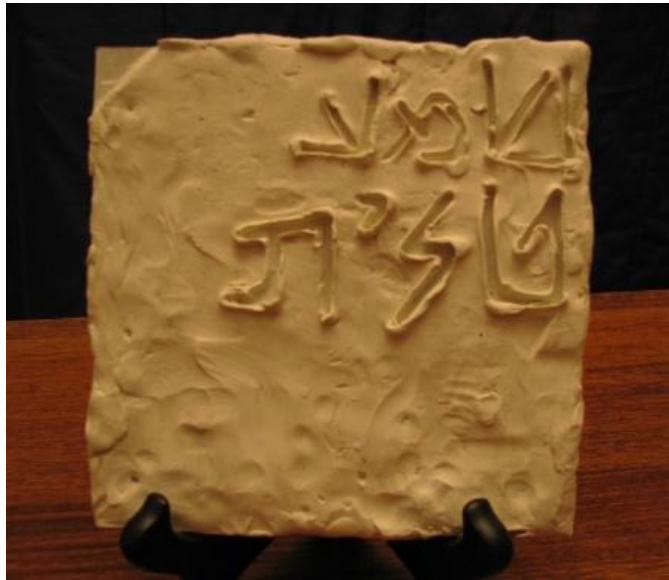


Biblical Hebrew Course 101
– **Boot Camp** –
Learning to Read Biblical Hebrew
Lesson 3
שְׁעוֹר ג

**2 more vowels & the next 5 consonants +
3 sofits**



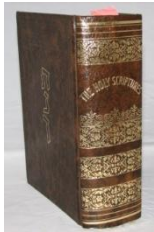
Shema & Tallit

During a 1st Century VBS, Pastor Don taught children the Hebrew Aleph-Bet. (This was written by 8-12 year olds!)

- 3.01 Introduce the next 2 vowels: segol & tsere
- 3.02 Introduce 5 more consonants (aka letters): kaf - samech
- 3.03 The first 3 sofits (or final letters)
- 3.04 Let's read Hebrew
- 3.05 Interesting Fact: Hebrew words in English
- 3.06 How shall I study Hebrew?
- 3.07 Homework & practice identifying letters & vowels in Genesis 1:1

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

Introducing the next 5 consonants (aka letters) + 2 more vowels:



- Learn the next two vowels, bringing us up to 4 vowels.
- Learn the next five letters (or consonants), bringing us up to 15 consonants.
- Introduce the first three sofits (final letters). Sofits occur only as the final letter of a word. While the sound of the sofits is the same as their corresponding letter, their shape is modified.

3.01 First, let's introduce the next 2 vowels & review the previous 2 vowels.

VOWELS				
Vowels (aka nikkudot). Note: shown with aleph but can be with any letter	Name of Vowel	Sound of Vowel	Block	Write Each Letter
אָ	<i>patach:</i> פַּתַּח	“ah” as in spa	אָ	
אֶ	<i>kamats:</i> קָמָץ	“ah” as in spa	אֶ	
אֵ	<i>segol:</i> סְגוּל	“eh” as in bed	אֵ	
אִ	<i>tsere:</i> צִירֵי (pronounced tseh-ray)	“eh” as in bed	אִ	

3.02 Now, let's introduce 5 more consonants (aka letters).

1. Read the name of each letter below. (For help with Sound of Vowel, refer to Sound of Vowel column, above.)
2. Read & Print each letter below. (Refer to Sound of Letter column for pronunciation)

* **Note: There are 5 letters which look different when they appear as the final letter of the word. For example:**

- kaf (כּ) – pronounced “k” as in keep
- chaf (כַּ) – pronounced as “ch” in Bach
- chaf sofit (כֿ) – both the chaf & the chaf sofit have the same sound, “ch”. The chaf sofit appears only as the final letter of a word.

Next 5 letters (Consonants #11-15) & 4 vowels					
Book Letter	Numeric Value	Name	Sound of Letter	Block	Write Hebrew Letter & Vowel
כּ	20	kaf	k in keep	כּ	
כַּ		kaf with dagesh (dot), & patach	kah	כַּ	
כֵּ		kaf with dagesh (dot), & segol	keh	כֵּ	
כִּ		kaf with dagesh (dot), & tsere (pronounced tseh-ray)	keh	כִּ	
כַּ	20	chaf (note: <u>no dagesh</u> in a chaf)	ch in bach (both כַּ & כֿ have the same sound*)	כַּ	
כַּ		chaf with kamats	chah	כַּ	
כֵּ		chaf with segol	chah	כֵּ	
כִּ		chaf with tsere	chah	כִּ	

