

# Chapter 22a – Qal Participle

## Introduction

The Hebrew participle is a *verbal adjective* and, as such, shares features in common with both verbs and adjectives.

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As a *verb*, the Participle has stem (Qal) and voice (active or passive) and expresses some type of verbal action such as “running” or “studying.”

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As an *adjective*, the Participle has gender (masculine or feminine) and number (singular or plural) and is used like an adjective: attributively (“the *sleeping* student”), predicatively (“the student is *sleeping*”) and substantively (“*studying* requires discipline”).

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When translating the Hebrew Participle, begin by using the “-ing” form of the verb as in “studying” and “learning.”



# Chapter 22b – Qal Participle

## Strong Verb Paradigm for the Qal Active Participle

The active Participle inflects like an adjective, with both gender and number. It is not inflected for person. The inflectional endings of the Participle are highlighted in red.

	<i>Singular</i>	<i>Plural</i>
<i>Masculine</i>	קַטֵּל	קַטְלִים
<i>Feminine</i>	קַטְלֹת	קַטְלוֹת
<i>Feminine</i>	קַטְלָה	



# Chapter 22c – Qal Participle

## Diagnostics for the Qal Active Participle

The Holem in the first syllable of all forms is diagnostic of the Qal active Participle. The Holem-Tsere vowel pattern is distinctive of the masculine singular Qal active Participle.



The diagnostic Holem vowel may also be written with Holem Waw.



# Chapter 22d – Qal Participle

## Active Participle Weak Verbs: Part 1

	I-Guttural		I-נ	
	<i>Singular</i>	<i>Plural</i>	<i>Singular</i>	<i>Plural</i>
<i>Masc</i>	עֹמֵד	עֹמְדִים	נֹפֵל	נֹפְלִים
<i>Fem</i>	עֹמֶדֶת	עֹמְדוֹת	נֹפֶלֶת	נֹפְלוֹת
<i>Fem</i>	עֹמְדָה		נֹפְלָה	

	I-י		Geminate	
	<i>Singular</i>	<i>Plural</i>	<i>Singular</i>	<i>Plural</i>
<i>Masc</i>	יֹשֵׁב	יֹשְׁבִים	סֹבֵב	סֹבְבִים
<i>Fem</i>	יֹשֶׁבֶת	יֹשְׁבוֹת	סֹבֶבֶת	סֹבְבוֹת
<i>Fem</i>	יֹשְׁבָה		סֹבְבָה	



# Chapter 22e – Qal Participle

## Active Participle Weak Verbs: Part 2

### II-Guttural

### III-ח/ע

	<i>Singular</i>	<i>Plural</i>	<i>Singular</i>	<i>Plural</i>
<i>Masc</i>	בַּחֵר	בַּחֲרִים	שֹׁמֵעַ	שֹׁמְעִים
<i>Fem</i>	בַּחֲרָת	בַּחֲרוֹת	שֹׁמַעַת	שֹׁמְעוֹת
<i>Fem</i>	בַּחֲרָה		שֹׁמְעָה	

### III-א

	<i>Singular</i>	<i>Plural</i>
<i>Masc</i>	מִצֵּא	מִצְאִים
<i>Fem</i>	מִצְאָת	מִצְאוֹת
<i>Fem</i>	מִצְאָה	



# Chapter 22f – Qal Participle

## Active Participle Weak Verbs: Part 3

	III-ה		Biconsonantal	
	<i>Singular</i>	<i>Plural</i>	<i>Singular</i>	<i>Plural</i>
<i>Masc</i>	בִּנֶה	בְּנִים	קִם	קִמִּים
<i>Fem</i>	בִּנְה	בְּנוֹת	קִמָּה	קִמּוֹת
<i>Fem</i>	בִּנְיָה			



# Chapter 22g – Qal Participle

## Uses of the Qal Active Participle: (1) Attributive

In the *attributive usage*, the Participle directly modifies a noun. The modifying Participle will follow the noun it modifies and agree in gender, number and definiteness with that noun.

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הָעַם הַיֹּשֵׁב בְּאֶרֶץ

the people *who dwell* (who are dwelling) in the land  
(Num 13:28)

יְהוָה אֱלֹהֶיךָ אֵשׁ אֹכֶלֶת

Yahweh your God is a *consuming* fire  
(Deut 4:24).



# Chapter 22h – Qal Participle

## Uses of the Qal Active Participle: (2) Predicative

In the *predicative usage*, the Participle asserts something about the noun (with a form of the verb “to be” in English). The modifying Participle will agree with the noun in gender and number *but not definiteness*. With regard to word order, the Participle may either precede or follow the noun it modifies.

