ב"ה

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Shemot 1:1 – 2:10

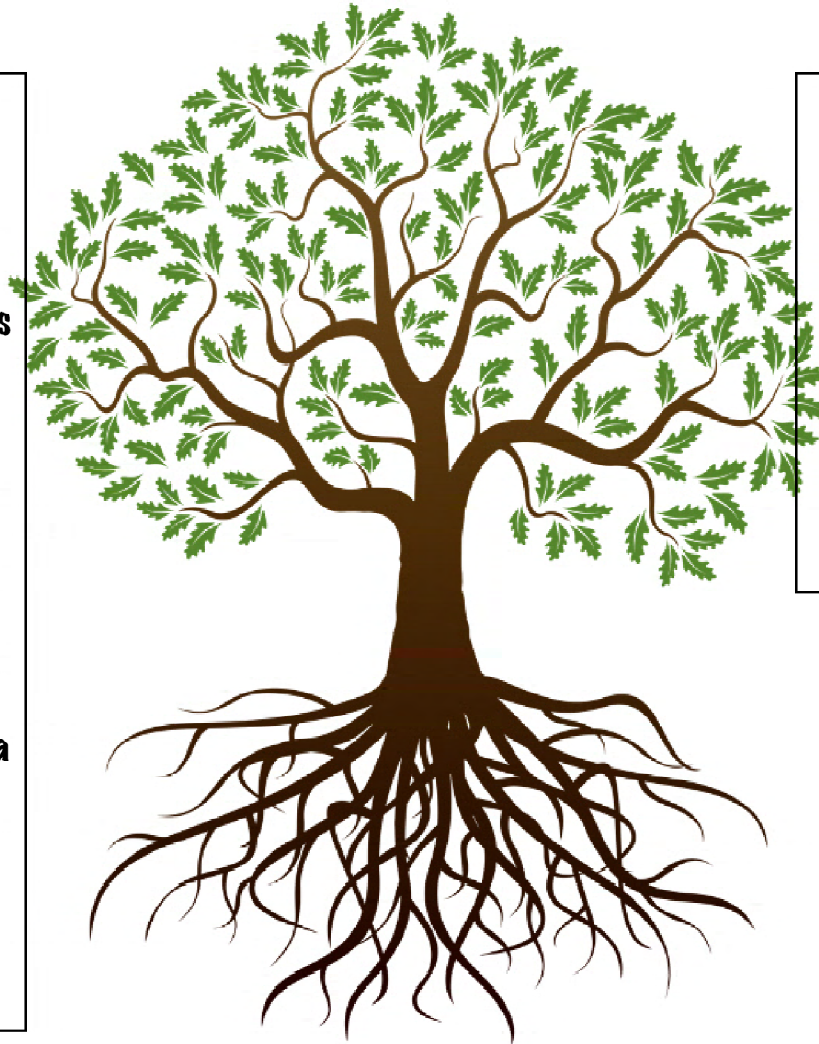## Biblical Hebrew Translation, Grammar and Meaning Workbook

4th Grade

Name: _____

Science of Reading Tanakh: Rules and Design Principles Key

Rule	Example	
Pronominal suffixes are red	your fellow	רֵעֶ֫ךָ
Verbal object suffixes are blue	he buried him	וַיִּטְמְנֵ֫הוּ
Prepositions, definite articles, and conjunctive vavs are green	in the sand	בַּחוֹל
Proper nouns are indicated in a bolded outline		מֹשֶׁה
Verbs will always appear in their own box with the verb's shoresh to its left in parentheses		וַיֵּרָא (ר–א–ה)
All English translation will appear in "cookie monster" style	They drove them away	וַיְגָרְשׁ֫וּם
The word "et" is always translated as "et"		אֶת־הַדָּבָר Et-

ב"ה

Shemot 1:1-7: From Family to Nation

Shorashim (roots)

Just like all trees have roots that make them grow big and tall, verbs in Biblical Hebrew are built from roots as well, called shorashim! Most Biblical Hebrew verbs have three shoresh letters. But just like you don't always see the roots of a tree, you don't always see all the letters of a shoresh!

