4
NOUNS AND VERBS: MASCULINE

Oral Review

Read the following words aloud.

1. אַבְרָהָם, אַהֲרֹן, דָּוִד, יוֹסֵף, לֵאָה, מֹשֶׁה, יִצְחָק
2. יִשְׂרָאֵל, מוֹאָב, מִצְרַיִם, פַּרְעֹה, רוּת, נָעֳמִי, שָׂרָה
3. שָׁלוֹם, בַּיִת, בֵּן, אִישׁ, דָּבָר, הוּא, זָכַר, נַעַר
4. מָלַךְ, מֶלֶךְ, בַּת, עָמַד, שָׁמַע, שָׁמַר, בְּהֵמָה, בַּעֲרָה
5. אִשָּׁה, מִשְׁפָּחָה, דֶּרֶךְ, אֶרֶץ, בְּתוֹךְ, רוּחַ, לִפְנֵי
6. לֶחֶם, צֹאן, גְּבֻלָּה, עָמְדוּ, לַיְלָה, מָלְכוּ, בַּדֶּרֶךְ
7. הָאָב, הַבֵּן, הַבַּת, הַדָּבָר, הַמֶּלֶךְ, הָאִישׁ, הַנַּעַר
8. בָּתִּים, בָּנִים, דְּבָרִים, מְלָכִים, נְעָרִים, עָרִים
9. אָבוֹת, בָּנוֹת, בְּהֵמוֹת, מִשְׁפָּחוֹת, נְעָרוֹת, אֵת
10. אֲנָשִׁים, אֲרָצוֹת, נָשִׁים, דְּרָכִים, עֲבָדִים, עַמִּים
11. שָׁמַרְתִּי, שָׁמַרְתָּ, שָׁמַרְתְּ, שָׁמַר, שָׁמְרָה, שָׁמְרוּ
12. אֲנִי, אַתָּה, אַתְּ, הוּא, הִיא, אֲנַחְנוּ, אַתֶּם, הֵם
13. הָאַחִים, מִמִּצְרַיִם, שָׁמְעוּ, מָה, שְׁעָרִים, הַשַּׁעַר
14. אָדוֹן, אֲדוֹנִים, יָד, יָדַיִם, רֹאשׁ, רָאשִׁים, שֵׁם
15. שֵׁמוֹת, אֹהֶל, אֹהָלִים, כֹּהֵן, כֹּהֲנִים, כְּלִי, כֵּלִים
16. מְדַבֵּר, נֶפֶשׁ, נְפָשׁוֹת, שַׂר, שָׂרִים, פָּנִים, עוֹד
17. כֹּה, זָהָב, דָּם, דָּמִים, כֶּסֶף, עוֹלָם, עֵץ, עֵצִים
18. מָצְאוּ, כָּתַבְנוּ, פָּתַחְתְּ, קָרָאתָ, זָכְרָה, שָׁמַע

25

Each chapter from now on includes a vocabulary list. Each word in the vocabulary lists has been selected because it appears frequently in the Bible. Memorize the vocabulary words.

Vocabulary

remembered	זָכַר	Abraham	אַבְרָהָם	
ruled, reigned	מָלַךְ	man	אִישׁ	
king	מֶלֶךְ	house	בַּיִת	
young man	נַעַר	son	בֵּן	
stood	עָמַד	word, thing	דָּבָר	
heard, listened	שָׁמַע	David	דָּוִד	
guarded, kept	שָׁמַר	he, it	הוּא	

In the vocabulary for each chapter, words that are not accented on the last syllable will be shown with an accent mark X̌. The words בַּיִת, מֶלֶךְ, and נַעַר are all accented on the first syllable.

The Hebrew Sentence

In both English and Hebrew, a sentence is a group of words that expresses a complete thought.

David remembered.	דָּוִד זָכַר.
He stood.	הוּא עָמַד.
A man heard.	אִישׁ שָׁמַע. ← Remember that Hebrew reads from right to left.
A king ruled.	מֶלֶךְ מָלַךְ.
Abraham guarded.	אַבְרָהָם שָׁמַר.

In English the verb normally follows the subject.

David remembered.   He stood.

In Hebrew the verb usually precedes the subject, but may also follow it.

David remembered.	דָּוִד זָכַר.
David remembered.	זָכַר דָּוִד.
He stood.	הוּא עָמַד.
He stood.	עָמַד הוּא.

The Subject of a Sentence

The **subject** of a sentence is a noun or pronoun that performs the action in the sentence. A **noun** is a word that names a person, place, object, or idea. The nouns in the vocabulary of this chapter are:

word, thing	דָּבָר	Abraham	אַבְרָהָם
David	דָּוִד	man	אִישׁ
king	מֶלֶךְ	house	בַּיִת
young man	נַעַר	son	בֵּן

A **pronoun** is a word used in place of a noun. For example, the words **he, she,** and **it** are pronouns. The vocabulary of this chapter introduces the pronoun הוּא **he.**

Verbs

A verb is a word that describes the action of the subject of a sentence. In the sentence **David remembered,** the verb is **remembered.** The verbs in this chapter are:

stood	עָמַד	remembered	זָכַר
heard	שָׁמַע	ruled	מָלַךְ
guarded, kept	שָׁמַר		

The Meaning of the Perfect Tense

English verbs describe action in past, present, and future tenses. Biblical Hebrew has only two tenses: **perfect,** which describes completed action; and **imperfect,** which describes action which is not complete.

