

# Biblical Hebrew Course 101 – Boot Camp –

## *Learning to Read Biblical Hebrew*

### Lesson 9 -- supplement

לְשֶׁוֹר ט

## Review the dageshes & shevas



*Children have fun learning Hebrew with the puppet ‘Shalom’!*

“... and you are to teach them carefully to your children,” from the Shema Deut 6:7a CJB

### ***Review the dageshes & shevas***

- 9.01 supplement Review dagesh kal & dagesh chazak
- 9.02 supplement Review Sheva Level 1 & Level 2
- 9.03 supplement Review Sheva Level 3 & Level 4
- 9.04 supplement Practice identifying the different levels of sheva
- 9.05 supplement Answers to 9.04

9.01 supplement **Review dagesh kal & dagesh chazak** (review Lesson 9)

**Dagesh kal** (דָּגֵשׁ קָל) is also called **dagesh lene** (or a weak dagesh)

1. The dagesh kal is found only in the 6 BeGeD KeFeT letters (בְּגָד כִּפְתָּ) (בְּגָד כִּפְתָּ)
2. Remember the dagesh kal never follows a full vowel. (However, it can follow a sheva.)

**Dagesh chazak** (דָּגֵשׁ חָזָק) is also called **dagesh forte** (or dagesh strong)

1. The dagesh chazak always follows a full vowel. (A sheva is not a full vowel.)
2. A dagesh chazak doubles the consonant.
3. A dagesh chazak may appear in any consonant except the 5 gutturals (aleph: א, hey: ה, chet: ח, ayin: ע, & sometimes resh: ר).

| Practice recognizing dagesh kal & dagesh chazak |                                      |   |
|---|--------------------------------------|---|
| * Note: the rule for each dagesh is named below |                                      |   |
| Hebrew  | Translation                          | Transliteration<br>(please try to read before looking at transliteration)   |
| 1) דָּבַר                                       | he spoke (Lev 25:2)                  | dahb- <b>behr</b><br>* Dagesh Kal ( <b>dalet</b> is part of כִּפְתָּ & does not follow a full vowel)<br>* Dagesh Chazak ( <b>bet</b> is doubled because dagesh follows a vowel.)  |
| 2) בְּמִדְבָּר                                  | in the wilderness or desert (Dt 1:1) | bahm-meed- <b>bahr</b><br>* Dagesh Kal ( <b>bet</b> is part of כִּפְתָּ & does not follow a full vowel)<br>* Dagesh Chazak ( <b>mem</b> is doubled because the dagesh follows a full vowel.)<br>* Dagesh Kal ( <b>bet</b> is part of כִּפְתָּ & does not follow a full vowel) |
| 3) הַמַּיִם                                     | the water (Gen 1:2)                  | hahm- <b>mi</b> -yeem<br>* Dagesh Chazak ( <b>mem</b> is doubled because the dagesh follows a vowel.)   |
| 4) לְמַטֵּה                                     | of every tribe (Num 13:2)            | leh-maht- <b>teh</b><br>* Dagesh Chazak ( <b>tet</b> is doubled because the dagesh follows a vowel.)  |

**Grammar-made-simple: dagesh kal & dagesh chazak:**

1. Dagesh kal: When a BeGeD KeFeT letter begins a word or opens a syllable, it has a dagesh kal. This dagesh changes sound only with כ to כּ; from נ to נּ; & from פ to פּ.  
A dagesh kal does not follow a full vowel. The sheva is not a full vowel – dagesh kal can follow a sheva.
2. Dagesh chazak: May appear in any consonant except the 5 gutturals (aleph: א, hey: ה, chet: ח, ayin: ע, & sometimes resh: ר). (Remember a sheva is not a full vowel.)