Our Text Shorashim

To come - ב–ו–א

To be - ה–י–ה

To die - מ–ו–ת

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Exercise 1: Let's Match a Shoresh with a Picture!

This is a chance to get creative. How might a shoresh fit each picture? There is no right answer! Only good explanations.

Our Text Shorashim

To come- ב–ו–א

To be - ה–י–ה

To die - מ–ו–ת

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Exercise 2: Let's Match the Shoresh with the Definition!

To die	ב–ו–א
To come	ה–י–ה
To be	מ–ו–ת

Exercise 3: Let's Find the Shoresh and Write it Out! Bonus: Write the Definition of the Shoresh

Word	Shoresh	Shoresh Definiton
בָּאוּ	(ב–ו–א)	To Come
וַיְהִי		
וַיָּמָת		

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Let's Review Verb Conjugations in Hebrew!

In English, we speak about the past and future in different ways. For the past, we say "I ran", and for the future we say, "I will run". Biblical Hebrew is different! Biblical Hebrew adds different letters to the beginning or ending of the shoresh (root) to make it past or future. The table below shows that!

Subject	Perfect (Past)	Imperfect (Future)
I	שמרתִי	אשמר
You (singular male)	שמרתָ	תשמר
You (singular female)	שמרתְ	תשמרי
He	שמר	ישמר
She	שמרה	תשמר
We	שמרנו	נשמר
You (plural male)	שמרתם	תשמרו
You (plural female)	שמרתן	תשמרנה
They (male)	שמרו	ישמרו
They (female)	שמרו	תשמרנה

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Exercise 4: Let's Circle the Right English Definition!

Remember, you can look at the chart on the page before if you need help!

	Circle the correct definition		
בָּאוּ	They came	He will come	I came
וַיָּמָת	We died	They died	He died
הָיָה	It was	They were	She will be

Exercise 5: Let's Circle the Right Hebrew Word!

Remember, you can look at the chart on the previous page if you need help!

	Circle the right word	
She died	וַתָּמָת	וַיָּמָת
He came	וַיָּבֹאוּ	וַיָּבֹא
We were	הָיִינוּ	וַיְהִיוּ

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Let's Translate Verses 1:1-7 from Parashat Shemot!

Fill in the remaining boxes with the translation of the word into English. Specific parts of words are outlined and in different colors to point them out to you. And remember, you can look at all the pages above if you get stuck!

א: וְאֵ֗לֶּה שְׁמוֹת֙ בְּנֵ֣י יִשְׂרָאֵ֔ל הַבָּאִ֖ים מִצְרָ֑יְמָה – אֵ֖ת יַעֲקֹ֑ב אִ֣ישׁ וּבֵית֖וֹ בָּֽאוּ:

וְאֵ֗לֶּה	שְׁמוֹת֙	בְּנֵ֣י יִשְׂרָאֵ֔ל	הַבָּאִ֖ים	מִצְרָ֑יְמָה
And these	names	Bnei Yisrael		to Egypt

אֵ֖ת יַעֲקֹ֑ב	אִ֣ישׁ	וּבֵית֖וֹ	בָּ֖אוּ (ב–ו–א)
with - Jacob	man	and his house	

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ב: רְאוּבֵן שִׁמְעוֹן לֵוִי וִיהוּדָֽה׃

