

Learning about Hebrew A Primer

Kenneth P. Osterman (v1.0)

The wilderness and the parched land shall be glad;
and the desert shall rejoice, and blossom as the rose.

יִשְׁשׂוּם מִדְבָּר, וְצִיָּה; וְתִגַּל עֲרָבָה וְתִפְרַח, כַּחֲבַצְלֵת

י	ט	ח	ז	ו	ה	ד	ג	ב	א
Yod (Y)	Tet (T)	Chet (Ch)	Zayin (Z)	Vav (V)	He (H)	Dalet (D)	Gimel (G)	Bet (B/V)	Alef (silent)
ע	ס	נ	נ	מ	מ	ל	ך	כ	
Ayin (silent)	Samech (S)	Nun (N)	Nun (N)	Mem (M)	Mem (M)	Lamed (L)	Khaf (Kh)	Kaf (K/Kh)	
ת	ש	ר	ק	ץ	צ	ף	פ		
Tav (T)	Shin (Sh/S)	Resh (R)	Qof (Q)	Tsadeh (Ts)	Tsadeh (Ts)	Feh (F)	Peh (P/F)		

<https://www.jewishvirtuallibrary.org/the-hebrew-alphabet-aleph-bet>

BIBLICAL Tamar



תמר המקראית



<https://blossomingrose.org/biblical-tamar-park/>
Email: HebrewPrimer@blossomingrose.org

I just love learning Hebrew!

אָנִי פִּשׂוּט אוֹהֵב לְלַמּוֹד עִבְרִית!

a-ni pa-shoot oh-hev li-le-mode iv-reet!



See and read with eyes
 לראות ולקרוא בעיניים
 Practice!
 תרגול!



Write the letters and the words
 לכתוב את האותיות והמילים
 Practice!
 תרגול!



Hear with ears
 לשמוע באוזניים
 Practice!
 תרגול!

BIBLICAL Tamar



תמר המקראית



<https://blossomingrose.org/biblical-tamar-park/>
 Email: HebrewPrimer@blossomingrose.org

I just love learning Hebrew!
 אָנִי פִּשּׁוּט אוֹהֵב לְלַמּוֹד עִבְרִית!
 a-ni pa-shoot oh-hev li-le-mode iv-reet!

Learning about Hebrew

A Primer

If one is interested in getting acquainted with Hebrew, this elementary primer may be useful. If interested in fully comprehending or becoming conversant in Hebrew, one should pursue qualified language instruction.

This primer explores both Biblical and Modern Hebrew. Though having many similarities, Biblical and Modern Hebrew have significant differences. For example, the author of this primer can read and comprehend Biblical Hebrew reasonably well. However, reading Modern Hebrew involves significant effort and assistance.

Although this primer is organized, it often directs you to more comprehensive teaching sites. Avail yourself of those sites and transition to any of those as you progress. They will gladly welcome you.

Notice for the novice learner of Hebrew. *The Foreign Service Institute estimates 1,100 hours (44 weeks) to properly learn Hebrew since it is noticeably different linguistically and culturally from English. Modern written Hebrew usually does not write the vowels. You must mentally fill in the vowels when reading. Hebrew is read right to left, has a unique aleph-bet and requires you to learn new sounds. It has differences in verb, subject and adjective word order. Nouns and adjectives have gender (male/female).*

Notice for the novice learner of Hebrew. Understand your goal, motivation and commitment. Practice reading, hearing, speaking and writing as this will advance the learning progress.



Learning about Hebrew A Primer

Learning options in order of increasing value.

1. Free: Google Translate (virtual Hebrew keyboard, easy to practice translating to/from Modern Hebrew)
 - a. [English to Hebrew](#)
 - b. [Hebrew to English](#) (designed for Modern Hebrew, but will work for many Biblical words)
2. Free: This Primer will introduce and acquaint you with both Biblical & Modern Hebrew
3. Free#: [TeachMeHebrew](#) – organized audio lessons and word lists of Modern Hebrew
4. Free*: [HebrewPod101](#) – daily word, word lists and organized learning of Modern Hebrew
5. Free*: [Rut Avni](#) – 30+ free learning videos "copyright by Rut Avni" (www.hebrew-verbs.com)
6. Cost: [eTeacherHebrew.com](#) – Biblical or Modern - Author took 2 of 5 Biblical Hebrew courses 
7. Cost: [More Education Courses](#) – Biblical or Modern

free but your support is appreciated

* These resources offer additional training options at reasonable cost.

Options 3-5 provide many quality free resources. Your progress depends on your personal goals, assessment of the available options and your commitment to make learning a success! Having an excited learning partner boosts success!!! Define your goal, visualize your goal, plan your goal, work your goal, evaluate your progress!