All the verbs shown above are shown in the perfect tense. In Biblical Hebrew, the perfect tense is sometimes used to describe present completed action or even future completed action, as well as past completed action. In this book, however, the perfect tense will be treated as if it were equivalent to the English past tense.

In English there are many ways to describe action in the past. In Hebrew there is only one way. The Hebrew sentence דָּוִד שָׁמַר can be translated into English as shown below.

David guarded.   David did guard.   David was guarding. } דָּוִד שָׁמַר.
David has guarded.   David had guarded.

27

The Definite Article

In English there is an indefinite article: **a** or **an**, as in **a man** or **an eye**. In Hebrew there is **no** indefinite article. Therefore, מֶלֶךְ can mean either **king** or **a king**, depending on the context. In both English and Hebrew there is a definite article. In English, the definite article is a separate word: **the**. In Hebrew, the definite article is attached to a noun and cannot stand alone. The definite article הַ usually has a Xַ under it, followed by a **dagesh** in the next letter.

<div align="center">

the = הַX

הַמֶּלֶךְ   מֶלֶךְ

the king   king

</div>

Definite Noun	=	Indefinite Noun	+	Definite Article
הַנַּעַר	=	נַעַר	+	הַX
the young man		young man		the
הַדָּבָר	=	דָּבָר	+	הַX
the word		word		the
הַבֵּן	=	בֵּן	+	הַX
the son		son		the
הַבַּיִת	=	בַּיִת	+	הַX
the house		house		the

The Definite Article and the Five Gutturals

When the definite article comes before a word that begins with one of the five gutturals (א, ה, ח, ע, ר) the הַX may change to הָ or הֶ, and there is **no** dagesh in the following letter.[7]

the man	הָאִישׁ	man	אִישׁ
the city	הָעִיר	city	עִיר
the cities	הֶעָרִים	cities	עָרִים

Remember that the meaning stays the same whether or not there is a dagesh.

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Definite Noun	=	Indefinite Noun	+	Definite Article
הַנַּעַר	=	נַעַר	+	הַX
the young man		young man		the
הַדָּבָר	=	דָּבָר	+	הַX
the word		word		the
הַבֵּן	=	בֵּן	+	הַX
the son		son		the
הַבַּיִת	=	בַּיִת	+	הַX
the house		house		the

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the city	הָעִיר	city	עִיר
the cities	הֶעָרִים	cities	עָרִים

Remember that the meaning stays the same whether or not there is a dagesh.

Nouns That Are Definite by Nature

Some nouns are definite by nature. In English, we call them **proper nouns**. They include the names of specific people and specific places. The definite article is not usually used before a proper noun.

The man remembered.	הָאִישׁ זָכַר.
Abraham remembered.	אַבְרָהָם זָכַר.
The king stood.	הַמֶּלֶךְ עָמַד.
David stood.	דָּוִד עָמַד.

Exercises

1. Vocabulary Drill. Read and translate the following words.

11. דָּבָר		6. בַּיִת		1. עָמַד	
12. זָכַר		7. אַבְרָהָם		2. בֵּן	
13. מֶלֶךְ		8. מֶלֶךְ		3. הוּא	
14. נַעַר		9. שָׁמַר		4. שָׁמַע	
15. הַנַּעַר		10. דָּוִד		5. אִישׁ	

2. Read and translate the following.

7. עָמַד בַּיִת.	4. בֵּן עָמַד.	1. אַבְרָהָם עָמַד.
8. נַעַר זָכַר.	5. שָׁמַר דָּוִד.	2. שָׁמַע אַבְרָהָם.
9. שָׁמַר אִישׁ.	6. הוּא מָלַךְ.	3. מָלַךְ הַמֶּלֶךְ.

3. Read and translate the following pairs of sentences.

5. דָּוִד זָכַר דָּבָר.	3. אִישׁ שָׁמַר.	1. נַעַר שָׁמַע.
הָאִישׁ זָכַר דָּבָר.	הָאִישׁ שָׁמַר.	הַנַּעַר שָׁמַע.
6. הוּא שָׁמַר בַּיִת.	4. מָלַךְ מֶלֶךְ.	2. עָמַד בֵּן.
הַמֶּלֶךְ שָׁמַר בַּיִת.	מָלַךְ הַמֶּלֶךְ.	עָמַד הַבֵּן.

4. Add the definite article הַ to the following words. Don't forget to add the **dagesh** when you add the definite article as necessary.

מֶלֶךְ   דָּבָר   בֵּן   בַּיִת   נַעַר

5. Translate the following sentences into Hebrew.

1. A young man heard.
   The young man heard.
2. A king ruled.
   The king ruled.
3. The son stood.
   The son remembered.
4. The man guarded.
   The man was guarding.
5. The young man was guarding.
   A young man had guarded.
6. A king remembered.
   The king did remember.

6. Read and translate into English.

6. זָכַר הוּא בַיִת.

7. שָׁמַע הָאִישׁ דָּבָר.

8. הַבַּיִת עָמַד.

9. הַמֶּלֶךְ מָלַךְ.

1. אַבְרָהָם שָׁמַע דָּבָר.

2. מָלַךְ דָּוִד.

3. זָכַר הַנַּעַר דָּבָר.

4. בֵּן שָׁמַר.

5. עָמַד הַמֶּלֶךְ.

7. Translate into Hebrew.

1. The man stood.
2. The man guarded a house.
3. David heard a word.
4. He ruled.
5. Abraham remembered a thing.
6. The son heard.
7. A king guarded.
8. The house stood.
9. The young man remembered.
10. The king heard.