וִיהוּדָֽה	לֵוִי	שִׁמְעוֹן	רְאוּבֵן
and Yehudah	Levi	Shimon	Reuven

ג: יִשָּׂשכָר זְבוּלֻן וּבְנְיָמִֽן׃

וּבְנְיָמִֽן	זְבוּלֻן	יִשָּׂשכָר
and Binyamin	Zevulun	Yisachar

ד: דָּן וְנַפְתָּלִי גָּד וְאָשֵֽׁר׃

וְאָשֵֽׁר	גָּד	וְנַפְתָּלִי	דָּן
and Asher	Gad	and Naftalie	Dan

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ה: וַיְהִ֗י כָּל־נֶ֙פֶשׁ֙ יֹצְאֵ֣י יֶֽרֶךְ־יַעֲקֹ֔ב שִׁבְעִ֖ים נָ֑פֶשׁ – וְיוֹסֵ֖ף הָיָ֥ה בְמִצְרָֽיִם:

וְיֹהִ֗י (ה–י–ה)	כָּל	נֶ֙פֶשׁ	יֹצְאֵ֣י יֶֽרֶךְ	יַעֲקֹ֔ב	שִׁבְעִ֖ים	נָ֑פֶשׁ
	all	soul	exiting from the thighs [of]		seventy	souls

וְיוֹסֵ֖ף	הָיָ֥ה (ה–י–ה)	בְמִצְרָֽיִם
and		in Egypt

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ו: וַיָּמָת יוֹסֵף וְכָל־אֶחָיו וְכֹל הַדּוֹר הַהוּא:

וַיָּמָת (מ–ו–ת)	יוֹסֵף	וְכָל	אֶחָיו	וְכֹל	הַדּוֹר הַהוּא
		and all	his brothers		the generation the him

ז: וּבְנֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל – פָּרוּ וַיִּשְׁרְצוּ וַיִּרְבּוּ

וּבְנֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל
and

וַיִּרְבּוּ (ר–ב–ה)	וַיִּשְׁרְצוּ (ש–ר–צ)	פָּרוּ (פ–ר–ה)
they increased and multiplied	they swarmed	they were fruitful

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– וַיַּעַצְמוּ בִּמְאֹד מְאֹד – וַתִּמָּלֵא הָאָרֶץ אֹתָם:

מְאֹד	בִּמְאֹד	וַיַּעַצְמוּ (ע–צ–מ)
		They increased

אֹתָם	הָאָרֶץ	וַתִּמָּלֵא (מ–ל–א)
with them		was filled

Shemot 1:8-14: What did Pharaoh do to Bnei Yisrael

Shorashim (roots)

Just like all trees have roots that make them grow big and tall, verbs in Biblical Hebrew are built from roots as well, called shorashim! Most Biblical Hebrew verbs have three shoresh letters. But just like you don't always see the roots of a tree, you don't always see all the letters of a shoresh!
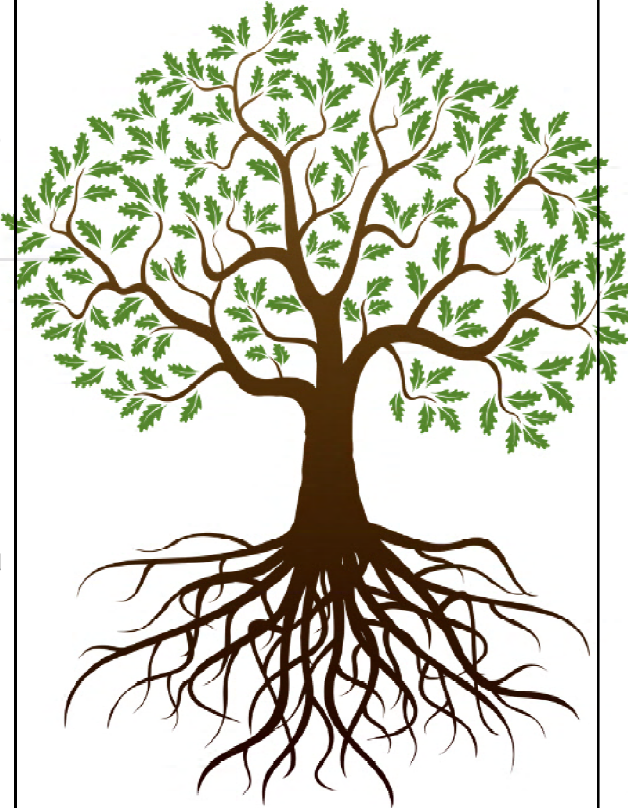
Our Text Shorashim