Success! הַצְלָחָה hatz-la-khá

Contents תוכן

Lesson One

The Aleph-Bet

שעור ראשון

Lesson Two

Vowels

שעור שניים

Lesson Three

Syllables

שעור שלשה

Lesson Four

Nouns & Adjectives

שעור ארבעה

Lesson Five

Numbers

שעור חמשה

Lesson Six

Pronouns

שעור ששה

Lesson Seven

The Shoresh (Root)

שעור שבועה

Lesson Eight

The Shoresh (Verbs)
The Binyanim Menorah

שְׁעוֹר שְׁמוֹנָה

Lesson Nine

Paal

שְׁעוֹר תְּשָׁעָה

Lesson Ten

Nifal

שְׁעוֹר עֶשְׂרֵה

Lesson Eleven

Piel

שְׁעוֹר אֶחָד-עָשָׂר

Lesson Twelve

Pual

שְׁעוֹר שְׁנַי עָשָׂר

Lesson Thirteen

Hifil

שְׁעוֹר שְׁלֹשָׁה-עָשָׂר

Lesson Fourteen

Hufal

שְׁעוֹר אַרְבָּעָה-עָשָׂר

Lesson Fifteen

Hitpael

שְׁעוֹר חֲמֵשָׁה-עָשָׂר

Lesson One

שְׁעוֹר רֵאשׁוֹן

The Hebrew Aleph-Bet (Aramaic Consonants)

The Hebrew Aleph-Bet has 22 consonants in Aramaic Script. Some have different sounds. Example (Bet/Vet, Shin/Sin). Surprise: Alef and Ayin are silent.

Hebrew is read right to left (common to ancient languages).

Written vowels were developed by the Masoretic scribes. Modern Hebrew does not use written vowels EXCEPT for teaching the language or if word usage needs it for clarity.

Each consonant has a unique number (1-400).

[Hear the pronunciation](#) of the letters
[JPS Bible Genesis 1](#) (Ashkenazi reader)
[Book of Lamentations Chanted](#)
[Judges 1:1 with/without vowels](#)



THE ISRAEL BIBLE											
HEBREW ALPHABET CHART											
7	ז	ו	ה	ד	ג	ב	ב	א			
	Zayin 'Z'	Vav 'V'	Hay 'H'	Dalet 'D'	Gimel 'G'	Vet 'V'	Bet 'B'	Aleph Silent ¹			
40	מ	ל	ך	כ	כ	י	ט	ח			
	Mem 'M'	Lamed 'L'	Final Khaf 'KH'	Khaf 'KH'	Kaf 'K'	Yud 'Y'	Tet 'T'	Chet 'KH'			
80	ף	פ	פ	ע	ס	ן	נ	ם			
	Final Pey 'F'	Fay 'F'	Pay 'P'	Ayin Silent ¹	Samekh 'S'	Final Nun 'N'	Nun 'N'	Final Mem 'M'			
400	ת	ת	ש	ש	ר	ק	ץ	צ			
	Sav 'T'	Tav 'T'	Sin 'S'	Shin 'SH'	Raysh 'R'	Kuf 'K'	Final Tzadi 'TZ'	Tzadi 'TZ'			
Notes:											
¹ If there is a vowel underneath the letter, the sound of the vowel is pronounced. If there is no vowel underneath, the letter remains silent.											
² In Hebrew there are two types of Sh'va. A sh'va na is considered a vowel and is pronounced. This is represented in our transcription by the apostrophe ('). and pronounced like the 'e' in father. The other sh'va, the sh'va nakh, indicates the end of a syllable. It does not have its own sound, and therefore no phonetic representation.											
³ A kamatz katan looks like a regular kamatz but is pronounced like a kholam.											
⁴ The Hebrew alphabet has a unique feature known as gematria, in which every letter is assigned a numerical value.											
Above each letter is its numeric value ⁴											
Vowels: The Aleph is silent ¹ so we will use it in the example for each sound											
אָ/אֵ/אִ/אֹ/אֻ		אֶ	אִ	אֵ	אֹ	אֻ	אִ	אֵ	אֹ	אֻ	אִ
Shuruk/Kubutz 'u' in juror		Segol 'e' in Edward	Kheerik Khasayr 'i' in igloo	Kamatz Katan ³ 'o' in boat	Patakh 'a' in burrah	Kamatz 'a' in burrah					
אָ		אִ	אֵ	אֹ/אֻ	אִ	אֵ	אֹ	אֻ	אִ	אֵ	אֹ
Sh'va ² '(apostrophe)		Tzayray 'ay' in day	Kheerik Malay 'ee' in street	Kholam 'o' in boat	Patakh + Yud 'ai' in able	Kamatz + Yud 'ai' in able					

The above shows 12 vowels, but there are more. Download & Print The Israel Bible [Consonant & Vowels](#)

Reference:

- 1) Common words & phrases in modern Hebrew.
English – Transliteration - Hebrew Pronunciation
[100 Basic Hebrew Phrases](#)

- 2) [Hebrew Word of the Day](#) and free word lists

Biblical Hebrew Facts:

Hebrew and Aramaic are two similar but distinct languages using the same alphabet. Near the time of the Babylonian captivity, ancient Hebrew adopted the [Aramaic Alphabet](#). Prior to this, Hebrew used [Paleo-Hebrew](#) pictographs. Modern Hebrew uses the Aramaic alphabet (script, character set).

