

Biblical Hebrew 102

Introduction to Grammatical Concepts

Lesson 13

שְׁעוֹר יג

Special Nouns & Review of 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: parsing with abbreviations
- 13.05 Let's put these nouns, articles, & parsing all together
- 13.06 Homework Worksheet (Answer on 13.07)
- 13.07 Answers to Homework worksheet (Exercise 13.06)
- 13.08 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”, “yud” & 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 nouns that change according to the gender of the person to which they are referring. For example: boy & girl, man & woman, king & queen, etc.

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

For example: יָלָד (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:

- יָלָד (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 names for a specific person (eg: Abraham; Sarah), place (eg: Israel; Dead Sea), or a thing (eg: Temple; the Land).

Often Hebrew proper nouns are simply a transliteration of the Hebrew name into English.

Examples of the proper nouns in Hebrew:

אַבְרָהָם (Abraham)	יִצְחָק (Isaac)
יַעֲקֹב (Jacob)	שָׂרָה (Sarah)
רִבְקָה (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 it 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 the 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 the 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” is changed to a kamats. Sometimes, it can change to a tsere or rarely to a segol.

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

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

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

Parsing (aka morphology) is analyzing the different parts of a word.

Abbreviations are a shortened form notating the parsing for a particular word.

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

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

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

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**

(Please note: Hebrew abbreviations are fairly uniform; however, they not totally standardized world-wide. Once you become familiar with these common abbreviations, you will find it is easy to understand the slight variations used by some study tools/books.

13.05 *Let’s put these nouns, articles, and parsing all together:*

<i>Vocabulary for the Homework Worksheet (13.06)</i>			
1 אִישׁ	man (N-ms)	11 דּוֹד	uncle (N-ms)
2 הָאִישׁ	the man (art; N-ms)	12 דּוֹדָה	aunt (N-fs)
3 אִשָּׁה	woman (N-fs)	13 מִשְׁפָּחָה	family (art; N-fs)
4 הָאִשָּׁה	the woman (art; N-fs)	14 מִשְׁפָּחוֹת	families (N-fp)
5 אָב	father (N-ms)	15 דָּבָר	word, thing (N-ms)
6 הָאָב	the father (art; N-ms)	16 הַדָּבָר	the word, thing (art; N-ms)
7 בֶּן	son (N-ms)	17 דְּבָרִים	words, things (N-mp)
8 בָּנִים	sons or children (N-mp)	18 הַדְּבָרִים	the words, things (art; N-mp)
9 יֶלֶד	boy or child (N-ms)	19 יִשְׂרָאֵל	Israel, the country (N-prop-fs)
10 יְלָדָה	girl (N-fs)	20 אַבְרָהָם	Abraham (N-prop-ms)

21 יַעֲקֹב	Jacob (N-prop-ms)	29 *מִצְוֹת	commandments (N-fp) *remember, each letter can have only 1 vowel; therefore, this must be a “vav” with a “cholam”, not a “cholam vav”.
22 מֶלֶךְ	king (N-ms)	30 הַמִּצְוָה	the commandment (art; N-fs)
23 הַמְּלָכִים	the kings (art; N-mp)	31 הָר	mount or mountain (N-ms)
24 אֶרֶץ	land (N-fs)	32 הָרִים	mountains (N-mp)
25 הָאֶרֶץ	the land (art; N-fs)	33 תּוֹרָה	Torah or instruction (N-fs)
26 סוּס	horse (N-ms)	34 הַתּוֹרָה	the Torah or instruction (art; N-fs)
27 הַסּוּסִים	the horses (art; N-mp)	35 יִצְחָק	Isaac (N-prop-ms)
28 מִצְוָה	commandment (N-fs)	36 רָחֵל	Rachel (N-prop-fs)

13.06 Homework Worksheet:

answers on 13.07

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		
3 אַבְרָהָם	Abraham	N-prop-ms (noun proper-ms)
4 הַדָּבָר		art; n-ms (article; noun-masculine singular)
5	words or things	
6 הַדְּבָרִים		art; N-mp
7	the horses	
8 אִישׁ		N-ms
9	Torah or instruction	
10 אֶרֶץ		N-fs
11	the man	
12 בָּנִים	sons	
13 אִשָּׁה		N-fs
14	king	
15	commandment	
16 בֵּן		
17	commandments	

13.07 **ANSWERS: Homework Worksheet – from exercise 13.06**

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

Reminder:

- **Dagesh Chazak:** if a vowel precedes a dagesh, that dagesh is a dagesh chazak (refer to Lesson 9).
- **Sheva is vocal:** when a long vowel precedes the sheva.

Long vowels:

kamats קָמֶץ (ֶ) // *tseré* צִירֵי (ִי) // *cholam* חוֹלָם (וֹ) // *cholam vav* חוֹלָם וּ // *shurek* שׁוּרֶק (וּ)

13.08 **Weekly Parasha reading** listed on CFS website: www.FaithfulStewardship.org

GO to CFS website: www.FaithfulStewardship.org

CLICK on **Calendar**.

THEN, select **Yearly Calendars**.

NOW, select the **current year** (for example: 2025 Calendar & Readings)

THEN, scroll down to the **current month** (for example: Aug 2025 calendar).

FINALLY, click on **current week** (for example: 08/30/2025)