To know - י–ד–ע

To increase and multiply - ר–ב–ה

To call out - ק–ר–א

To rise up - ע–ל–ה

To build - ב–נ–ה

To enslave - ע–ב–ד

To become smart - ח–כ–מ

To put/place - שׂ–י–מ

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Exercise 1: Let's Match a Shoresh with a Picture!

This is a chance to get creative. How might a shoresh fit each picture? There is no right answer! Only good explanations.

Our Text Shorashim

To know - ע–ד–י

To increase and multiply - ר–ב–ה

To call out - ק–ר–א

To rise up - ע–ל–ה

To build - ב–נ–ה

To enslave - ע–ב–ד

To become smart - ח–כ–מ

To put/place - ש–י–מ

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Exercise 2: Let's Match the Shoresh with the Definition!

English	Shoresh
To build	ע–ד–י
To enslave	מ–כ–ח
To rise up	ה–ב–ר
To know	א–ר–ק
To become smart	ה–ל–ע
To increase and multiply	ה–נ–ב
To call out	מ–י–שׂ
To put/place	ד–ב–ע

(Matching lines drawn: "To build" connected to ה–נ–ב; "To know" connected to ע–ד–י)

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Exercise 3: Let's Find the Shoresh and Write it Out! Bonus: Write the Definition of the Shoresh.

Word	Shoresh	Shoresh Definiton
יָדַע	(י–ד–ע)	To know
[וַיֹּאמֶר] Review Word		
יִרְבֶּה		
תִקְרֶאנָה		
וְהָיָה		
וְעָלָה		
וַיְשִׂימוּ		
וַיִּבֶן		

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Let's Review Suffixes – כִּינּוּנִים in Biblical Hebrew!

If a ball belongs to you- we add that onto the word "ball" so it's not "this ball belongs to you" but "BALL-YOUR", then if you give that ball to a group of girls at the park it becomes "BALL-THEIRS"

Grammar Review Suffixes/ כִּינּוּנִים	
me/my	ִי
you/your (singular male)	ךָ
you/your (singular female)	ֵךְ
him/his	וֹ
her/hers	הָ
us/ours	נוּ
you/your (plural male)	כֶם
you/your (plural female)	כֶן
them, theirs (male)	הֶם/ָם
them, theirs (female)	הֶן/ָן

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Exercise 4: Let's Circle the Suffix and Write the Translation of the Suffix!

Remember, you can look at the table on the page before if you need help!

Circle the Suffix–כִּנּוּיִים	Translation of the Suffix–כִּנּוּיִים
עֲנֹתוֹ	His (oppression)
בְּסִבְלֹתָם	
חַיֵּיהֶם	
עֲבֹדָתָם	
שֹׂנְאֵינוּ	

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More on Suffixes—כִּנוּנִים in Biblical Hebrew!

Did you know that prepositions can take suffixes–כִּנוּנִים too! They look the exact same as the suffixes a noun takes, but their meaning is VERY different. Remember, in Biblical Hebrew if a ball belongs to you- we add that onto the word "ball" so it's not "this ball belongs to you" but "BALL-YOUR". When someone is walking to you we add the same suffix to לֹ so it becomes "TO-YOU–לְךָ"

Exercise 5: Let's Circle the Correct Definition!
Remember, you can look at the chart above!

Preposition with Suffix	Definition		
בָּהֶם	In Them	In Her	In You
עָלֵינוּ	On Them	On Those Girls	On Us
עָלָיו	On Her	On Him	On You
בָּנוּ	In Us	In You Guys	In You Women
לִי	To Us	To Her	To Him
בּוֹ	In Us	In You Guys	In Him
לָהֶן	To Them Women	To Us	To Him

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Let's Translate Verse 1:8 from Parashat Shemot!