Homework:

- 1) Practice writing the Hebrew/Aramaic consonants.
 - ❖ [Practice writing](#) download and print.
 - ❖ Speak the letter as you write.
- 2) Practice [100 Basic Hebrew Phrases](#)
- 3) Practice [Hebrew Word of the Day](#)
- 4) Practice eTeacherHebrew.com vocabulary [List 1](#) to build your vocabulary!!!



Lesson Two – The vowels (niqqud, diacritics)

Paleo Pictographs, Aramaic Script, Mnemonic					
𐤀	א	Mem	𐤁	א	Alef
𐤂	ב	Mem	𐤃	ב	Bet Vet
𐤄	ג	Nun	𐤅	ג	Gimel
𐤆	ד	Nun	𐤇	ד	Dalet
𐤈	ו	Samech	𐤉	ו	Heh
𐤊	ז	Ayin	𐤋	ז	Vav
𐤌	ח	Pey	𐤍	ח	Zayin
𐤎	ט	Fey	𐤏	ט	Chet
𐤐	י	Tsade	𐤑	י	Tet
𐤒	כ	Tsade	𐤓	כ	Yod
𐤔	ק	Qof	𐤕	ק	Kaf
𐤖	ר	Resh	𐤗	ר	Kaf
𐤘	ש	Shin Sin	𐤙	ש	Lamed
𐤚	ת	Tav			

Lesson Two

שְׁעוֹר שְׁנַיִם

Vowels / Niqqud

Vowels are also called “niqqud”. Here is a comprehensive list “[niqqud](#)”
Printable [Consonant & Vowels](#) The Israel Bible

Ancient Hebrew was written without vowels.

Written vowels did not exist until the Masorete scribes created the written vowel system (6th-10th centuries ce).

During the long 2nd diaspora (Roman exile) spoken Hebrew became threatened with extinction.

To aid preservation of the spoken language, the written vowel system was created.

Cantillation marks were also created to aid chanting.

A portion of Genesis 1:9 without vowels and color coded to match English translation.

וַיֹּאמֶר אֱלֹהִים יִקּוּוּ הַמַּיִם

And **God** **said**, let **the waters** be gathered... (notice how word order differs).

Same portion with red vowels. The blue symbols are cantillation marks are used for chanting.

וַיֹּאמֶר אֱלֹהִים יִקּוּוּ הַמַּיִם Cantillation marks will not be considered any further.

Hebrew Facts:

Spoken Hebrew nearly died out during the 2nd diaspora.

But written Hebrew existed and became a treasure with Renaissance scholars, Bible translators and our early [American colleges](#). Eliezer Ben-Yehuda who became the catalyst in reviving the spoken language was given the novel “Robinson Crusoe” written in Hebrew.

[Ben-Yehuda](#) brief life story

[His Vision](#) 15-minute video

Reference:

1) Common words & phrases in modern Hebrew.

English – Transliteration - Hebrew Pronunciation

[500 Basic Hebrew Words](#)

Homework:

1) Practice the consonant & vowel sounds [Consonant & Vowel Chart](#)

2) [Practice writing](#) the consonants

3) Practice the [500 Basic Hebrew Words](#)

4) Practice the [Hebrew Word of the Day](#) (Month of June)

5) Practice eTeacherHebrew.com vocabulary [list 2](#) or [450 word list](#)

Lesson Three – Syllables



Lesson Three

שְׁעוֹר שְׁלִישִׁי

Syllables

A Hebrew syllable always begins with a consonant. A syllable can be either a consonant plus a vowel or a consonant plus a vowel plus a consonant. Every syllable must begin with one consonant and have only one vowel. There are two types of syllables: open and closed.

Challenges

1. Each syllable has one vowel, but modern Hebrew usually does not write the vowels. Since you have not grown-up learning Hebrew sounds, all examples in this lesson will show the vowels.
2. Some vowels are difficult to identify because four consonants can be associated with vowels.
 - a. [Mater Lectionis](#) (aleph, he, vav and yod).
3. Every language has its peculiarities. Over time you will become more comfortable. 😊

Open Syllables:

Consonant + Vowel = **CV** or (Open)

Closed Syllables:

Consonant + Vowel + Consonant : **CVC** or (Closed)

Other Challenges:

The Dagesh is a dot that appears in the middle of a letter, it has two possible uses.

A weak form – modifies the sound the letter normally makes

A strong form – doubles the letter when it follows a vowel.