○

ך	20	*chaf sofit (a sofit is a final letter of a word)	ch in Bach (both ך & ך have the same sound*)	ך	
ךֿ		chaf sofit with a kamats	chah (usually ך only appears with a sh'va or kamats.)	ךֿ	
ךְ		chaf sofit with a sh'va ◌ (The sh'va is silent; here is pronounced ch as in Bach)	chah (usually ך only appears with a sh'va or kamats.)	ךְ	
ל	30	lamed	l in let	ל	
לֿ		lamed with patach	lah	לֿ	
לְ		lamed with segol	leh	לְ	
לִ		lamed with tserere	leh	לִ	
מ	40	mem	m in me (both מ & ם have the same sound)	מ	
מֿ		mem with kamats	mah	מֿ	
מְ		mem with segol	meh	מְ	
מִ		mem with tserere	meh	מִ	
ם	40	*mem sofit (a sofit is the final letter of a word)	m in me	ם	
נ	50	nun (<i>noon</i>)	n in nice (both נ & ן have the same sound)	נ	
נֿ		nun with patach	nah	נֿ	
נְ		nun with segol	neh	נְ	
נִ		nun with tserere	neh	נִ	
ן	50	*nun sofit (a sofit is the final letter of a word)	n in nice (both נ & ן have the same sound)	ן	
ס	60	samech	s in set	ס	
סֿ		samech with kamats	sah	סֿ	
סְ		samech with segol	seh	סְ	
סִ		samech with tserere	seh	סִ	

*** 3.03 The first 3 sofits (or final letters; these have a different shape when they are the last letter of a word):**

- chaf sofit (ךֿ) – pronounced the same as “כֿ” (“ch” as in Bach)
- mem sofit (םֿ) – pronounced the same as “מֿ” (“m” as in Tom)
- nun sofit (ןֿ) – pronounced the same as “נֿ” (“n” as in Ben)

3.04 Let's read Hebrew:

1. **Remember:** Our objective in Hebrew 101 is to become familiar with the letters and their sounds *not* to memorize words.
2. 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.
3. For example: with the word אָהַב. Begin by reading the אָ; then add the הַ. We now have אָהַ (ah-ha). Finally, add the ב. Since there is no vowel below this letter, it only has the sound of the consonant. When we put the word altogether, we have: אָהַב (ah-hahv).



Always remember read: right to left and top to bottom.

Read & Write words below: notice as a general rule, the final syllable is accented. Accented syllables are highlighted in yellow and bolded.			
Hebrew	Translation	Transliteration (please, try to read word before looking at transliteration)	Practice Writing Each Hebrew Word Below
1) יָלַד	he gave birth, fathered or begat (as in a genealogy)	yah- lahd	
2) יָלֵד	boy	yeh -lehd (*note: when a 3 or 4-letter word has 2 segols, the first gets the accent)	
3) אֱל	God	ehl	
4) מָה	What? (Note: in Biblical Hebrew, there are no punctuation marks. Instead, Biblical Hebrew uses certain words to reflect what punctuation marks do in English. For example, <u>what</u> (מָה; also written as מַה) is one of those words that Hebrew uses. The word מָה (also spelled מַה) is a 'question word,' or an 'interrogative.')	mah	
5) כַּח	so, like this, thus	cah -chah	
6) לֶחֶם	bread	leh -chehm (*note: when a 3 or 4-letter word has 2 segols, the first gets the accent)	
7) אֶבֶן	stone	eh -vehn*	
8) סֵלָה	Selah (pause, consider, as in Ps 3:2)	seh -lah	
9) לֵב	heart	lehv	
10) אָמֵן	Amen (truly, truth, 'let it be')	ah- mehn	

3.05 Interesting fact: An example of a Hebrew word's being incorporated into English is 'amen'

The word "amen" is used in virtually every language. In Hebrew, it means: "confirm" or "support". In English, the meaning is similar, it is: "so be it" or "truly".

3.06 How Shall I Study Hebrew?



Consider taking your lesson with you to work & review during lunch.

1. Practice saying the first 15 letters of the aleph-bet using the hand.
2. **Read** the Hebrew words in this lesson.
3. **Print** the words. Again, **read** words.



Extra Practice			
Hebrew	Translation	Transliteration (please, try to read word before looking at transliteration)	Practice Writing Each Hebrew Word Below
1) אֶחָד	one	eh- chahd	
2) זֶה	this	zeh	
3) גֶּן	garden	gahn	
4) לָבָן	Laban (also means <i>white</i>)	lah- vahn	
5) כֵּן	yes, so, thus	cehn	
6) מָה	what	mah	

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

1. On Extra Practice above, say the letter or word in Hebrew, then write it 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.)

↓ mem sofit
בְּרֵאשִׁית בְּרָא אֱלֹהִים אֶת הַשָּׁמַיִם וְאֶת הָאָרֶץ:
↑ tsere

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

We encourage you to do your homework – we don’t want to lose what we’ve learned 😊