Fill in the remaining boxes with the translation of the word into English. Specific parts of words are outlined and in different colors to point them out to you. And remember, you can look at all the pages above if you get stuck!

ח. וַיָּקָם מֶלֶךְ־חָדָשׁ עַל־מִצְרָיִם – אֲשֶׁר לֹא־יָדַע אֶת־יוֹסֵף:

מִצְרָיִם	עַל	חָדָשׁ	מֶלֶךְ	וַיָּקָם (ק–ו–מ)
	on			He arose

אֶת־יוֹסֵף	יָדַע (י–ד–ע)	אֲשֶׁר לֹא־
"et" - _____		that [did] not

Let's Translate Verse 1:9 from Parashat Shemot!

ט. וַיֹּאמֶר אֶל־עַמּוֹ: – "הִנֵּה עַם בְּנֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל רַב וְעָצוּם מִמֶּנּוּ:

עַמּוֹ	אֶל	וַיֹּאמֶר (א–מ–ר)
	to	

מִמֶּנּוּ	רַב וְעָצוּם	עַם בְּנֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל	הִנֵּה
from us	bigger and greater	nation	here

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Let's Translate Verse 1:10 from Parashat Shemot!

י. הָבָה נִתְחַכְּמָה לֹו – פֶּן־יִרְבֶּה־וְהָיָ֗ה כִּי־תִקְרֶאנָה מִלְחָמָה־

לֹו	נִתְחַכְּמָה (ח–כ–מ)	הָבָה
to him		Let us

יִרְבֶּה (ר–ב–ה)	פֶּן
	or else

מִלְחָמָה	תִקְרֶאנָה (ק–ר–א)	כִּי	וְהָיָ֗ה (ה–י–ה)
war			

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Let's Continue to Translate Verse 1:10 from Parashat Shemot!

וְנוֹסַף גַּם־הוּא עַל־שֹׂנְאֵ֫ינוּ – וְנִלְחַם־בָּנוּ וְעָלָה מִן־הָאָֽרֶץ":

שֹׂנְאֵ֫ינוּ (ש–נ–א)	עַל	הוּא	גַּם	וְנוֹסַף (י–ס–פ)
those who hate **us**	**on**			he will add himself

הָאָֽרֶץ	מִן	וְעָלָה (ע–ל–ה)	בָּנוּ	וְנִלְחַם (ל–ח–ם)
the	*from*		*with* **us**	he will make war

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Let's Translate Verse 1:11 from Parashat Shemot!

יא. וַיָּשִׂימוּ עָלָיו֙ שָׂרֵי מִסִּים – לְמַעַן עַנֹּתוֹ בְּסִבְלֹתָם

וַיָּשִׂימוּ (ש–י–ם)	עָלָיו֙	שָׂרֵי מִסִּים
	on him	taskmasters

לְמַעַן	עַנֹּתוֹ	בְּסִבְלֹתָם
in order	to oppress it (male)	in their forced labor

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Let's Continue to Translate Verse 1:11 from Parashat Shemot!

וַיִּבֶן עָרֵי מִסְכְּנוֹת לְפַרְעֹה – אֶת־פִּתֹם וְאֶת־רַעַמְסֵס:

לְפַרְעֹה	עָרֵי מִסְכְּנוֹת	וַיִּבֶן (ב–נ–ה)
to	storage cities	

וְאֶת־רַעַמְסֵס	אֶת־פִּתֹם
and *"et"* – Ramsees	*"et"* – Pithom

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Let's Translate Verse 1:12 from Parashat Shemot!