The Shva or Sheva shows as two vertical dots under a consonant 

These dots will become more understandable as we progress. For now, just be mindful.

Syllable Stress

Most Hebrew words have the accent stressed on the last syllable (ultimate stress).

Otherwise, the accent stress is on the next to last syllable (penultimate stress).

Examples [Comprehensive vowel list](#)

מי Who, pronounced mee, CV (O) mem + hiriq-yod

אשה Woman or wife, pronounced ish-sha CVC-CV (C-O) aleph+hiriq+shin shin + kamats-he

Note: the shin with the dagesh is doubled because it follows the hiriq vowel.

בית House, pronounced ba-yit, CV-CVC (O-C) , bet+patach yod+hiriq+tav, this dagesh is weak and not doubled.

Syllables & Transliteration

Transliteration is shown below the Hebrew. The accent syllable is CAPITALIZED. Hebrew is read right to left, but Transliteration and English are read left to right. Color coding shows how the Hebrew and English word order differ.

1 Samuel 21:7

וַיִּתֶּן-לוֹ הַכֹּהֵן קֹדֶשׁ כִּי לֹא-הָיָה שָׁם לֶחֶם כִּי-אִם לֶחֶם הַפָּנִים
va-yi-TEN LO ha-ko-HAYN KO-desh KEE lo ha-YAH SHAM LE-khem kee im LE-khem ha-pa-NEEM
So the Kohen gave him consecrated bread, because there was none there except the bread of display

https://biblehub.com/interlinear/1_samuel/21-7.htm

Exodus 1:15

וַיֹּאמֶר מֶלֶךְ מִצְרַיִם לְמִיּוֹדוֹת הָעִבְרִית
way-YO-mer ME-lekh mitz-RA-yim lam-yal-le-DOT ha-iv-ri-YOT
The king of Egypt spoke to the Hebrew midwives

<https://biblehub.com/interlinear/exodus/1-15.htm>

Hebrew Facts: Hebrew became the 3rd official language of British Mandate Palestine in 1922. Hebrew is mainly spoken in Israel with 90% of Israeli Jews and 60% of Israeli Arabs being proficient. The United States has the second largest Hebrew-speaking population. David Grün, Golda Mabovitch and Eliezer Yitzhak Perlman all changed their names to Hebrew names; David Ben-Gurion, Golda Meir, Eliezer Ben-Yehuda. Type your full name into [Google translator](#) and translate it into Hebrew.

Homework:

- 1) [Review Syllables](#) Learning Hebrew: Syllables by Rachel-Esther bat-Avraham
- 2) Practice [Reading and Listening here!](#)
- 3) Practice the consonant and vowel sounds [Consonant & Vowel Chart](#)
- 4) [Practice writing](#) the consonants
- 5) Practice the [100-basic-Hebrew-phrases](#)
- 6) Practice the [Hebrew Word of the Day](#) (Month of March)
- 7) Practice eTeacherHebrew.com vocabulary [List 3](#)

Lesson Four – Nouns and Adjectives



Lesson Four

שְׁעוֹר אַרְבָּעָה

Nouns & Adjectives

Noun: a word (other than a pronoun) used to identify any of a class of people, places or things

Adjective: a word describing a noun

I like a **ripe** apple.

אני אוהב **תפוח בשל**

In Hebrew, the adjective normally follows the noun.

Green apples are not **ripe** apples.

תפוחים ירוקים אינם **תפוחים בשלים**

Challenge

An apple is male gender (m).

A stone is feminine gender (f).

Some nouns have misleading gender endings.

Example: stone (אֶבֶן) is feminine, but stones (אבנים) looks like a male plural ending

The adjective will always reflect the true gender

large stones (אבנים **גדולות**) the **plural adjective** shows feminine even though the plural noun looks male.

More Examples:

We want five **red** apples

אנחנו רוצים חמישה **תפוחים אדומים**

Where is the **blue** book?

איפה הספר הכחול?

A **beautiful** **small** **white** house.

בית **לבן קטן יפה**.

Notice how the word order can be completely opposite from English.

Homework:

- 1) Nouns have a gender (male or feminine)
 - Adjectives usually follow the noun and reflect the gender of the noun
 - Some nouns have a misleading gender, but the adjective will reflect the true gender.
 - Using Google Translate – practice various nouns and adjectives as follows.
 - Translate: I want a red apple. I want two red apples. *(male gender)*
 - Translate: That is a pretty stone. Those are pretty stones. *(feminine gender)*
- 2) Practice the consonant and vowel sounds [Consonant & Vowel Chart](#)
- 3) Practice the [500 Basic Hebrew Words](#)
- 4) Practice the [Hebrew Word of the Day](#) (Month of December)
- 5) Practice eTeacherHebrew.com vocabulary [List 4](#)

Lesson Five – Numbers



Numbers

Question? You understand Hebrew is read right to left. Does this mean Hebrew clocks tell time counterclockwise? Yes and No! 😊 See the following link to see both clockwise and counterclockwise use. 😊 Notice these clocks and watches use letters to represent the numbers. Lesson one showed letters have a unique number.