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הָהָרַ בַּעֵר בְּאֵשׁ

The mountain *was burning* with fire.  
(Deut 4:11)

וַיִּשְׁמוֹאֵל שָׁכַב בְּהֵיכַל

And Samuel *was lying down* in (the) temple.  
(1 Sam 3:3)





# Chapter 22i – Qal Participle

## Uses of the Qal Active Participle: (3) Substantive

In the *substantive usage*, the Participle is used independently as a noun, indicating the “one who” performs a certain action. It may function as the subject or object of a verb; take a definite article; appear in a construct chain; or take pronominal suffixes and prepositional prefixes.

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וְלֹא יִישָׁן שׁוֹמֵר יִשְׂרָאֵל

(and) *the one who keeps* Israel will not sleep  
(Ps 121:4)



# Chapter 22j – Qal Participle

## Strong Verb Paradigm for the Qal Passive Participle

The passive Participle inflects like an adjective, with both gender and number. It is not inflected for person.

The inflectional endings of the Participle are highlighted in red.

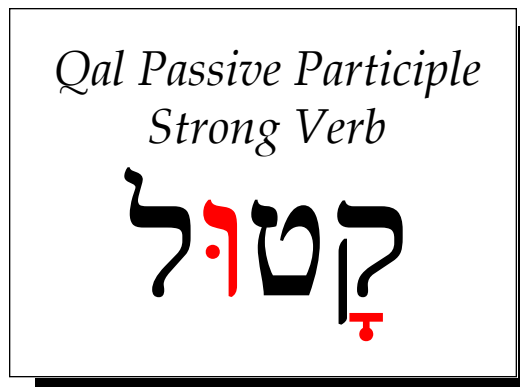
	<i>Singular</i>	<i>Plural</i>
<i>Masculine</i>	קָטוּל	קָטוּלִים
<i>Feminine</i>	קָטוּלָה	קָטוּלוֹת



# Chapter 22k – Qal Participle

## Diagnostics for the Qal Passive Participle

The diagnostic feature of the Qal passive Participle is the Qamets-Shureq vowel pattern.



The diagnostic Shureq stem vowel may be written defectively with Qibbuts.



# Chapter 22I – Qal Participle

## Passive Participle Weak Verbs

In the following ms weak verb passive participles,  
the strong verb vowel pattern is  
preserved in every form.

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עֲזֹב abandoned

פִּתּוּחַ opened

שֹׂנֵא hated

יָדוּעַ known

שֹׂאֵל asked

נִטְוֵעַ planted

שֹׁחֵט slaughtered

אָרוּר cursed

אֲכֹל eaten

יַעֲוֵץ advised



# Chapter 22m – Qal Participle

## Passive Participle Weak Verbs: III-ה

The form of the III-ה passive Participle is quite unusual at first glance. In every form, the consonant ך stands in the place of the third root consonant. This is reminiscent of the fact that III-ה verbs were originally III-י. You should think of this ך as indicative of the III-ה class of weak verbs. Knowing this will help you to reconstruct the lexical form of the verb.

### III-ה

	<i>Singular</i>	<i>Plural</i>
<i>Masculine</i>	בְּנוּיִ	בְּנוּיִים
<i>Feminine</i>	בְּנוּיָהּ	בְּנוּיֹת



# Chapter 22n – Qal Participle

## Three Uses of the Qal Passive Participle

### Attributive Usage

The passive Participle follows the noun it modifies and agrees in gender, number and definiteness.

הַבְּרִית הַכְּתוּבָה בְּסֵפֶר הַתּוֹרָה הַזֶּה

the covenant *written* in this book of the law (Deut 29:20)

### Predicative Usage

The passive Participle either precedes or follows the noun it modifies and agrees in gender and number but not definiteness.

בָּרוּךְ יְהוָה לְעוֹלָם

*Blessed* is Yahweh forever (Ps 89:53).

### Substantive Usage

The passive Participle can be used independently as a noun, indicating the “one who” performs a certain action.

וַתִּחַת הַרְוּגִים יִפְּלוּ

And they will fall among *the slain ones* (Isa 10:4).



# Chapter 22o – Qal Participle

## Parsing

Like a verb, the Participle has stem and voice. Like an adjective, it is inflected for gender and number. When parsing you will be required to identify stem, conjugation (with voice), gender, number and lexical form.

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יֹשֵׁב	Qal active Participle ms	יֹשֵׁב
בָּרוּךְ	Qal passive Participle ms	בָּרוּךְ



# Chapter 22p – Qal Participle

## Participles with Prefixes and Suffixes

Because Participles behave like nouns, they may take the definite article, prepositional prefixes or pronominal suffixes. They may also be found in the construct state.

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הַהֹלֵךְ בַּשָּׂדֶה

*the one who walks in the field*

(Participle ms prefixed with the definite article)

לְשֹׁמְרֵי בְרִיתוֹ

*to those who keep his covenant*

(Participle mp with preposition לְ  
in the construct state)

אֲנִי יְהוָה רֹפֵאֶךָ

*I am Yahweh who heals you*

(Participle ms with 2ms pronominal suffix)

