

Chapter 5a – Article and Conjunction

Introduction

1. The Definite Article

Basic Form

· הַ

Translation

“the”

2. The Conjunction Waw

Basic Form

וַ

Translation

“and”



Chapter 5b – Article and Conjunction

Basic Form of the Definite Article

In Hebrew, a noun is made definite by *prefixing* the definite article, which consists of הַ plus a **Daghesh Forte** in the first consonant of the noun.

מֶלֶךְ + הַ = הַמֶּלֶךְ

Definite Article

הַמֶּלֶךְ



Chapter 5c – Article and Conjunction

The Definite Article with *Begadkephat* Consonants

When adding the definite article to words with an initial *begadkephat* consonant, the Daghesh Lene is replaced by a Daghesh Forte.

Indefinite Noun

Definite Noun

בַּיִת a house ➤ הַבַּיִת the house

דֶּרֶךְ a road ➤ הַדֶּרֶךְ the road

גִּבּוֹר a warrior ➤ הַגִּבּוֹר the warrior



Chapter 5d – Article and Conjunction

The Definite Article with Guttural Consonants

Compensatory Lengthening

With initial א, ר and ע, the guttural rejects the Daghesh Forte and the Pathach of the article lengthens to Qamets.

אִישׁ a man > הָאִישׁ the man

Virtual Doubling

With initial ה or ח, the guttural rejects the Daghesh Forte of the article but the Pathach does not lengthen to Qamets.

הַיְכָל a palace > הַהֵיכָל the palace

Irregular Seghol

Before unaccented ע, ה or ח (ח may also be accented), the definite article appears with the Seghol vowel and without the Daghesh Forte.

חָכָם a wise man > הַחָכָם the wise man



Chapter 5e – Article and Conjunction

The Definite Article with Initial ךְ and ךּ

Words that begin with ךְ or ךּ usually give up the Daghesh Forte that is associated with the definite article.

יְלָדִים boys ➤ הַיְלָדִים the boys

מְרַגְלִים spies ➤ הַמְרַגְלִים the spies



Chapter 5f – Article and Conjunction

The Definite Article: Summary of Possible Forms

<i>Basic Form</i>	הַ	הַמֶּלֶךְ
<i>Begadkephat</i>	הֶ	הַבַּיִת
<i>Gutturals</i> א/ע/ר	הֵ	הַאִישׁ
<i>Gutturals</i> ה/ח	הִ	הַיְיָכֹל
<i>Gutturals</i> ע/ק/ך	הֶ	הַעֲנוּ
<i>Initial</i> י or מ	הֵ	הַיְלָדִים



Chapter 5g – Article and Conjunction

The Conjunction Waw: Basic Form

Before most consonants,
the conjunction will appear as ׀

וְעֶבֶד ׀ and a servant

וְאִשָּׁה ׀ and a woman

וְהָאִשָּׁה ׀ and the woman

וְאִישׁ ׀ and a man

וְהָאִישׁ ׀ and the man



Chapter 5h – Article and Conjunction

The Conjunction Waw: Spelled As Shureq

Before **ב**, **מ** or **פ** (the “bump” consonants) the conjunction is spelled as **Shureq**.

וּ + מֶלֶךְ > וּמֶלֶךְ *and a king*

וּ + פַּרְעֹה > וּפַרְעֹה *and Pharaoh*

Before **Vocal Shewa** the conjunction is spelled as **Shureq**.

וּ + סְפָרִים > וּסְפָרִים *and books*

וּ + שְׁמוּאֵל > וּשְׁמוּאֵל *and Samuel*



Chapter 5i – Article and Conjunction

The Conjunction Waw: Spelled with Short Vowels

Before **Hateph** vowels the conjunction is spelled with the **corresponding short vowel** (Rule of Shewa #2).

וְאֲנָשִׁים + וְ > וְאֲנָשִׁים *and men*

וְאֵמֶת + וְ > וְאֵמֶת *and truth*



Chapter 5j – Article and Conjunction

The Conjunction Waw: Spelled with Qamets

Before some **monosyllabic** words or words with **initial accent** the conjunction may be spelled with **Qamets**.

צֶאֱן + ׀ > וְצֶאֱן *and sheep*

לֶחֶם + ׀ > וְלֶחֶם *and bread*



Chapter 5k – Article and Conjunction

The Conjunction Waw: Summary of Spellings

<i>Basic Form</i>	וְ	וְהָאִישׁ
<i>Before פ/מ/ב</i>	וּ	וּמְלֹךְ
<i>Before Vocal Shewa</i>	וּ	וּסְפָרִים
<i>Before Hateph Vowels</i>	וּ/וֹ/וּ	וּאֲנָשִׁים
<i>Before Monosyllables/ Initial Accent</i>	וּ	וּצֵאן

