

# Chapter 6

## Vocabulary

an Egyptian (fs): מִצְרַיִת	man; Adam: אָדָם
he dies (√ מ-ו-ת): מָת	lord, master : אֲדוֹן
he lifts up, carries: נָשָׂא	my lord: אֲדוֹנַי
he crosses, passes over: עָבַר	brother: אָח
until; unto, as far as (preposition): עַד	brother of: אָחִי
with (preposition): עִם	behind; after (preposition): אַחֲרָי
stand: עָמַד	daughter: בַּת, בְּנוֹת
eye; fountain: name: עֵינַן	people, nation: גּוֹי, גּוֹיִם
stand; rise (√ ק-ו-ם): קָם	also: גַּם
head: רֹאשׁ, רִאשִׁים	thus, so (adv.): כֹּה
he returns, turns (√ ש-ו-ב): שָׁב	water: מַיִם
he sets, places (√ ש-י-ם): שָׂם	a hundred: מֵאָה
name: שֵׁם, שְׁמוֹת	Egypt: מִצְרַיִם
year (n. f.): שָׁנָה, שָׁנִים	Egyptian (ms): מִצְרַיִ

## Goals for Chapter 6

This chapter continues the introduction of the active participle and several more rules for construct noun chains. This is the last chapter to introduce new forms of the active participle, and the next chapter will turn to the perfect tense (which is often translated in the past). Thus, this chapter will again facilitate the reading of a long Hebrew passage, but the syntax is somewhat artificial as the present tense is used almost exclusively.

Two new topics are introduced in this chapter, both of which are common in BH. First, the use of pronominal suffixes is introduced. Second, the use of the preposition **בין** “between” is introduced. As with the previous chapters, the emphasis is placed on using these new forms in reading large portions of Hebrew.

The following is a list of the essential features that should be learned in this chapter:

1. Middle weak (II-**וּ/וֹ**) verbs for active participles
2. Pronominal Suffixes
3. Rules 2, 4, and 5 for construct noun chains
4. The use of the preposition **בין** “between”

**One: Middle weak (II-**וּ/וֹ**) verbs for active participles:**

*Introduction to concept of verbal roots:*

To this point in the textbook, the student has only encountered a number of verbs with three consonants in the “verbal root.” While some scholars question if it is possible to really assign a root to all Hebrew words, the practice of learning vocabulary (and especially verbs) by referring to three consonants in a verbal root is helpful. For example, the verbal root of the participle **שֹׁמֵר** is **ש-מ-ר**, and the verbal root of the participle **אֹהֵב** is **א-ה-ב**. The use of these verbal roots is a helpful learning tool because there are other related verbs in the derived conjugations and related nouns with the same root. A student can learn verbs and nouns from the same verbal root together and recognize helpful relationships. In light of this situation, this textbook will refer to the concept of verbal roots without addressing the cases where such references are problematic or uncertain.

To this point in the textbook, students have encountered primarily verbs that are “strong”—that is, they do not lose a consonant in the derived conjugations. For example, the following is a list of verbs with roots that do not lose a consonant in a derived conjugation:

consonant “lost”	masc. plural ptc.	masc. sing. ptc.	verbal root
none	שֹׁמְרִים	שֹׁמֵר	ש-מ-ר
none	אֹכְלִים	אֹכֵל	א-כ-ל
none	אֹהָבִים	אֹהֵב	א-ה-ב

### *Review of Third Weak or III-ה verbal roots*

The only verbal roots that the student has encountered to this point that are not strong are the final ה roots. In these roots, the final consonant of the root is a ה, and the consonant is often dropped in the derived conjugations. Thus, the root is labeled as “weak,” and it is called a III-ה root. The following is a sample of III-ה verbs that lose the final consonant in some forms:

consonant “lost”	masc. Plural ptc.	masc. sing. ptc.	verbal root
Final ה	עֹשִׂים	עֹשֶׂה	ע-ש-ה
Final ה	עֹלִים	עֹלֶה	ע-ל-ה
Final ה	רֹאִים	רֹאֶה	ר-א-ה