9.02 supplement **Review Sheva Level 1 & Level 2** (review Lessons 8 & 9)

**Level 1: when a sheva is at the beginning of a word, it is vocal**

| Word           | Meaning                              | Transliteration<br>The small “eh” signifies the quick & almost indistinguishable “eh” sound. |
|----------------|--------------------------------------|--|
| 1) לָךְ        | for yourself (Gen 6:14)              | leh- <b>chah</b>   |
| 2) בְּיוֹם     | in the day (Lev 19:6)                | beh- <b>yom</b>  |
| 3) בְּרֵאשִׁית | Genesis (In the beginning) (Gen 1:1) | beh-reh- <b>sheet</b><br>(commonly pronounced b’resheet)                                     |

**Level 2: when 2 shevas are consecutive (in other words, are in a row)**

| <b>When 2 Shevas are consecutive, the 1st is silent &amp; 2nd is vocal.</b>   |   |                        |
|---|---|------------------------|
| 1. The first of two consecutive shevas closes the syllable. The first sheva is silent.<br>2. The second of 2 consecutive shevas is vocal <i>and</i> has a quick “eh” sound. |   |                        |
| <b>Word</b>   | <b>Meaning</b>  | <b>Transliteration</b> |
| 1) עֶבְדְּךָ  | your servant (Gen 19:19)                                      | ahv-deh- <b>chah</b>   |
| 2) תִּשְׁמָעוּ  | you will obey (2 <sup>nd</sup> part of the Shema; Deut 11:13) | teesh-meh- <b>oo</b>   |
| 3) אֶרְצְכֶם  | your land (2 <sup>nd</sup> part of the Shema; Deut 11:14)     | ahr-tseh- <b>chehm</b> |
| 4) נַפְשְׁךָ  | your soul (Deut 6:5)  | nah-sheh- <b>chah</b>  |
| 5) יִשְׁמְרוּ   | they will guard or keep (Ezekiel 11:20)                       | yeesh-meh- <b>roo</b>  |
| 6) שְׁבִתֶיךָ   | your dwelling places (1Kings 8:30)                            | sheev-teh- <b>chah</b> |

**Grammar-made-simple: Levels 1 & 2 of the vocal sheva:**

1. Level 1: If the sheva is under the 1<sup>st</sup> consonant of the word, it is vocal.
2. Level 2: If there are 2 shevas in a row (consecutive), the 1<sup>st</sup> is silent (it closes the syllable) & the 2<sup>nd</sup> is vocal (& it opens the syllable).

9.03 supplement **Review Sheva Levels 3 & 4**

**Level 3: when a sheva is under a dagesh chazak (דָּגֵשׁ חֲזָק), it is vocal. (Review Lesson 9.01)**

| <b>Word</b>     | <b>Meaning</b>   | <b>Transliteration</b>  |
|-----------------|--|---|
| 1) כָּלְכֶם     | all of you (2 <sup>nd</sup> person: you: masculine, plural)<br>Eg: כָּלְכֶם = כָּל + לְ + כֶּם | cool-leh- <b>chehm</b>  |
| 2) עַמְךָ       | your (2 <sup>nd</sup> person: you; masculine, singular) people (2Sam 7:24)                     | ahm-meh- <b>chah</b>  |
| 3) הַשְּׁבִיעִי | the seventh  | hahsh-sheh-vee- <b>ee</b> (commonly pronounced hahsh-shvee- <b>ee</b> )     |
| 4) הַדְּבָרִים  | the words or things  | hahd-deh-vah- <b>reem</b><br>(commonly pronounced hahd-d’vah- <b>reem</b> ) |
| 5) דְּבָרִים    | literally “words” (or “things”)<br>Also, it is the Hebrew name for the book of Deuteronomy     | deh-vah- <b>reem</b> (commonly pronounced d’vah- <b>reem</b> )              |
| 6) טַפְּכֶם     | your (2 <sup>nd</sup> person: you: masculine, plural) children (Dt 29:11)                      | tahp-peh- <b>chehm</b>  |
| 7) קִדְּשָׁנוּ  | sanctifies us (from traditional Festival Candle Blessing)                                      | keed-deh- <b>shah</b> -noo  |

**Grammar-made-simple: Level 3 & dagesh chazak:**

1. Sheva under dagesh chazak is vocal.
2. A dagesh chazak follows a vowel – any full vowel. (Shevas are not full vowels.)