יב. וְכַאֲשֶׁר יְעַנּוּ אֹתוֹ כֵּן יִרְבֶּה וְכֵן יִפְרֹץ – וַיָּקֻצוּ מִפְּנֵי בְּנֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל:

וַיִּפְרֹץ (פ–ר–צ)	וְכֵן	יִרְבֶּה (ר–ב–ה)	כֵּן	אֹתוֹ	יְעַנּוּ (ע–נ–ה)	וְכַאֲשֶׁר
it spread out	and continued		continued	"et" –	they opressed	and when

בְּנֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל	מִפְּנֵי	וַיָּקֻצוּ (ק–ו–צ)
	from before	they were afraid

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Let's Translate Verse 1:13 from Parashat Shemot!

יג. וַיַּעֲבִדוּ מִצְרַיִם אֶת־בְּנֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל בְּפָרֶךְ:

וַיַּעֲבִדוּ (ע–ב–ד)	מִצְרַיִם	אֶת־בְּנֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל	בְּפָרֶךְ
		"et" –	with hard labor

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Let's Translate Verse 1:14 from Parashat Shemot!

יד. וַיְמָרֲר֨וּ אֶת־חַיֵּיהֶם֙ בַּעֲבֹדָ֣ה קָשָׁ֔ה – בְּחֹ֙מֶר֙ וּבִלְבֵנִ֔ים וּבְכָל־עֲבֹדָ֣ה בַּשָּׂדֶ֔ה – אֵ֚ת כָּל־עֲבֹ֣דָתָ֔ם אֲשֶׁר־עָבְד֥וּ בָהֶ֖ם בְּפָֽרֶךְ:

וַיְמָרֲר֨וּ (מ–ר–ר)	אֶת־חַיֵּיהֶם֙	בַּעֲבֹדָ֣ה	קָשָׁ֔ה
They made bitter	"et" –		

בְּחֹ֙מֶר֙	וּבִלְבֵנִ֔ים	וּבְכָל	עֲבֹדָ֣ה	בַּשָּׂדֶ֔ה
in morter	and in bricks			

אֵ֚ת כָּל־עֲבֹ֣דָתָ֔ם	אֲשֶׁר	עָבְד֥וּ (ע–ב–ד)	בָהֶ֖ם	בְּפָֽרֶךְ
"et" –				in hard labor

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Shemot 1:15-22: UnSung Heroes! The Midwives

Shorashim (roots)

Just like all trees have roots that make them grow big and tall, verbs in Biblical Hebrew are built from roots as well, called shorashim! Most Biblical Hebrew verbs have three shoresh letters. But just like you don't always see the roots of a tree, you don't always see all the letters of a shoresh!

Our Text Shorashim

to say – א–מ–ר

to give birth - י–ל–ד

to see - ר–א–ה

to let live - ח–י–ה

to revere/fear – י–ר–א

[to call out - ק–ר–א]

to do - ע–ש–ה

[to increase and multiply - ר–ב–ה]

ב"ה

Exercise 1: Let's Match a Shoresh with a Picture!

This is a chance to get creative. How might a shoresh fit each picture? There is no right answer! Only good explanations.

Our Text Shorashim

to say – א–מ–ר

to give birth - י–ל–ד

to see - ר–א–ה

to let live - ח–י–ה

to revere/fear – י – ר–א

[to call out - ק–ר–א]

to do - ע–ש–ה

[To increase and multiply - ר–ב–ה]

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Exercise 2: Let's Match the Shoresh with the Definition!

to say	ע–ש–ה
to give birth	ק–ר–א
to see	ח–י–ה
to let live	ר–א–ה
to revere/fear	ר–ב–ה
to call out	י–ל–ד
to do	א–מ–ר
to increase and multiply	י–ר–א

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Exercise 3: Let's Find the Shoresh and Write it Out! Bonus: Write the Definition of the Shoresh.