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hebrew_numerals#Numbers

There are any number of things you can do with numbers.

Calendars:

[The Jewish & Gregorian calendars](#)

[Jewish Calendar](#)

[Date Examples](#)

Numbers: <http://www.teachmehebrew.com/numbers-in-hebrew.html>

Time: <http://www.teachmehebrew.com/time-in-hebrew.html>

HebrewPod101 Video:

[Counting 1-10](#)

[Counting 11-100](#)

Using Numbers:

I'm 30 years old.

אני בן / בת שלושים

(Ani ben / bat shloshim)

I have 2 sisters and 1 brother.

יש לי שתי אחיות ואח אחד

(Yesh li shtei akhriot ve-akh ekhad)

English is my first language.

אנגלית היא השפה הראשונה שלי

(Anglit hi ha-safa ha-ri-sho-nah sheli)

Her second language is Spanish.

השפה השנייה שלה היא ספרדית

(Ha-safa ha-shniah shela hi sfaradit)

Homework:

- 1) Practice using the links on this and the prior page.
- 2) Practice the [Hebrew Word of the Day](#) (Month of September)
- 3) Practice eTeacherHebrew.com vocabulary [list 5](#)
- 4) Practice, Practice, Practice



Lesson Six – Pronouns

Lesson Six

שעור שישה

Pronouns

English Pronouns are many: this primer will expose you to many of the corresponding Hebrew pronouns: Subject, object, possessive, reflexive,...

Me is who, who is he, and he is she.... Say what? 😊

You must see the explanation and video! Enjoy!

<https://unitedisrael.org/me-is-who/>

A Comprehensive Guide

[Hebrewpod101 Pronouns](#)

TeachMeHebrew

<http://www.teachmehebrew.com/lesson-3.html>

<http://www.teachmehebrew.com/lesson-4.html>

Notice the various gender assignments of pronouns used for groups.

Any group of 2 people or more is considered male unless the speaker/writer knows the group is all females.

Then the respective feminine pronoun would be used.

It may seem to be a male world, but we know better!

[Personal Pronouns](#)

[Demonstrative Pronouns](#)

[Interrogative Pronouns](#)

[Indefinite Pronouns](#)

Homework Question: “How could you eat an elephant?” **Answer:** One bite at a time starting with a small piece of the elephant. Same method for learning Hebrew. A bit(e) at a time, continued over time, will be successful. Assess big challenges and look for points of interest while keeping in mind the overall picture.

- 1) Review the above types of Pronouns and/or the TeachMeHebrew lessons 3 & 4.
- 2) Practice the [Hebrew Word of the Day](#) (Month of February)
- 3) Practice eTeacherHebrew.com vocabulary [list 6](#)



Lesson Seven – The Shoresh (Root)

Lesson Seven

שְׁעוֹר שִׁבְעָה

The Shoresh (Root)

Shoresh – שורש means root and is the key to the formation of most words and verb tenses. We will deal with verbs in Lessons Eight --> Fifteen

Shoresh Eber עבר		
עֵבֶר	Eber Ge 10:21; 11:16-17	H5677
הָעֵבְרִי	[Abram] The Hebrew	H5680 Ge 14:13
עֵבֶר	Region across, beyond, side	H5676 (90)
עֵבֶר	Region across, beyond	H5675 (14)
וַיַּעְבְּרָה	to pass over, through, on	H5674 (many) Ge 12:6
Shoresh Peleg פלג		
פֶּלֶג	Peleg	H6389 Ge 10:25
נִפְלְגָה	Divided	H6585 Ge 10:25
פְּלִיגִי	Streams	H6388 Psalm 1;3
פְּלִיגָה	Divided	H6386 Dan 2:41
בְּפִלְגֵיהֶם	In their divisions	H6392 Ezra 6:18

The example at left shows the Hebrew names for Eber and Peleg taken from a personal Bible Study examining the history of Hebrew in the Hebrew Scriptures.

Most (90+%) Hebrew words have a three-letter root. In the illustration we can observe how words sprout from a shoresh.

Eber teaches how Hebrew passed over from before the flood as an inheritance from his great grandfather Shem. It then passed on to Abram as he is the first to be called a Hebrew.

The lesson of Peleg is the Tower of Babel and how the one language (Hebrew) became divided or split into many.

Five Example Roots:

Before you open the following link. Can you guess some related words from these 5 roots?

One or two clues are provided for each root. The purpose is to make you think how words can be related.

