

**A MANUAL HEBREW
GRAMMAR. FOR THE
USE OF BEGINNERS**

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A Manual Hebrew Grammar. For the Use of Beginners by J. Seixas

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MANUAL
HEBREW GRAMMA.

FOR THE USE OF BEGINNERS.

BY J. ^{Junior} SEIXAS.

second edition enlarged and improved.

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PREFACE.

At the request of many friends who have used the first edition of my Manual Hebrew Grammar, I have concluded to publish a second edition enlarged. The additions are designed to facilitate the acquisition of Hebrew, and make assistance from the living teacher less indispensable. The lessons and rules, though comparatively few and brief, are, I believe, sufficient to give an easy and rapid insight into the general formation of the language. Some years' experience as a teacher, and the favorable opinions of those whom I have had the pleasure of teaching, convince me that with proper attention to the following rules, and with the aids of oral instruction as given to my classes, any one desirous to become acquainted with this language may be enabled in a short time and with little trouble, to read with much pleasure and satisfaction. This edition is enlarged by more copious rules; by exercises in spelling, reading, and translating; and by a full table of the Accents. Also a table of the characteristics of the conjugations in the future tense and in the participles has been added; and the list of anomalies at the end has received some accessions.

Those who read this work will doubtless wonder at, or find fault with, the singular arrangement of the rules; but although I do not follow the order of philosophy, yet I follow, as it seems to me, the order of nature; or perhaps I should say, the order which I have found most advantageous and satisfactory to my pupils. Others also, conversant with Hebrew, have expressed their entire approbation of the plan here pursued.

As trifling as these lessons may appear to many, it has cost me several years' labor to collect and arrange them. By a careful and frequent reading of the Bible, with all the necessary helps before me, I have obtained what these sheets will set forth.

A reviewer in the Christian Examiner suggested the expediency of giving to *q* and *r* the sound of *th*; of pronouncing *p* like *qu*; and also of representing *w* and *u* by *sh*. For the kind notice which he was pleased to take of the Manual, I would express my gratitude; but I must here say, that according to my views of the Hebrew language, and the present arrangement of the best Lexicons in regard to *w* and *u*, the alterations suggested are inexpedient.

A few short rules and notes are repeated in some instances for the purpose of refreshing the memory of the learner as he proceeds. The portions included in *brackets* with the exceptions of the *examples*, should be thoroughly committed to memory. Instead of printing some thirty or forty pages of Paradigms, I have published on a single sheet, the characteristics of all the conjugations. This Tabular View is very useful and convenient; and can be procured of the printers and the publisher of this work.

I humbly hope, through divine favor, that the time devoted to preparing this Manual will not prove to have been spent in vain. A desire to benefit others and promote the best of all studies—the study of the Bible, has been my strongest inducement to undertake it.

June, 1834.

J. SEIXAS.

(P) The time required in a course of Hebrew instruction as given by me, is six weeks, one lesson of about an hour being given each day.

Since publishing the first edition of this Grammar, I have published a Chaldee Manual of twenty pages, which I deem sufficiently copious for a beginner who is already acquainted with Hebrew.* I have also in manuscript, Syriac and Arabic Manuals, which I hope to have printed when there is a sufficient demand for them.

* This little work can be obtained from Messrs. Gould and Newman, the printers and publishers.

HEBREW ALPHABET.

POWERS OF THE LETTERS AND VOWELS.

א	{ (aleph) not heard in reading; if it have a vowel, sound the vowel; as א a, ח e, נ o, ט oo, etc.		
ב	b		
ג	g		
ד	d		
ה	h	ט sounds au in cause.	א a in hat.
ו	v	ח " a in far.	ב a in same.
ז	z	ז " a in ale.	ט o in note. see § 5.
ח	kh	י or י " o in bone.*	ו u in full.
ט	t	כ " oo in boot.*	ז i in bit.
י	y	ל " ee in meet.	ח o in not.
כ	k	מ " e in met.	ט e in met.
ל	l		
מ	m		
נ	n		
ס	s		
ע	gn		
פ	p		
צ	f		
ק	ts		
ר	k		
ש	r		
ט	sh		
י	s		
ת	t		

VOWELS.