### *Middle weak verbal roots (II-י/י)*

Another set of verbal roots that “lose” consonants in the derived conjugations are II-י/י roots. In these verbal roots, the second consonant of the root is dropped in all of the active

participle forms. At this stage, a student can only identify the verbal root by memorizing it as new vocabulary is encountered. It will be important to memorize both the participle forms and the verb roots because the verbal root will be important in latter chapters when additional conjugations are encountered. The following are examples of Middle Weak or II-<sup>ו</sup>/1 verbs.

translation	consonant lost	fp	mp	fs	ms	root
comes, goes	ו	בָּאוֹת	בָּאִים	בָּאָה	בָּא	ב-ו-א
dies	ו	מָתוֹת	מָתִים	מָתָה	מָת	מ-ו-ת
rises, gets up	ו	קָמוֹת	קָמִים	קָמָה	קָם	ק-ו-ם
turns; returns	ו	שָׁבוֹת	שָׁבִים	שָׁבָה	שָׁב	ש-ו-ב
sets, put, place	י	שָׂמוֹת	שָׂמִים	שָׂמָה	שָׂם	ש-י-ם

### Type A Pronominal Suffixes:

BH does not typically have independent personal pronouns for pronouns that function as the direct object or for pronouns that follow prepositions. For example, the pronoun אֲנִי (“I”) may be used for the subject, but the pronominal suffix for the 1cs is attached to the definite direct object (אֶתְּ). The same situation holds true for pronouns that follow prepositions—BH uses pronominal suffixes that are attached to the preposition rather than an independent personal pronoun. The following chart summarizes the difference between Hebrew and English in this regard:

Pronoun as direct obj.	Pronoun following prep.	Pronoun as subj.	
me	to me	I	English
אֶתִּי	לִי	אֲנִי	Hebrew

The use of the pronominal suffixes in BH is very frequent and should be memorized as they are very common on both nouns and prepositions. The following chart summarizes the endings for the preposition לְ (“to, towards”) and for the definite direct object (אֹתְ). These endings are called Type A ending for convenience (see CD for a recording of these endings):

Plural	Singular	Plural	Singular
us אֹתֵנוּ	me אֹתִי	to us לָנוּ	to me לִי
you אֹתְכֶם	you אֹתְךָ	to you לָכֶם	to you לְךָ
you אֹתְכֶן	you אֹתְךָ	to you לָכֶן	to you לְךָ
them אֹתָם/אֹתֵהֶם	him אֹתּוֹ	to them לָהֶם	to him לוֹ
them אֹתָן/אֹתֵהֶן	her אֹתָּהּ	to them לָהֶן	to her לָּהּ

#### Rules for Construct chains that we will focus on this chapter:

2. Feminine nouns that end in *qāmeṣ hē* (הַ): the *qāmeṣ* reduces to a *pataḥ* (ְ → \_)

Rule used	Construct form	Absolute form
2	מִלְכַת	מִלְכָה
2	תְּפִלַּת	תְּפִלָּה

4. A *qāmeṣ* (ְ) in a final syllable is reduced to a *pataḥ* ( \_).

Rule used	Construct form	Absolute form
4	הַיְכָל	הַיְכֹל
3 and 4	דְּבַר	דְּבָר

5. The Rule of Shewa comes into play if the above reductions result in two successive *šewās* ( , ).

Rule used	Construct form	Absolute form
1, 3, 5	דְּבָרֵי	דְּבָרִים
3 and 5	זְבָאוֹת	זְבָאוֹת

### The use of the preposition בֵּין “between”

Whereas English only uses the preposition “between” once for the phrase “between A and B,” BH generally repeats the preposition before each noun. For example, BH has the equivalent of “between a man and between a woman” (בֵּין אִישׁ וּבֵין אִשָּׁה). In a very small number of instances the repeated preposition is omitted. In one case a *lamed* preposition replaces the coordinating conjunction *waw* (בֵּין אִישׁ לְבֵין אִשָּׁה). This latter usage becomes common in later, post-biblical Hebrew. The student should assume that the preposition is repeated unless the textbook explains otherwise. The following examples summarize this point:

between light and dark	בֵּין הָאוֹר וּבֵין הַחֹשֶׁךְ
between me and you and every living creature	בֵּינִי וּבֵינֵיכֶם וּבֵין כָּל־נֶפֶשׁ חַיָּה
between my people and your people	בֵּין עַמִּי וּבֵין עַמְּךָ
between Bethel and Ai	בֵּין בֵּית־אֵל וּבֵין הָעִי

Exercises:

## Translation exercise:

1. אַבְרָהָם וְשָׂרָה אֶהְיֶים אֶת־יְהוָה אֲדֹנָי<sup>2</sup> הָאֲדָמָה הָאֵל הַגָּדֹל וְעַבְדֵי הַמָּה<sup>1</sup> אֹתוֹ :
2. לִפְנֵי אַבְרָהָם וְשָׂרָה יֹשְׁבִים בְּאֶרֶץ־כְּנָעַן הַמָּה יֹשְׁבִים בְּחָרָן<sup>3</sup> עִם תְּרַח<sup>4</sup> אָבִי אַבְרָהָם :
3. וַיֹּשְׁבִים אַבְרָהָם וְשָׂרָה וְלוֹט בְּנ־אָחִי אַבְרָהָם בְּבֵית תְּרַח<sup>4</sup> אָבִי אַבְרָהָם: וַיֵּצְאוּ מִחָרָן<sup>3</sup>
4. אַבְרָהָם וְשָׂרָה וְלוֹט בְּנ־אָחִי אַבְרָהָם לִפְנֵי מֹת תְּרַח וְהַלְכִים הַמָּה אֶל־אֶרֶץ כְּנָעַן
5. אֲשֶׁר יְהוָה אֱלֹהֵי אַבְרָהָם נָתַן לָהֶם: אַבְרָהָם וְשָׂרָה יֹשְׁבִים בְּאֶרֶץ־כְּנָעַן וְלוֹט בְּנ־אָחִי
6. אַבְרָהָם יָשָׁב בְּעֵרֵי הַכְּפָר<sup>6</sup> עִם בְּנוֹת לֹט: וַיָּמָת תְּרַח<sup>5</sup> אָבִי אַבְרָהָם אַחַר הַדְּבָרִים
7. הָאֵלֶּה וַיְהִי־רִיב<sup>7</sup> בֵּין אֲנָשֵׁי אַבְרָהָם וּבֵין אֲנָשֵׁי לֹט כִּי הָאֶרֶץ לֹא נִשְׂא בֵּית אַבְרָהָם
8. וּבֵית לֹט וְכֹה אַבְרָהָם קָרָא אֶל־לֹט וְאָמַר לוֹ לֵאמֹר<sup>8</sup> יְהוָה אֱלֹהֵי הַשָּׁמַיִם אֲשֶׁר
9. הוּא נָתַן אֶת־הָאֶרֶץ הַזֹּאת לִי וּלְבָנָי<sup>10</sup> וְהוּא רֹאשׁ בֵּיתִי<sup>9</sup> וְהוּא־עַמֹּד עַל־בֵּיתִי כָּל־הַיּוֹם
10. עַל־כֵּן אֶתָּה יָשָׁב בְּאֶרֶץ טוֹב מֵאֶרֶץ כְּנָעַן וְעַבְדָּה אֶת־מִי תִמְרָדָן וַיֵּשֶׁב אֶתָּה שָׁם:
11. וְאָנֹכִי יָשָׁב בְּאֶרֶץ הַזֹּאת: וַיְהִי<sup>11</sup> אַחַר הַדְּבָרִים הָאֵלֶּה קָם אַבְרָהָם וַיָּשָׁב אֶל־הַמְּקוֹם
12. אֲשֶׁר הוּא שָׁם אֲבָנִים<sup>12</sup> גְּדִלוֹת אֶל־מְקוֹם אֶחָד וְכֹה עָשָׂה הוּא שָׁם מִזְבֵּחַ לַיהוָה וּקְרָא
13. בְּשֵׁם יְהוָה

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<sup>1</sup> They

<sup>2</sup> The word אֲדֹנָי is often found in the plural when it refers to a master or king.

<sup>3</sup> Haran = חָרָן

<sup>4</sup> Terah = תְּרַח

<sup>5</sup> Terah died = וַיָּמָת תְּרַח

<sup>6</sup> The plain = הַכְּפָר

<sup>7</sup> And there was strife = וַיְהִי־רִיב

<sup>8</sup> “saying” (this marks a quote) = לֵאמֹר

<sup>9</sup> my house = בֵּיתִי

<sup>10</sup> And to my children = וּלְבָנָי

<sup>11</sup> And it was = וַיְהִי

<sup>12</sup> stones = אֲבָנִים