1. כ-נ-ס kneset, assembly
2. י-ד-ע knowledge
3. ס-פ-ר book
4. ש-פ-ט judge
5. ג-ב-ר man

<http://www.teachmehebrew.com/lesson-14.html>



Experiment with Google Translate – click each of these 4 words

In the translation panels, notice the possible results and the frequency, morphology and alternate words.

1. [ראש](#) head
2. [ברא](#) create
3. [דלת](#) door
4. [מצא](#) find
5. Using the Google Translate virtual keyboard. Type the **Five Example Roots**.

➤ This is Hebrew keyboard practice and shows word frequency and other use.



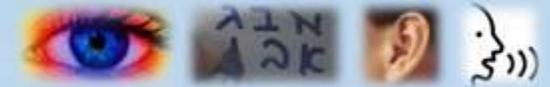
Homework:

- 1) Review prior lessons and particularly practice areas that seem difficult.
- 2) Practice the [Hebrew Word of the Day](#) (Month of November)
- 3) Practice eTeacherHebrew.com vocabulary [list 7](#)

Framework, Foundation or Blueprint, we can call it what we want, but

- Congratulations are in order as you have built a commendable framework!!!
- You are showing more than a casual interest in Hebrew!!! Some pieces are coming together!!!
- We are going to fill-in some important missing pieces of this framework with Verbs.
- Verbs are a big elephant and a difficult challenge. But we will take small bites, one at a time.
- The next several lessons will greatly help you understand Hebrew verbs.
- By the way, what is the Hebrew word for elephant? It is פִּיל (piel). A small word for a large animal.

Lesson Eight – The Shores (Verbs)



Lesson Eight

שְׁעוֹר שְׂמוֹנָה

The Shoresh (Verbs) The Binyanim Menorah



We have considered consonants and vowels, nouns and adjectives, syllables, pronouns and numbers and simple sentences and pointed out the Shoresh. There are a few other word constructs such as prepositions, adverbs and articles, but the most important word construct and the core that ties everything together is the verb. Mastering the verbal system will be a major accomplishment. After the next 7 or 8 lessons, if you have been seriously practicing and speaking along the way, particularly with an active partner you are more than acquainted with Hebrew. You have all the pieces; you just need the time and dedication to put it all together.

This primer will link to the video series provided by “**Rut Avni on YouTube**” and TeachMeHebrew links. “copyright by Rut Avni” (www.hebrew-verbs.com)

Rut introduces the 7-branch Menorah also known as the Binyanim (binyan means building and is derived from the word boneh – to build). As you progress, you will understand how the Shoresh is central to the verb conjugation. Be patient, review, practice and take your time to absorb. The pieces will fall into place. Follow Rut’s plan closely. If you want to peek ahead, fine, but only a peek. Focus and stay your course...



Rut Avni's videos 1 & 2 lays the foundation for her subsequent videos.

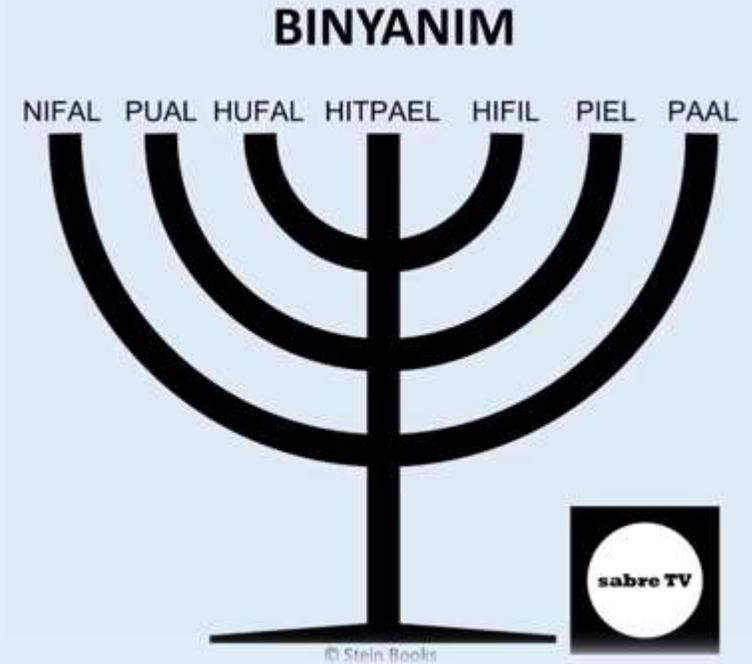
[Video 1](#) Introduction to Modern Hebrew Verbs (12-minutes)

1. Hebrew Regular Verbs
 - a. The structure of verbs
 - b. The Binyanim Menorah

2. A Four Step Study Plan
 - a. One binyan at a time
 - b. Work with regular verbs
 - c. Study all tenses of the Binyan
 - d. Paal, Nifal, Piel, Pual, Hifil, Hufal, Hitpael

