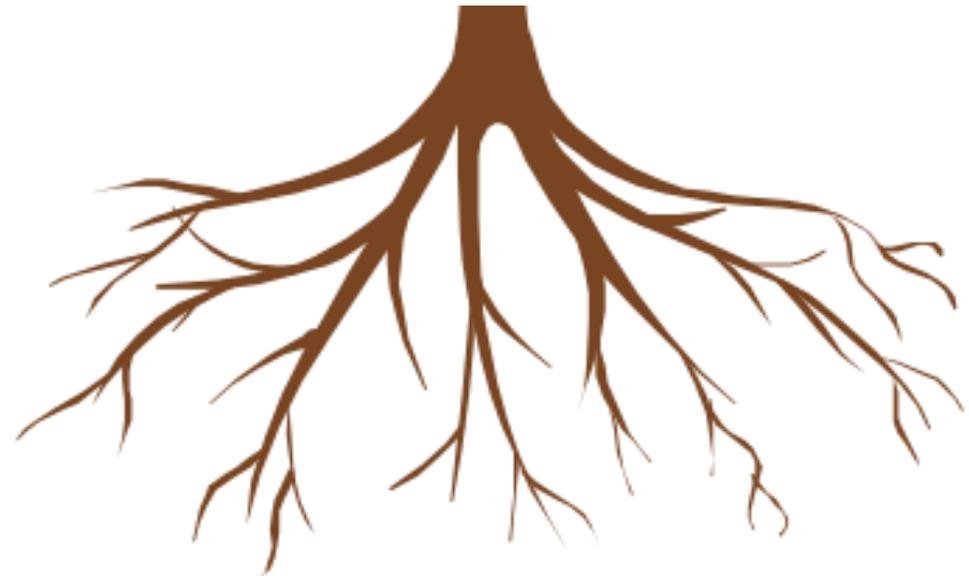


Introduction to Hebrew Verbs

The Hebrew Verb

- Aspect not tense
- Three root letters (tri-literal root)
 - Prefixed
 - Suffixed
 - Infixes