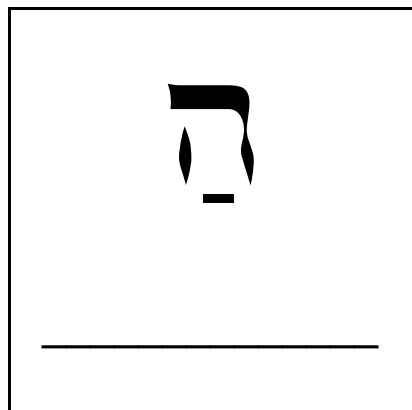| Word	Shoresh	Shoresh Definition
[וַיֹּאמֶר] **Review Word**	(א–מ–ר)	To say
וּרְאִיתֶן		
וְחָיָה		
וַתִּירֶאןָ		
עֲשׂוּ		
וַתְּחַיֶּיןָ		
[וַיִּקְרָא] **Review Word**		
עֲשִׂיתֶן		
[וַיֶּרֶב] **Review Word**		

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Let's Review Prepositions – תְחִלִיּוֹת in Hebrew!

Prepositions technically are words that tell you the relatio n of one noun or pronoun to another piece of a sentence. But they are much more than that!! They are, as Rabbi Heschel wrote, "grist for the exegetical mill," spaces full of interpretive opportunity!

Grammar Review Prepositions/ תְחִלִיּוֹת	
In/With	בְּ
That	שֶׁ
Like	כְּ
From	מִ
To/For	לְ
And	וְ
The	הַ
Special: A word that marks a direct object or sometimes means "with"!	אֵת
To/Towards	אֶל

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Exercise 4: Let's Translate the Preposition תְחִלִיוֹת!

הַ

_____

כְּ

_____

וְ

_____

בְּ

_____

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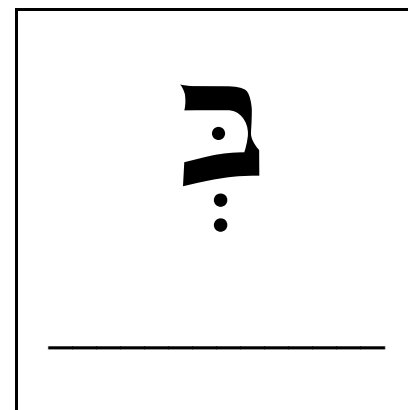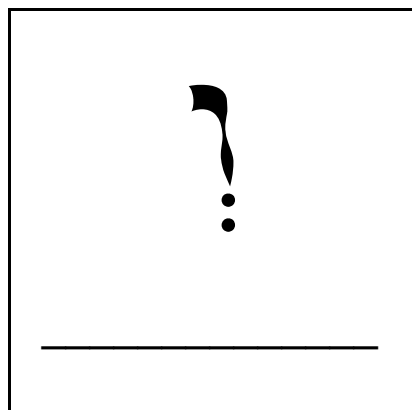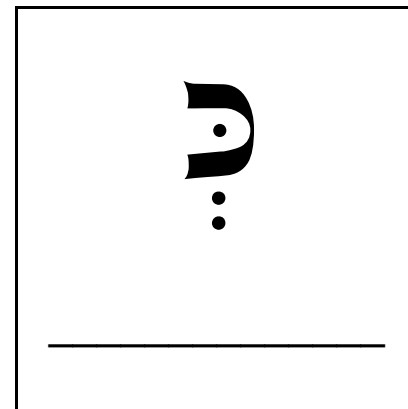
Exercise 5: Let's Circle the Preposition—תְחִלִּיּוֹת and Write the Definition!

Word (circle the preposition)	Preposition Definition
וְכָל	**And**
מִן־הָאָרֶץ	
לַמְיַלְּדֹת	
כַּנָּשִׁים	
הָעִבְרִיֹּת	
הָעָם	
הָאֲבָנִים	
וְכָל	

Exercise 6: Let's Fill in the Prepositions— תְחִלִּיּוֹת!