[Video 2](#) Irregular Verbs and Verb Types (12-minutes)

1. How to recognize irregular verbs
2. Why we consider regular verbs first
3. In time, irregular verbs will follow easily



"copyright by Rut Avni" (www.hebrew-verbs.com)

Understand the Binyanim Menorah and the Root (Shoresh)

Each branch represents action or intensity

- ✓ to jump or to bounce (same root)
- ✓ to write or to dictate or to correspond (same root)

Understand the difference between a regular and irregular verb

Another explanation of the Binyanim

[The Seven Binyanim For Hebrew Verbs](#)

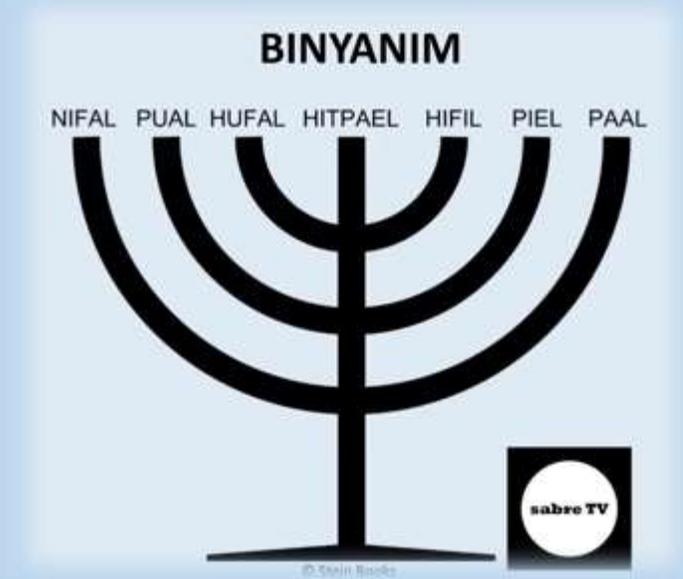
In the Menorah Form

Written by Lon T, Cherryholmes
for Yesodey Yeshiva ©2011 Zion CS

Practice eTeacherHebrew.com vocabulary [list 8](#)

Next Lesson is Paal

"copyright by Rut Avni" (www.hebrew-verbs.com)



Lesson Nine

שְׁעוֹר תְּשׁוּעָה

פָּעַל Paal

Hebrew Verbs Paal Rules (13-minutes)

1. Example root סגר
2. You will learn about the “Infinitive, Present, Past, Future, Imperative” conjugations and
 - a. Importance of the root consonants
 - b. Default reference point (He - 3rd person masculine singular)
 - c. I, you, he, she, we, you, they (gender and number)
 - d. Prefixes and Suffixes
3. [Binyanim Worksheet](#) print and practice writing and reading
4. [TeachMeHebrew](#) See, hear, speak (Paal)
5. Practice eTeacherHebrew.com vocabulary [list 9](#)



Next Lesson is Nifal

"copyright by Rut Avni" (www.hebrew-verbs.com)

Lesson Ten

שְׁעוֹר עֶשְׂרֵה

נִפְעַל Nifal

Hebrew Verbs Nifal Rules (13-minutes)

1. Example root כנס
2. You will learn about the “Infinitive, Present, Past, Future, Imperative” conjugations and
 - a. Importance of the root consonants
 - b. Default reference point (He - 3rd person masculine singular)
 - c. I, you, he, she, we, you, they (gender and number)
 - d. Prefixes and Suffixes

Practice

1. [Binyanim Worksheet](#) print and practice writing and reading
2. [TeachMeHebrew](#) See, hear, speak (Nifal)
3. Practice eTeacherHebrew.com vocabulary [list 10](#)



Next Lesson is Piel

"copyright by Rut Avni" (www.hebrew-verbs.com)

Lesson Eleven

שְׁעוֹר אֶחָד-עָשָׂר

פִּעֵל Piel

Hebrew Verbs Piel Rules (10-minutes)

1. Example root דבר
2. You will learn about the “Infinitive, Present, Past, Future, Imperative” conjugations and
 - a. Importance of the root consonants
 - b. Default reference point (He - 3rd person masculine singular)
 - c. I, you, he, she, we, you, they (gender and number)
 - d. Prefixes and Suffixes

Practice

1. [Binyanim Worksheet](#) print and practice writing and reading
2. [TeachMeHebrew](#) See, hear, speak (Piel)
3. Practice eTeacherHebrew.com vocabulary [list 11](#)



Next Lesson is Pual

"copyright by Rut Avni" (www.hebrew-verbs.com)

Lesson Twelve

שְׁעוֹר שְׁנַי עָשָׂר

פֶּעַל Pual

Hebrew Verbs Pual Rules (8-minutes)