**Level 4: when a sheva follows a long vowel\*, it is vocal.** (Review Lesson 9.01)

| <b>When a sheva follows a long vowel*, it is vocal.</b>  |   |  |
|--|---|--|
| <b>*Long vowels:</b>   |   |  |
| <i>kamats</i> קָמֶץ (ֶ) // <i>tseré</i> צִירֵי (ִי) // <i>cholam</i> חוֹלָם (וֹ) // <i>cholam vav</i> חוֹלָם וּ // <i>shurek</i> שׁוּרֶק (וּ)  |   |  |
| <b>For example:</b> הִיְתָהּ (In this word: the sheva immediately follows the kamats, which is a long vowel; therefore, the sheva is vocal. הִיְתָהּ is pronounced: hi-yeh- <b>ta</b> h) |   |  |
| <b>Word</b>  | <b>Meaning</b>  | <b>Transliteration</b>   |
| 1) הִיְתָהּ  | it was (3 <sup>rd</sup> person: feminine, singular)   | hi-yeh- <b>ta</b> h (commonly pronounced hi-yee- <b>ta</b> h)          |
| 2) לִבְבְּךָ   | your heart (from the V'ahavta from the Shema, Dt 6:5) | leh-vah- <b>veh</b> -chah (commonly pronounced leh- <b>vahv</b> -chah) |
| 3) כָּתְבִים   | write (masculine, plural)                             | koh-teh- <b>veem</b> (commonly pronounced koht- <b>veem</b> )          |
| 4) וּבְאֵלָתוֹ   | and his oath  | oo-veh-ah-lah- <b>to</b> h   |

**Grammar-made-simple: Level 4 of the vocal sheva following a long vowel:**

1. Level 4: If the sheva follows a long vowel, it is vocal.

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

9.04 supplement **Review identifying the different levels of shevas**

| <b>Word</b>    | <b>Meaning</b>   | <b>Transliteration</b>  | <b>Type of sheva &amp; why</b><br>(Answers are on 9.08)       |
|----------------|--|---|---|
| 1) בְּיַד      | by hand of (by the hand of Moses, Dt 4:44; Num 9:23)                                   | beh- <b>yahd</b>  | Level 1: sheva is under 1st letter                            |
| 2) הַבְּדִלָה  | Havdalah (ceremony closing Shabbat & distinguishes it from the common of other 6 days) | hahv-dah- <b>lah</b>  | Non-vocal, silent sheva, because sheva follows a short vowel. |
| 3) לְדַבֵּר    | to speak   | leh-dahb- <b>behr</b>   |   |
| 4) תִּשְׁמְעוּ | you do/will listen (Deut 11:27)  | tish-meh- <b>ooh</b>  |   |
| 5) כָּתְבִים   | write (masculine plural)   | koh- <b>teh</b> -veem (commonly pronounced kot- <b>veem</b> )   |   |
| 6) בְּהַר      | in or on mount or mountain   | beh- <b>hahr</b>  |   |
| 7) בְּמִדְבָּר | in desert or wilderness  | beh-meed- <b>bahr</b>   |   |
| 8) וַנִּשְׂאוּ | and they carried, they lifted, to marry (3cp)  | veh-nah-seh- <b>oo</b> (commonly pronounced v'nahs- <b>oo</b> ) |   |
| 9) לְחוֹל      | to be common (Lev 10:10; also in the Havdalah)   | leh- <b>chohl</b>   |   |
| 10) מִרְחֶשֶׁת | saucepan (Lev 2:7: grain offering made in a pan)                                       | mahr- <b>cheh</b> -sheht  |   |

