

## Homework Exercises

### Notes on Homework

- When studying Hebrew, it is usually best to take a slow approach if possible. This means, in an ideal world, you should try to dedicate 30 minutes per day for 5 or 6 days a week. Breaking up your study time this way, ensures maximum retention with regards to memorizing vocabulary, grammar, and letters. Failing this, if you can only block out one day for homework, then it is wise to still allocate 10-15 minutes each day to memorize vocabulary.
- Remember, the homework exercises are only part of your weekly assignments. Every week, without fail, you should be reviewing vocabulary and grammar. Many students fail to succeed because they only dedicate 1-2 hours a week to the exercises. If you chose to study like this, you are likely to fail the class. Additional time must be spent reviewing the previous week's work, looking ahead, learning vocabulary, and practicing pronunciation
- There is an oral exam at the end of the semester. Students who wait until a week before this exam, and only practice reading just before the exam usually fail. Each week, preferably every day, you should spend some time reading Hebrew if you wish to be a fluent reader. There is no reason why a student cannot be a relatively fluent reader after one semester.

1) Reading horizontally from right to left only, try to locate, and circle the following words on the adjacent grid. Be careful, some of the letters are similar in form<sup>1</sup>

- |        |                  |
|--------|------------------|
| ✓ צדי  | ✓ אלפ            |
| ✓ שני  | ✓ בית            |
| ✓ שני  | ✓ יוד            |
| ✓ ממ   | ✓ נון            |
| ✓ סית  | ✓ תו             |
| ✓ חית  | ✓ ריש vs. עין    |
| ✓ זין  | ✓ not final form |
| ✓ פא   | ✓ דלת            |
| ✓ גימל | ✓ וו             |

ת	י	ט	ת	א	ג	ק	ל	מ	ל	נ	ח	א	ו	י	ש
ק	נ	ו	א	ב	פ	ל	א	ל	פ	א	ל	א	נ	ר	כ
ו	פ	ב	ה	א	ד	ל	ל	מ	פ	ל	י	ה	ק	ד	ז
פ	ט	א	פ	ר	מ	א	א	ל	כ	ל	ש	י	ק	כ	כ
ע	י	ה	ג	ק	ז	ח	ל	ד	ו	י	נ	ת	ז	פ	ד
ו	ו	י	ד	צ	א	ה	ר	י	ל	ע	ג	מ	ג	ב	מ
נ	ר	ק	א	ר	ל	א	א	ו	ה	ל	ל	ק	ג	ב	ו
ב	ט	ד	ק	ע	ת	ח	א	ס	ז	ת	ט	ק	ל	ד	ד
ס	ח	ת	ת	י	ב	א	ת	י	ח	ל	ב	ס	ל	ד	ד
ו	ר	ג	ק	ל	א	ג	ח	ש	ל	ג	ו	ת	ד	ה	ק
נ	נ	מ	א	ש	ו	ל	מ	מ	ק	ע	נ	ח	א	ק	מ
נ	י	ע	ז	ש	מ	ח	ב	ת	י	ב	ל	מ	י	ג	ז
ת	ט	ט	ת	ג	ל	ט	ח	ת	כ	ע	ט	ח	ר	ו	ל
ה	ל	ו	ז	ו	ת	ש	ע	ה	ל	ק	י	ת	ה	ר	כ
ע	ל	ק	כ	א	ל	ל	ו	ת	א	ו	ו	ו	ו	י	ז
נ	י	ש	ל	ז	י	ט	ק	ב	ת	ע	ת	ב	ק	ב	ב

alep vs. alep

taw with dagesh

taw without dagesh

taw with dagesh

taw without dagesh

<sup>1</sup> Do not get too attached to the letters in this exercise. We have not yet learned final forms and the weak dagesh, so the exercises for the first week compensate for this deficiency.

2) Draw a line between the Hebrew proper name and the English equivalent. You will need to deduce some of the words

Judah	ישראל
Jacob	משה
Israel	יהודה
Philistine	יהושע
Shadrach	אדם
Jerusalem	אהרון
Abraham	יעקב
Adam	ירושלם
Moses	פלשתי
Pharaoh	אברהם
Aaron	שדרך
Joshua	פרעה

✓ p r c h  
or  
✗ φ r c h

Interesting how English uses φ for Philistine but Hebrew uses p. Perhaps because the English comes by way of Greek φ?

Tamar	יוסף
Esau	פנען
Levi	חזקיה
Rachel	שרה
Hezekiah	נבוכדנאצר
Saul	תמר
Joseph	עשו
Canaan	שאול
Solomon	רחל
Nebuchadnezzar	לוי
Leah	שלמה
Sarah	לאה

Interesting how both names use s and not ʃ as their English pronunciation might suggest.

Dear Prof.

I have deliberately attempted to vary my style slightly while trying to stay within the bounds of acceptability. Please circle the unacceptable versions.

3) Practice writing Hebrew letters. Write ten of each letter, the first has been done for you. Pay attention to where the top and the bottom of each letter sits.

aleph

bet

gimmel

dalet

heh

waw

zayin

het

tet

yod

kap

do you need more gap? →

Is this acceptable?

Handwriting practice row for the letter 'lamed' (ל) on a four-line grid. The row contains 14 characters, with the last one being a dotted outline for tracing.

Above the mid point line  
lamed

Handwriting practice row for the letter 'mem' (מ) on a four-line grid. The row contains 14 characters, with the last one being a dotted outline for tracing.