1. Example root חִבֵּק
2. You will learn about the “Infinitive, Present, Past, Future, Imperative” conjugations and
 - a. Importance of the root consonants
 - b. Default reference point (He - 3rd person masculine singular)
 - c. I, you, he, she, we, you, they (gender and number)
 - d. Prefixes and Suffixes

Practice

1. [Binyanim Worksheet](#) print and practice writing and reading
2. [TeachMeHebrew](#) See, hear, speak (Pual)
3. Practice eTeacherHebrew.com vocabulary [list 12](#)



Next Lesson is Hifil

"copyright by Rut Avni" (www.hebrew-verbs.com)

Lesson Thirteen

שְׁעוֹר שְׁלֹשָׁה-עָשָׂר

הַפְּעִיל Hifil

Hebrew Verbs Hifil Rules (11-minutes)

1. Example root כתב
2. You will learn about the “Infinitive, Present, Past, Future, Imperative” conjugations and
 - a. Importance of the root consonants
 - b. Default reference point (He - 3rd person masculine singular)
 - c. I, you, he, she, we, you, they (gender and number)
 - d. Prefixes and Suffixes

Practice

1. [Binyanim Worksheet](#) print and practice writing and reading
2. [TeachMeHebrew](#) See, hear, speak (Hifil)
3. Practice eTeacherHebrew.com vocabulary [list 13](#)



Next Lesson is Hufal

"copyright by Rut Avni" (www.hebrew-verbs.com)

Lesson Fourteen

שְׁעוֹר אֶרְבָּעָה-עָשָׂר

הַפְּעֵל Hufal

Hebrew Verbs Hufal Rules (8-minutes)

1. Example root כתב
2. You will learn about the “Infinitive, Present, Past, Future, Imperative” conjugations and
 - a. Importance of the root consonants
 - b. Default reference point (He - 3rd person masculine singular)
 - c. I, you, he, she, we, you, they (gender and number)
 - d. Prefixes and Suffixes

Practice

1. [Binyanim Worksheet](#) print and practice writing and reading
2. [TeachMeHebrew](#) See, hear, speak (Hufal)
3. Practice eTeacherHebrew.com vocabulary [list 14](#)



Next Lesson is Hitpael

"copyright by Rut Avni" (www.hebrew-verbs.com)

Lesson Fifteen

שְׁעוֹר חֲמִשָּׁה-עָשָׂר

הַתְּפִיעַל Hitpael

Hebrew Verbs Hitpael Rules (10-minutes)

1. Example root כתב
2. You will learn about the “Infinitive, Present, Past, Future, Imperative” conjugations and
 - a. Importance of the root consonants
 - b. Default reference point (He - 3rd person masculine singular)
 - c. I, you, he, she, we, you, they (gender and number)
 - d. Prefixes and Suffixes

Practice

1. [Binyanim Worksheet](#) print and practice writing and reading
2. [TeachMeHebrew](#) See, hear, speak (Hitpael)
3. Practice eTeacherHebrew.com vocabulary [list 15](#)



This is the end of the Primer Lessons!

It does not mean the end of your learning.

Continuing to progress is your choice. Follows are more opportunities.

1. **Assess your strong and weak points.**
 - a. Review all areas.
 - b. Vocabulary is important
 - c. Understanding verbs is important
 - d. Reading, writing, hearing and speaking deepens the memory process.

2. **Continue with Rut Avni's video series**
 - a. [Recognize the Infinitive](#)

3. **Explore other training that appeals to you**

4. **Fill-in the gaps**
 - a. Adverbs <https://www.hebrewpod101.com/blog/2020/10/19/hebrew-adverbs/>
 - b. Prepositions <http://www.teachmehebrew.com/lesson-10.html>

5. **CHALLENGE: Explore some links to many children's books from the loving efforts of Holocaust survivor [יוחנן דביר](#) (John Dvir) in memory of his son Asa who died in the Golan Heights in 1975.**
 - a. <http://sefer-li.net/>
 - b. <http://sefer-li.net/oldx.pdf> The Old Little House בית הקטן הישן
 - c. <http://sefer-li.net/acav.pdf> The Rabbit and the Turtle הארנב והצב
 - d. <http://sefer-li.net/lews.pdf> A lion without a tail אריה בלי זנב
 - e. <http://sefer-li.net/arg.pdf> The old box הארגז הישן



See and read with eyes
 לראות ולקרוא בעיניים
 Practice!
 תרגול!



Write the letters and the words
 לכתוב את האותיות והמילים
 Practice!
 תרגול!



Hear with ears
 לשמוע באוזניים
 Practice!
 תרגול!

BIBLICAL Tamar



תמר המקראית



<https://blossomingrose.org/biblical-tamar-park/>
 Email: HebrewPrimer@blossomingrose.org

I just love learning Hebrew!
 אָנִי פִּשּׁוּט אוֹהֵב לְלַמּוֹד עִבְרִית!
 a-ni pa-shoot oh-hev li-le-mode iv-reet!