

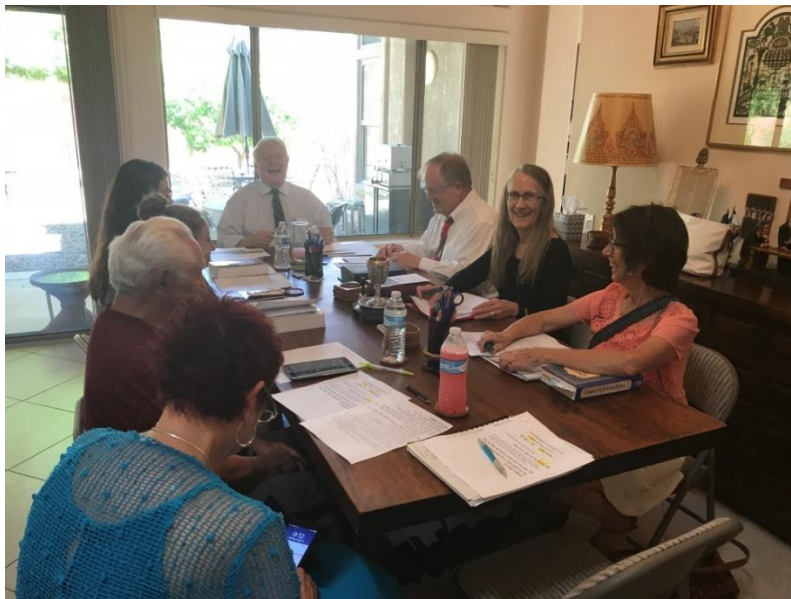
Biblical Hebrew Course 101

Learning to Read Biblical Hebrew

Lesson 4

לְשׁוֹן דַּ

Introduce the final consonants plus another vowel



Hebrew Class at Congregation Faithful Stewardship

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.

Introduce the final consonants (aka letters) plus another vowel

- 4.01 Introduce final aleph-bet consonants (aka letters): ayin – tav; plus another vowel: chirek
- 4.02 Last 2 softs
- 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) plus 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 final consonants (aka letters) of aleph-bet plus 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 נִקּוּדוֹת)					
Please note: there are 2 forms of the פּ.					
The 1 st is פּ (pay, which has a dot) while the 2 nd is פ (fay, which has no dot).					
(There is also the fay sofit ף which has the same sound as the fay פּ).					
Book Print	Numeric Value	Name of Letter	Sound of Letter	Block <small>(as in English, there are slight variations in the how each person writes a letter)</small>	Write Each Letter
ע	70	ayin	silent	ע	
ט	80	pay	p as in pet	פּ	
ט	80	fay	f as in far	פ	
ף	80	fay sofit	f as in far	ף	
צ	90	tsade	ts in cats	צ	
ץ	90	tsade sofit	ts in cats	ץ	
ק	100	koof	k in kept	ק	
ר	200	resh	r in ran	ר	
שׂ	300	shin (sheen)	sh in shoe	שׂ	
שׁ	300	sin (seen)	s in set	שׁ	
ת	400	tav	t in top	ת	
Vowel (the aleph is used for illustration purposes.)		Name of vowel	Sound of vowel	Print	Write
אָ		chirek: חִירֵק	ee in sleep	אָ	

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 sofit (ף) – pronounced the same as “פּ” (“P” as in far)
- tsade sofit (ץ) – 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
א	ayin	<i>silent</i>	א	
אִ	ayin with patach	ah as in spa	אִ	
אֵ	ayin with segol	eh as in bed	אֵ	
אֶ	ayin with tsere	eh as in bed	אֶ	
אֹ	ayin with chirek	ee as in sleep	אֹ	
פ	pay (has a dagesh/dot inside)	p as in pay	פ	
פִּ	pay with a dagesh & kamats	pah	פִּ	
פֵּ	pay with a dagesh & segol	peh	פֵּ	
פֶּ	pay with a dagesh & tsere	peh	פֶּ	
פֹּ	pay with a dagesh & chirek	pee	פֹּ	
ף	fay has no dagesh (NOTE: both פּ & ף have the same sound)	fay as in far	ף	
פִּי	fay with kamats	fah	פִּי	
פֵּי	fay with segol	feh	פֵּי	
פֶּי	fay with tsere	feh	פֶּי	
פֹּי	fay with chirek	fee	פֹּי	
ף	fay sofit (final letter of a word and has same sound as פּ)	f as in far	ף	
צ	tzade	ts , in cats	צ	
צִ	tsade with patach	tsah	צִ	
צֵ	tsade with segol	tseh	צֵ	
צֶ	tsade with tsere	tseh	צֶ	

צ	tsade with chirek	tsee	צ	
ץ	tsade sofit (final letter of a word and has same sound as צ)	ts in cats	ץ	
ק	koof	k in keep	ק	
קָ	koof with kamats	kah	קָ	
קֶ	koof with segol	keh	קֶ	
קֶ	koof with tseré	keh	קֶ	
קֵ	koof with chirek	kee	קֵ	
ר	resh	r in ran	ר	
רָ	resh with kamats	rah	רָ	
רֶ	resh with segol	reh	רֶ	
רֶ	resh with tseré	reh	רֶ	
רֵ	resh with chirek	ree	רֵ	
ש	shin (<i>sheen</i>)	sh in shoe	ש	
שָ	shin with patach	shah	שָ	
שֶ	shin with segol	sheh	שֶ	
שֶ	shin with tseré	sheh	שֶ	
שֵ	shin with chirek	shee	שֵ	
שׁ	sin (<i>seen</i>)	s in set	שׁ	
שָׁ	sin with patach	sah	שָׁ	
שֶׁ	sin with segol	seh	שֶׁ	
שֶׁ	sin with tseré	seh	שֶׁ	
שׁׁ	sin with chirek	see	שׁׁ	
ת	tav	t in top	ת	

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

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 אָהָב. Begin by reading the א; then add the ה. We now have אָה (ah-ha). Now, we add the ב. Because there is no vowel below this letter, it only has the sound of the consonant. When we put the word altogether we have: אָהָב (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 (Use Block print on page 1 of this lesson.)
בֵּר	son of (Aramaic word, Bar Mitzvah)	bahr	
אֶרֶץ	land	eh-rehtz (note: when a 3 or 4-letter word has 2 segols, the first letter with the segol, gets the accent)	
הִנֵּה	behold ('listen up')	hee-neh	
אָמֵן	Amen (truly, truth, 'let it be')	ah-mehn	
אֶלֶף	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)	
דָּוִד	David	Dah-veed	
מָה זֶה	What is this?	Mah-zeh	
בְּטַח	of course, certainly, for sure, security, safely, securely	beh-tach	
פָּאֵרָן	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)
אָשָׁה	he, or it, did	ah-sah
לְגַפְּנֹן	to the vine (Judges 9:12)	lahg-gah-fehn
אַתָּה	you (masculine)	aht-tah
חַזֵּק	be strong	chah-zahk
חָצֵר	permanent (as in settlement)	chah-tzehr
צָעַק	cry out	tzah-ahk

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 the all the letters of the aleph-bet using the hand.
3. Read again 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. On previous pages, say the letters or words in Hebrew, 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

א בְּרֵאשִׁית בָּרָא אֱלֹהִים אֶת הַשָּׁמַיִם וְאֶת הָאָרֶץ:

chirek ↑