ROOT

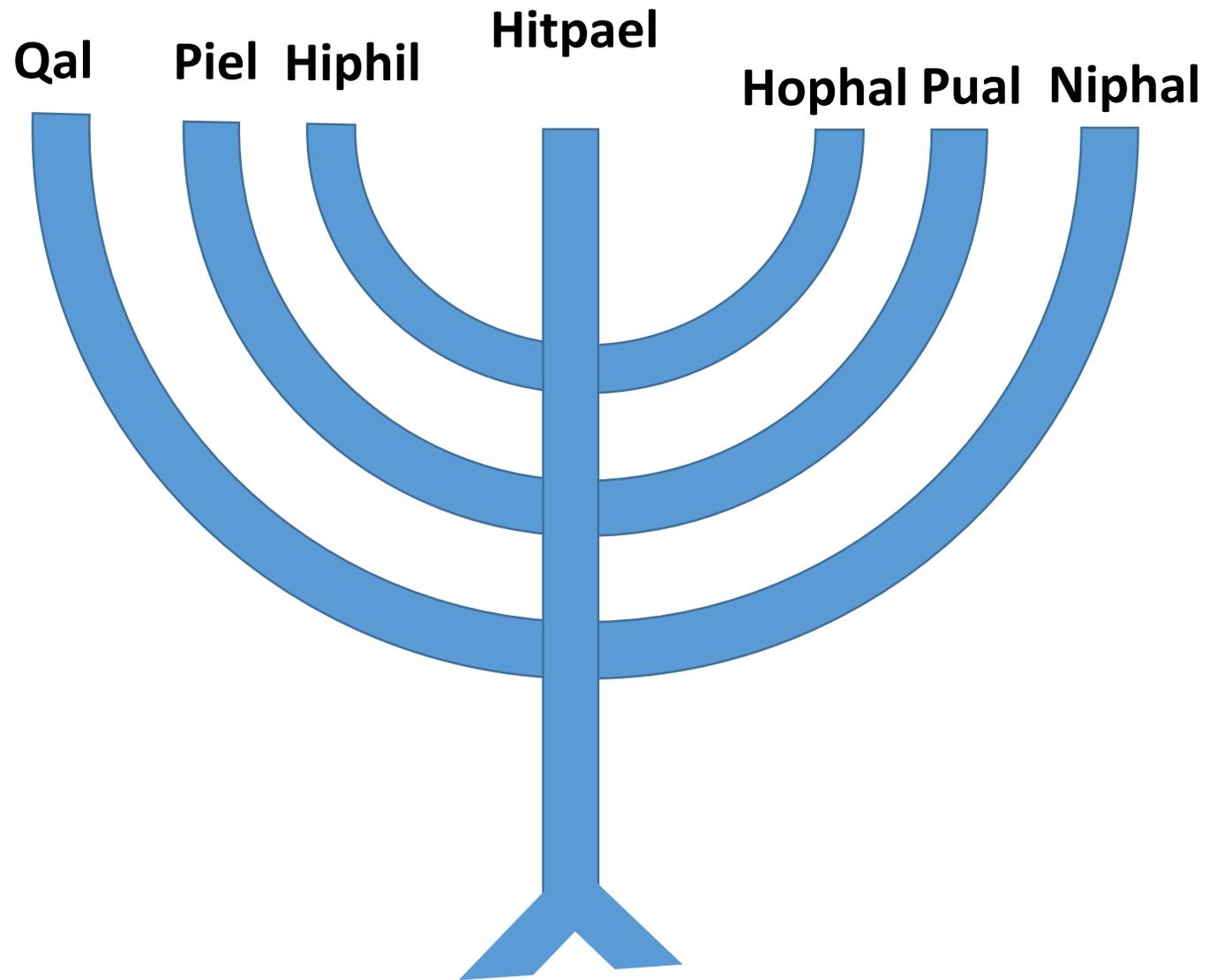
דְּבַרְךָ

דבר

הִתְפַּלֵּלְנוּ

פלל

Qal	<i>Active</i>	I wrote the book
Niphal	<i>Passive/reciprocal/(active)</i>	The book was written
Piel	<i>Intensive/Active</i>	He smashed the chair
Pual	<i>Intensive/Passive</i>	The chair was smashed
Hiphil	<i>Causative</i>	I made the child king
Hophal	<i>Causative/passive</i>	The child was made king
Hithpael	<i>Reflexive/iterative/reciprocal</i>	I shaved (myself)



The Perfect Verb

The Qal or Basic Stem

I	1cs	אני
You	2ms	את
You	2fs	את
He	3ms	_____
She	3fs	היא
We	1cp	נו
You	2mp	אתם
You	2fp	אתן
They	3mp	הם
They	3fp	הן

- Predominantly suffixed
- Mainly translated as the past
- Signifies instant action
- Suffixes same for all *binyanim*
- Non-suffixed = dictionary form

I	1cs	שָׁמַרְתִּי
You	2ms	שָׁמַרְתָּ
You	2fs	שָׁמַרְתְּ
He	3ms	שָׁמַר
She	3fs	שָׁמְרָה
We	1cp	שָׁמַרְנוּ
You	2mp	שָׁמַרְתֶּם
You	2fp	שָׁמַרְתֶּן
They	3mp	שָׁמְרוּ
They	3fp	שָׁמְרוּ

- No suffix (=dictionary form)
- Consonantal suffixes
 - No vowel changes
- Vocalic suffixes cause a vowel shift
 - Shift in second vowel
- Heavy suffixes
 - Shift/reduction in first vowel

I	1cs	שָׁמַרְתִּי
You	2ms	שָׁמַרְתָּ
You	2fs	שָׁמַרְתְּ
He	3ms	שָׁמַר
She	3fs	שָׁמְרָה
We	1cp	שָׁמַרְנוּ
You	2mp	שָׁמַרְתֶּם
You	2fp	שָׁמַרְתֶּן
They	3mp	שָׁמְרוּ
They	3fp	שָׁמְרוּ

Examples of qal perfect usage

- שָׁמַר מֹשֶׁה אֶת הַתּוֹרָה
- מִרְיָם שָׁמְרָה אֶת הַתּוֹרָה
- שָׁמַרְנוּ אֶת תּוֹרַת אֱלֹהִים
- שָׁמְרוּ מַלְכֵי הָאָרֶץ אֶת הַתּוֹרָה
- הָאֲנָשִׁים הָרָעִים לֹא שָׁמְרוּ אֶת הַתּוֹרָה
- אַתֶּם לֹא שָׁמַרְתֶּם אֶת הַסֵּד

The Meaning of the Perfect

How is it best to translate it regarding tense

Simple past tense	Moses broke the staff
Past perfect	He had broken the staff and lied about it
Present tense	Ahitophel knows the king's secrets
Future tense	The people of the city will betray me

Simple past tense (Gen 1:1)	בְּרֵאשִׁית בְּרָא אֱלֹהִים אֶת הַשָּׁמַיִם
Past perfect (Gen 21:1)	וַיְהִי וַיִּפְקֹד אֶת-שָׂרָה כַּאֲשֶׁר אָמַר
Present tense (1Sam 8:5)	הִנֵּה אֶתָּה זִקְנָתָ
Future tense (Exod 31:16)	וְשָׁמְרוּ בְנֵי-יִשְׂרָאֵל אֶת-הַשַּׁבָּת

		III	II	I		
		ל	ע	פ		
פ-guttural	_____	ד	מ	ע	_____	I-Guttural
ע-guttural	_____	ל	א	ש	_____	II-Guttural
ל-het	_____	ה	ל	ש	_____	III-Guttural
פ"א	_____	ל	כ	א	_____	I-א
ל"א	_____	א	צ	מ	_____	III-א
ל"ה	_____	ה	נ	ב	_____	III-ה
פ"ן	_____	ל	פ	נ	_____	I-נ
ע"ז/י	_____	ב	ז	ש	_____	II-ז/י
		ב	י	ש		
פ"י	_____	ב	ש	י	_____	I-י/ו
ע"ע	_____	ב	ב	ס	_____	Geminate

Summary

- Translate perfect as past tense in exercises
- Basic form may be called *Pa'al*, or *Qal*
- Stems also called *binyanim*
- MUST Learn endings
- Remember 3 classes of change
 - Normal
 - Vocalic
 - Heavy

The End

Now go on to the qal perfect verbs