|              |                            |  |  |
|--------------|----------------------------|--|--|
| 11) כְּלָכֶם | all of you (Deut 29:10)    | kool-leh- <b>chem</b>                                  |  |
| 12) בְּנֵי   | sons of                    | beh- <b>nay</b>  |  |
| 13) שִׁרְצוּ | they bring forth (Gen 9:7) | sheer- <b>tsoo</b>                                     |  |
| 14) מִצְוָה  | mitzvah / commandment      | meets- <b>vah</b>                                      |  |
| 15) שְׂמָאל  | left                       | seh- <b>mohl</b> (commonly pronounced s' <b>mohl</b> ) |  |
| 16) עַמְּךָ  | your people                | ahm-meh- <b>chah</b>                                   |  |

9.05 supplement **ANSWERS to 9.04 - supplement**

| Word           | Meaning  | Transliteration   | Type of sheva & why<br>(Questions are on 9.04)   |
|----------------|--|---|--|
| 1) בְּיַד      | by hand of (by the hand of Moses, Dt 4:44; Num 9:23)                                   | beh- <b>yahd</b>  | Level 1: sheva is under 1st letter   |
| 2) הַבְּדִלָּה | Havdalah (ceremony closing Shabbat & distinguishes it from the common of other 6 days) | hahv-dah- <b>lah</b>  | Non-vocal, silent sheva, because sheva follows a short vowel.  |
| 3) לְדַבֵּר    | to speak   | leh-dahb- <b>behr</b>   | Level 1: sheva is under 1st letter   |
| 4) תִּשְׁמְעוּ | you do/will listen (Deut 11:27)  | tish-meh- <b>ooh</b>  | Level 2: 2 shevas in a row   |
| 5) כְּתִבִּים  | write (masculine plural)   | koh- <b>teh</b> -veem (commonly pronounced kot' <b>veem</b> ) | Level 3: sheva follows a long vowel  |
| 6) בְּהָר      | in or on mount or mountain   | beh- <b>hahr</b>  | Level 1: sheva is under 1st letter   |
| 7) בְּמִדְבָּר | in desert  | beh-meed- <b>bahr</b>   | Level 1: sheva is under 1st letter<br>2 <sup>nd</sup> sheva is non-vocal, silent sheva; it follows a short vowel |
| 8) וַנִּשְׂאוּ | and they carried, they lifted, to marry (3cp)  | veh-nah-seh- <b>oo</b>  | Level 1: sheva is under 1st letter<br>Level 4: 2 <sup>nd</sup> sheva follows a long vowel                        |
| 9) לְחֹל       | to be common (Lev 10:10 also in the Havdalah)  | leh- <b>chohl</b>   | Level 1: sheva is under 1st letter   |
| 10) מִרְחֶשֶׁת | saucepan (Lev 2:7: grain offering made in a pan)                                       | mahr- <b>chesh</b> -sheht                                     | Non-vocal, silent sheva, because sheva follows a short vowel.  |
| 11) כְּלָכֶם   | all of you   | kool-leh- <b>chem</b>   | Level 3: sheva is under a dagesh chazak  |
| 12) בְּנֵי     | sons of  | beh- <b>nay</b>   | Level 1: sheva is under 1st letter   |
| 13) שִׁרְצוּ   | they bring forth (Gen 9:7)   | sheer- <b>tsoo</b>  | Non-vocal, silent sheva, because sheva follows a short vowel.  |
| 14) מִצְוָה    | mitzvah  | meets- <b>vah</b>   | Non-vocal, silent sheva, because sheva follows a short vowel.  |
| 15) שְׂמָאל    | left   | seh- <b>mohl</b> (commonly pronounced s' <b>mohl</b> )        | Level 1: sheva is under 1st letter   |
| 16) עַמְּךָ    | your people  | ahm-meh- <b>chah</b>  | Level 3: sheva is under dagesh chazak  |