Note short tail  
mem  
Note the space

Handwriting practice row for the letter 'nun' (נ) on a four-line grid. The row contains 14 characters, with the last one being a dotted outline for tracing.

nun

clockwise  
(others were counter-clockwise)

Handwriting practice row for the letter 'samech' (ס) on a four-line grid. The row contains 14 characters, with the last one being a dotted outline for tracing. Arrows indicate a clockwise stroke direction.

samech

Handwriting practice row for the letter 'ayin' (ע) on a four-line grid. The row contains 14 characters, with the last one being a dotted outline for tracing.

ayin

Handwriting practice row for the letter 'peh' (פ) on a four-line grid. The row contains 14 characters, with the last one being a dotted outline for tracing.

peh

Handwriting practice row for the letter 'sadeh' (צ) on a four-line grid. The row contains 14 characters, with the last one being a dotted outline for tracing.

sadeh

long top  
so as not  
to confuse  
with waw

Handwriting practice row for the letter 'qof' (ק) on a four-line grid. The row contains 14 characters, with the last one being a dotted outline for tracing.

qof  
Below the line

Handwriting practice row for the letter 'resh' (ר) on a four-line grid. The row contains 14 characters, with the last one being a dotted outline for tracing.

No bit sticking out  
resh

Handwriting practice row for the letter 'sin' (ש) on a four-line grid. The row contains 14 characters, with the last one being a dotted outline for tracing.

sin

Handwriting practice row for the letter 'sin' (ש) on a four-line grid. The row contains 14 characters, with the last one being a dotted outline for tracing.

sin

Handwriting practice row for the letter 'taw' (ת) on a four-line grid. The row contains 14 characters, with the last one being a dotted outline for tracing.

taw

Note how these extend

I used a mechanical pencil for these exercises. I wonder if (1) regular pencil, or (2) pen would have been good too.

- 4) A few Hebrew letters look remarkably similar in Hebrew and can easily be confused. Practice identifying similar letters from the text below. Mark every instance of the following letters as indicated<sup>2</sup>

- ✓ ח mark with a circle
- ה mark with a yellow highlighter
- ✓ ר mark with a square
- ✓ ד place a triangle above them (whether there is a dot inside or not)
- ✓ ב place a circle above them (whether there is a dot inside or not)
- ✓ כ place a vertical line above it (whether there is a dot inside or not)

בְּרָאשִׁית בְּרָא אֱלֹהִים אֶת הַשָּׁמַיִם וְאֶת הָאָרֶץ: <sup>2</sup>וְהָאָרֶץ הַיְתֵה תְהוֹ וְבָהוּ (חֶשֶׁב) עַל-פְּנֵי  
 תְהוֹם וְחֹחַ אֱלֹהִים מִחַפְּצֵי עַל-פְּנֵי הַמַּיִם: <sup>3</sup>וַיֹּאמֶר אֱלֹהִים יְהִי אוֹר וַיְהִי-אוֹר: <sup>4</sup>וַיִּקְרָא  
 אֱלֹהִים אֶת-הָאוֹר כִּי-טוֹב וַיַּבְדֵּל אֱלֹהִים בֵּין הָאוֹר וּבֵין הַחֹשֶׁךְ: <sup>5</sup>וַיִּקְרָא אֱלֹהִים לְאוֹר  
 יוֹם וְלַחֹשֶׁךְ קָרָא לַיְלָה וַיְהִי-עֶרְבַּ וַיְהִי-בֹקֶר יוֹם אֶחָד: <sup>6</sup>וַיֹּאמֶר אֱלֹהִים יְהִי רָקִיעַ בְּתוֹךְ  
 הַמַּיִם וַיְהִי מַבְדִּיל בֵּין מַיִם לְמַיִם:

- 5) You must learn how to pronounce each of the letters of the Hebrew alphabet, and know its name. This means, when completed, that you must be able to see the Hebrew letter, and without looking at a transliteration, be able to pronounce the sound of that letter, and be able to name it. By far, the most effective way of achieving this goal is via flash cards. Write out 22 flashcards with a Hebrew letter on one side and the pronunciation on the other, along with the name of the letter. Then, looking at each letter, try to recall its name and pronunciation. It is best to spend about 10 minutes a day, for the first 2 weeks of the course, learning these letters.

✓ created and am using flash cards.

<sup>2</sup> One instance of each has been done for you, please complete the rest.

Transliteration is the process through which Hebrew letters are transposed to Latin (English) letters. To carry out this process you need to work from the right of the Hebrew word, but begin writing the English letters from the left. As an example, the transliteration of the Hebrew word שלום is šlwm. For the final product, we still read the English from left to right and the Hebrew from right to left. For this transliteration exercise, use the reference sheet in this pack (page 2) to transliterate the following Hebrew words.

6) Transliterate these words into English characters

שמעון ..... šm<sup>ʿ</sup>wn

אמר ..... m<sup>ʾ</sup>r

אדוני ..... dwny

אלהים ..... lhym

שלום ..... šlwm

עדן ..... dn

פתוס ..... ptrws

שמות ..... smwt

בראשית ..... br<sup>ʾ</sup>šyt

דוד ..... dwd

יהורם ..... yhrm

7) Reconstruct the Hebrew words from these transliteration symbols

śrh ..... שרה

šlwm ..... שלום

kdwš ..... כדוש

h<sup>ʿ</sup>yr ..... העיר

mšpt ..... משפט

tpwh ..... תפוח

qr<sup>ʾ</sup> ..... קרא

šmymh ..... שממה

hspr ..... הספר

yšw<sup>ʿ</sup> ..... ישוע

ʾnšym ..... אנשים

I used a regular pencil  
for this page.  
I think I like this better.