As some of the letters resemble each other, it would be well for the learner to notice the following:

- | | |
|-------------------------|---------------|
| 1. b ב כ k | 8. z ז ם n |
| 2. g ג נ n | 9. kh ח ה h |
| 3. d ד ך k <i>lucet</i> | 10. kh ח ת t |
| 4. d ד ר r | 11. m מ ט t |
| 5. v ו י y | 12. m ם ס s |
| 6. v ו ן n " | 13. ts צ ע gn |
| 7. z ז ן v | |

NOTE. The letters ב, ג, ד, כ, ט, ר, are by some, sounded bh, gh, dh, kh, ph, th, i. e. when they have no point (Dagash) in them. See § 8.

י is pronounced kau; as אֵיִלֵּאֵל a-kol-kau; לֵיִלֵּאֵל le-kau; but with ך, בֵּיִלֵּאֵל be-cok, לֵיִלֵּאֵל lauk, etc.

When ץ ends a syllable it is sounded ng; as דַּנְּגִי dang, not dagn.

The dot over ש and ש, is often used for the vowel o (ֹ), i. e. it answers two purposes; as שֹׁשֶׁבֶת (kho-shet) for שֹׁשֶׁר, שֹׁשֶׁר gno-she, שֹׁשֶׁבֶת yo-shab, שֹׁשֶׁבֶת so-na.

* The vowel oo (וּ) is a dot in the letter ו; the vowel o in bone is a dot over a letter, thus: וּ o, בּ o, טּ o; all the other vowels are placed under the letters.

HEBREW ALPHABET.

NAMES OF THE LETTERS AND VOWELS.

1	א	(<i>auleph</i>) not sounded; if it have a vowel, sound the vowel.	
2	ב	<i>baith</i>	VOWELS.
3	ג	<i>gee'mel</i>	Long.
4	ד	<i>dau'leth</i>	τ Kau'mets au in <i>cause</i> .
5	ה	<i>ha</i>	.. Tsa'ree a in <i>ale</i> .
6	ו	<i>vauv</i>	י or ם Kho'lem o in <i>bone</i> .
7	ז	<i>za'yin</i>	י Shoo'rek oo in <i>boot</i> .
8	ח	<i>khaith</i>	י Khee'rek ee in <i>meet</i> .
9	ט	<i>tait</i>	Short.
Finals.	10	י	yode
†	11	כ	<i>kaf</i>
	12	ל	<i>lau'med</i>
ם	13	מ	<i>maim</i>
י	14	נ	<i>noon</i>
	15	ס	<i>sau'mekh</i>
	16	ע	<i>gna'yin</i>
	17	פ	<i>pa</i>
ף	18	צ	<i>fa</i>
ץ	19	ק	<i>tsau'da</i>
	100	ר	<i>kofe</i>
	200	ש	<i>raish</i>
		ת	<i>seen</i>
	300	י	<i>sheen</i>
	400	י	<i>tauv</i>

-	Pat'takh	a in <i>father</i> .
~	Segole	e in <i>met</i> .*
τ	Kau'mets (<i>short</i>)	o in <i>note</i> .
~	Kibboots	u in <i>full</i> .
•	Khee'rek (<i>short</i>)	i in <i>bit</i> .

COMPOSITE SHEVAU.

Very short vowels.

By means of these two dots (:), called *Simple Shevau* (see § 7), three *composite Shevaus* are made; viz.

τ	Shevau Pat'takh,	† a in <i>hat</i> .
~	" Segole	e in <i>met</i> .
τ	" Kau'mets	o in <i>not</i> .

NOTE. Shevau, when sounded, is a very short e: as יב *vena*, or פ'נא. See § 7.

NOTE. Shevau, when sounded, is a very short e; as כֶּנֶס *pena*, or *p'na*. See § 7.

* Segole is sounded like a in *ale*,

1. When it stands in a *simple* (unmixed) syllable; as כֶּנֶס *ka-seph*;

2. Before the quiescents א ב ג ד ה ז ט י כ ל נ ס פ צ ק ר ש ת; as כֶּנֶס *mit-na*, כֶּנֶס, כֶּנֶס, כֶּנֶס;

3. Before a guttural in which there is an *implied Dagesh*; as כֶּנֶס (for כֶּנֶס), כֶּנֶס (for כֶּנֶס). The gutturals and the letter ר (with a very few exceptions) do not receive a Dagesh. See § 4.

† י stands for 500, כ 600, ג 700, ד 800, ה 900, ו 1000, ז 2000, etc. § 57. 5.

‡ or Khau-teph Pattakh, Khau-teph Segole, Khau-teph Kaumets.

§ This mark ([˘] or [˙]) is placed over words in this grammar to show the accented syllable ; words without it (or some other mark), are accented on the last syllable.

