

FAQs – Chapter 5

How do I pronounce and syllabify words beginning with conjunction וּ written as ו?

There are two circumstances in which the conjunction וּ becomes ו at the beginning of a word:

- ① Words beginning with a labial (בּ, מּ and פּ)
- ② Words beginning with a consonant + Vocal Shewa

When the conjunction becomes ו at the beginning of a word, the Waw is no longer a consonant, but a *vowel letter* (2.10).

The word will begin with the unchangeable long *u* of Shureq, which is always a syllable by itself.