

## ***Gk-101 Introduction to Hebrew and Greek***

### ***Beginning Hebrew Syntax and nouns***

April 18, 2018

## **Tri-Literal Roots**

- Hebrew words are mostly built different from English words.
- Most Hebrew words are built up from tri-literal roots - where Tri-literal means “three letter”
- The tri-literal root is without vowels – and is NEVER seen in any writing. It is what is left over when all of the vowels, prefixes, suffixes and infixes are removed.

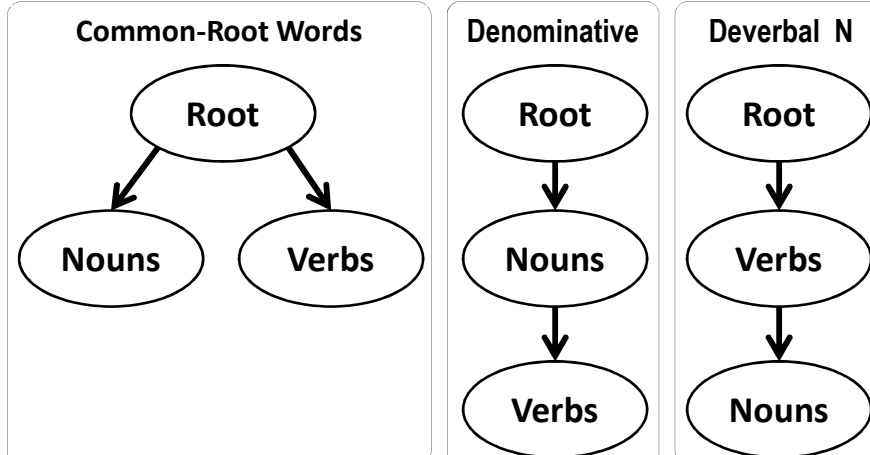
## A Tri-Literal Root Example - לקח

לָקַח	take (verb)
לִקְחָהּ	learning, teaching
מִלְקוֹחַ	booty, prey
מִלְקָהֶם	longs
מִקָּח	a taking of a bribe

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## Hebrew Word Derivations – 3 ways



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## Hebrew Parts of Speech

Nominals	Verbals	Function Words
Nouns	Verbs	Article
Pronouns	Infinitives (Verbal Noun)	Conjunctions
Adjectives	Participles (Verbal Adjectives)	Prepositions
		Adverbs

Nominals and Verbals are expressive and have their own grammatical set of qualities. Function words lack these grammatical “niceties”.

## Parsing for Nominals & Verbals

Pos	Word	Lex	Stem	Form	P	G	N	State	Det	Case	Suff
Noun						X	X	X	X	X	
Verb			X	X	X	X	X				

**Pos**– Part of Speech

**Word** – Actual Manuscript word

**Lex** – Lexical form of word

**Stem** – A characteristic of Verbs

**Form** – Tense/mood of finite verbs  
- or the non finite form.

**P** – Person, a quality of finite verbs  
and pronouns.

**G** - gender

**N** – Number

**State** – either Absolute or Construct

**Det** – determination or definiteness. –  
A noun is definite with an article.

**Case** – grammatical function of nouns  
in clauses.

**Suff** – refers to pronouns attached to  
the end of other words.

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## THE ARTICLE

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From the movie,  
The Bachelor and the Bobby-Soxer

A1: "You remind me of a man."  
*B1: "What Man?"*

A2: "The man with the power."  
*B2: "What Power?"*

A3: "The Power of Hoo-doo."  
*B3: "Who do?"*

A4: "You do."  
*B4: "Do What?"*

A5: "Remind me of a Man."  
*B5: "What Man?"*

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## The Article

- If a noun does not have an article, it is indefinite, and views the object as a member of a class
- If the noun does have an article, it is definite, and refers to a specific entity. The term definiteness will be used interchangeably with determination.
- There is overlap in the English and Hebrew article, but the Hebrew article has additional functions.

## The Article

- Unlike English, (and like Greek) there is NO indefinite article (a or an) so a word without an article can either be translated with or without the indefinite article into English.
- All nouns are either determined or undetermined. Even without an article. Proper nouns, referring to a single person are determined and pronouns are determined because they refer back to a specific noun.

