as in <i>pet</i>	ב	
ב	80	fay (has no dagesh)	f as in <i>far</i>	ב	
ף	80	fay softit	f as in <i>far</i>	ף	
צ	90	tsade (pronounced <i>ts-day</i>)	ts in <i>cats</i>	צ	
צ	90	tsade softit	ts in <i>cats</i>	צ	
ק	100	koof	k in <i>kept</i>	ק	
ר	200	resh	r in <i>ran</i>	ר	
ש	300	shin (<i>sheen</i>)	sh in <i>shoe</i>	ש	
ש	300	sin (<i>seen</i>)	s in <i>set</i>	ש	
ת	400	tav	t in <i>top</i>	ת	
Vowel (the aleph is used for illustration purposes.)		Name of vowel	Sound of vowel	Print	Write
א		<i>chirek</i> חירק	<i>ee</i> in <i>sleep</i>	א	

4.02 Last 2 Sofits (final letters): 5 Hebrew letters have a different shape when they appear as the last letter of a word.

In this lesson, we introduced the other two sofits:

- fay softit (**ף**) – pronounced the same as “**ב**” (“f” as in *far*)
- tsade softit (**צ**) – pronounced the same as “**צ**” (“ts” as in *cats*)

4.03 Practice reading and writing these consonants with the 5 vowels

The last 7 letters (consonants # 16-22) and
5 vowels: patach & kamats, and segol & tsere, and chirek

Letter	Name	Sound	Block	Write Letter & Vowel
ע	ayin	silent	ע	
עָ	ayin with patach	ah as in spa	עָ	
עֹ	ayin with segol	eh as in bed	עֹ	
עִ	ayin with tsere	eh as in bed	עִ	
עַ	ayin with chirek	ee as in sleep	עַ	
פ	pay (has a dagesh/dot inside)	p as in pay	פ	
פָ	pay with a dagesh & kamats	pah	פָ	
פֹ	pay with a dagesh & segol	peh	פֹ	
פִ	pay with a dagesh & tsere	peh	פִ	
פַ	pay with a dagesh & chirek	pee	פַ	
פ	fay has no dagesh	fay as in far (פ & פַ have the same sound)	פ	
פָ	fay with kamats	fah	פָ	
פֹ	fay with segol	feh	פֹ	
פִ	fay with tsere	feh	פִ	
פַ	fay with chirek	fee	פַ	
ף	fay sofit (final letter of a word)	f as in far (פ & פַ have the same sound)	ף	
צ	Tzade (pronounced ts-day)	ts, in cats	צ	
צָ	tsade with patach	tsah	צָ	
צֹ	tsade with segol	tseh	צֹ	
צִ	tsade with tsere	tseh	צִ	

צָ	tsade with chirek	tsee	צָ	
צָ	tsade sofit (final letter of a word)	ts in cats (צָ & צָ have the same sound)	צָ	
קָ	koof	k in keep	קָ	
קָ	koof with kamats	kah	קָ	
קָ	koof with segol	keh	קָ	
קָ	koof with tsere	keh	קָ	
קָ	koof with chirek	kee	קָ	
רָ	resh	r in ran	רָ	
רָ	resh with kamats	rah	רָ	
רָ	resh with segol	reh	רָ	
רָ	resh with tsere	reh	רָ	
רָ	resh with chirek	ree	רָ	
שָׁ	shin (<i>sheen</i>)	sh in shoe	שָׁ	
שָׁ	shin with patach	shah	שָׁ	
שָׁ	shin with segol	sheh	שָׁ	
שָׁ	shin with tsere	sheh	שָׁ	
שָׁ	shin with chirek	shee	שָׁ	
סָ	sin (<i>seen</i>)	s in set	סָ	
סָ	sin with patach	sah	סָ	
סָ	sin with segol	seh	סָ	
סָ	sin with tsere	seh	סָ	
סָ	sin with chirek	see	סָ	
תָּ	tav	t in top	תָּ	

תֵּ	tav with kamats	tah	תֵּ	
תֶּ	tav with segol	teh	תֶּ	
תַּ	tav with tsere	teh	תַּ	
תָּ	tav with chirek	tee	תָּ	

4.04 Let's put these sounds together & read words!

Our objective is to become familiar with the letters and their sounds not to memorize words.

Reminder: How to read Hebrew

1. Hebrew is read right to left and top to bottom. Begin by reading the right-most letter. Then add the vowel that is written below it.
2. For example: with the word **הַהָּבָה**. Begin by reading the **הָ**; then add the **הַ**. We now have **הַהָּ** (ah-ha). Now, we add the **בָּ**. Because there is no vowel below this letter, it only has the sound of the consonant. When we put the word altogether we have: **הַהָּבָה** (ah-hav).

Always remember read: right to left and top to bottom. Also, the accent is generally on the final syllable.



Read & Write words below			
Hebrew	Translation	Transliteration (please, try to read before looking at transliteration)	Practice Writing Each Hebrew Word
1) בָּרָךְ	son of (Aramaic word, Bar Mitzvah)	bahr	
2) אֶרֶץ	land	eh-rehtz (note: when a 3 or 4-letter word has 2 segols, the first letter with the segol, gets the accent)	
3) הִנֵּה	behold ('listen up')	hee-neh	
4) אָמֵן	Amen (truly, truth, 'let it be')	ah-mehn	
5) אֶלְף	1000 (Num 31:7)	eh-lehf (note: when a 3 or 4-letter word has 2 segols, the first letter with the segol, gets the accent)	
6) מַהּ זֶה	What is this?	Mah zeh	
7) בִּטְחָן	of course, certainly, for sure, security, safely, securely	beh-tach	
8) פָּאָרָן	Paran (Num 13:3)	Pah-rahn	

Click here [Refer to aleph-bet sheet to review the entire aleph-bet.](#)

4.05 More practice reading

More Hebrew words		
Hebrew	Translation	Transliteration (please, try to read before looking at transliteration)
¹⁾ אֲשֶׁה	he, or it, did	ah-sah
²⁾ חֹזֶק	be strong	chah-zahk
³⁾ חֶצֶר	permanent (as in settlement)	chah-tzehr
⁴⁾ צַעַק	cry out	tzah-ahk
⁵⁾ בָּרָא	he created (Gen 1:1)	bah-rah
⁶⁾ אָרֶץ	earth or land (Deut 32:13)	ah-rehts

4.06 Review: How Shall I Study Hebrew?

Today, you read 14 more words!!!

1. Consider taking your lesson with you & review it during lunch.
2. Practice saying all the letters of the aleph-bet using the hand.
3. Again read the Hebrew words in this lesson. (Repetition helps reinforce sounds in our minds.)



4.07 Homework & practice identifying letters & vowels in Genesis 1:1

1. Practice saying the letters in this lesson; then write them 5 times. The objective is to commit to memory these letters & vowels.
2. On the Scripture below, please **write the name of the letter above that particular letter & the name of the vowel below the letter**. Do the same for each letter. (Identify *only* the letters & vowels which we have introduced thus far.)



“In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth,” Gen 1:1.

→ resh

בְּרָאשִׁית בָּרָא אֱלֹהִים אֶת הַשְׁמִים וְאֶת הָאָרֶץ:

א

chirek →

Don't forget to bring your completed homework to class 😊