## The Article

- Common nouns may be determined or undetermined. There are two ways to make it determined.
  1. Prefixing the noun with the article
  2. Joining the noun to a following noun that is determined (More on construct state later)

## The Article - FORM

- The basic form of the article is always prefixed to our noun by a consonant ה, plus the vowel Patach and a Dagesh Forte in the following letter.

קוֹל    הָ    הַקּוֹל

*Voice + The >> The Voice*

דָּבָר    הָ    הַדָּבָר

*Word + The >> The Word*

עָם    הָ    הָעָם

*People + The >> The People*

## The Article – The Interrogative

- To form a question a Heh is prefixed, with a Hateph Patach.
  1. It is prefixed to the question,
  2. Only rarely is it preceded with a conjunction Waw
  3. It is never attached directly to an article.

Ex:

- Gen 4:7,9 Am I my brothers keeper?
- Gen 18 14 Is anything too hard for the Lord?

## CONJUNCTIONS PART 1

## Conjunctions

- Clauses may be classified externally by the way they are joined together.
  - A conjunctive structure exists when they are joined by a conjunction
  - A asyndeton structure exists when 2 words or phrases are just set next to each other without a conjunction.

Asyndeton structure is less common and most often found in poetry or reported speech where the writer expects the reader to understand the logical connection.

## Conjunction Functions . . . .

Addition	And; both ... and; not only but also;
Alternative	<i>Exclusive</i> Whether ... or; <i>Inclusive</i> or;
Cause	As long as; because; inasmuch; now; since; so; so ... as; so ... also; than;
Comparison	As; as ... as; as ... so; even as; just as; just as ... so; so ... as; so also; than
Concession	Although; even if; even though; though; unless; while; yet;
Condition	If; provided (that); unless;



## Conjunction Functions . . . .

Continuation	And; besides; [untranslated]
Contrast	although; but; however; whereas; yet;
Example	For example; for;
Explanation	For; or
Extent	As long as; till; until;
Inference	Then;
Manner	As; as if; as though;
Measure / degree	As ... as; than; that

## Conjunction Functions . . . .

Place	Where (ever)
Purpose / result	In order that; so that; that;
Restrictive	Except;
Result	As a result; consequently; hence; so; then; lest (negative);

## Conjunction Functions . . . .

Time As soon as; when(ever)

*Inauguration* Since;

*Prior* After;

*Simultaneous* While;

*Subsequent* Before;

*termination* Until;

## Waw: The King of the Conjunctions



- With few exception, whenever a Hebrew word begins with a Waw, the Waw is a conjunction.
- The Waw is a coordinating conjunction but it can also introduce a subordinate clause.
- The conjunction Waw never stands alone – It is always prefixed to a word – always ahead of all other prefixes



## Other Conjunctions

או

Coordinating conjunction joining nominals

1. Alternative Gen 44:19 [or]

כי

Either coordinating (1-2)  
or subordinating (3-8) or as an adverb(9)

1. Explanation Gen 3:4-5 [for]
2. Contrast Gen 17:14 [but]

## Other Conjunctions

כי

3. Time – simultaneous Gen 4:12; [when]
4. Cause – Gen 3:20; [because]
5. Condition – of a real condition Gen 4:24; [if]
6. Concession Joshua 17:18; [though]
7. Result Gen 20:9; [that]
8. Nominalizing - causes a clause to be treated like a noun; Gen 3:4-5

## Other Conjunctions

כִּי

9. Emphasis (actually an adverbial function)  
Gen 22:17; [surely]

אִם

Among the possible functions :

1. Condition – of a real condition Gen 13:9 [if]
2. Concession Job 9:15 [Though]
3. Alternative for 2<sup>nd</sup> question Gen 17:17

## Other Conjunctions

כִּי אִם

It can function in 2 ways

1. It can function as 2 independent conjunctions each introducing separate clauses Ex 9:2-3; [for if]
2. Contrast – stronger than that of כִּי Gen 15:4 [but]