To/Towards

_____

From

_____

The

_____

&

In

_____

And

_____

Like

_____

Exercise 7: One More Time! Let's Write the Hebrew Word with the Prepositions – תְּחִלִּיוֹת!

We'll be using the word "a flood" throughout this exercise.
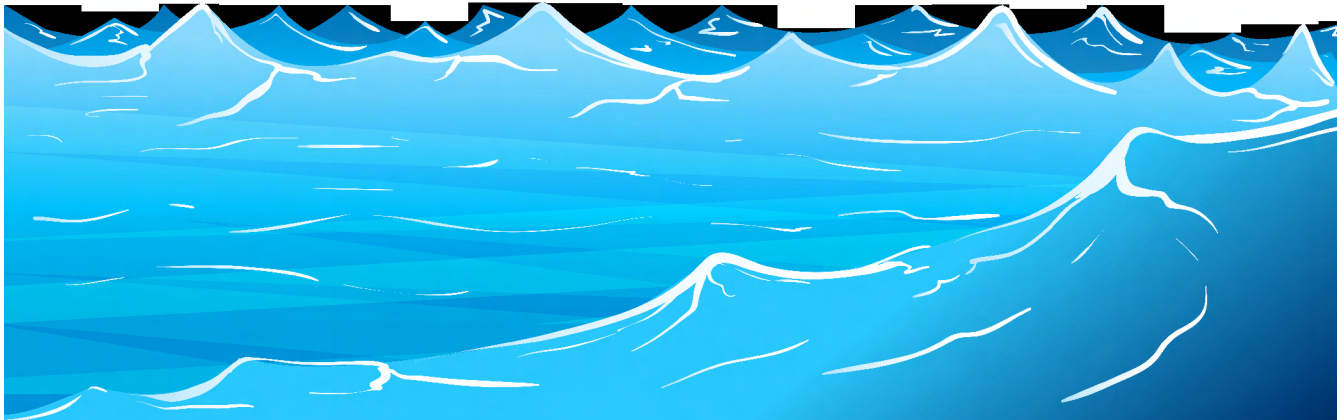In Hebrew, "a flood" is written as   מבול

Like a flood _____

And a flood _____

The flood _____

To a flood _____

From a flood _____

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Let's Translate Verse 1:15 from Parashat Shemot!

Fill in the remaining boxes with the translation of the word into English. Specific parts of words are outlined and in different colors to point them out to you. And remember, you can look at all the pages above if you get stuck!

טו. וַיֹּ֙אמֶר֙ מֶ֣לֶךְ מִצְרַ֔יִם לַֽמְיַלְּדֹ֖ת הָֽעִבְרִיֹּ֑ת אֲשֶׁ֨ר שֵׁ֤ם הָֽאַחַת֙ שִׁפְרָ֔ה וְשֵׁ֥ם הַשֵּׁנִ֖ית פּוּעָֽה׃

הָֽעִבְרִיֹּ֑ת	לַֽמְיַלְּדֹ֖ת	מֶ֣לֶךְ מִצְרַ֔יִם	וַיֹּ֙אמֶר֙ (א–מ–ר)
the hebrews	to the midwives		

פּוּעָֽה	הַשֵּׁנִ֖ית	וְשֵׁ֥ם	שִׁפְרָ֔ה	הָֽאַחַת֙	שֵׁ֤ם	אֲשֶׁ֨ר
Puah			Shifra			

Let's Translate Verse 1:16 from Parashat Shemot!

טז. וַיֹּאמֶר בְּיַלֶּדְכֶן אֶת־הָעִבְרִיּוֹת – וּרְאִיתֶן עַל־הָאָבְנָיִם –

וַיֹּאמֶר (א–מ–ר)	בְּיַלֶּדְכֶן	אֶת־הָעִבְרִיּוֹת
	in your (female, plural) birthing/helping give birth	*"et"* -

וּרְאִיתֶן (ר–א–ה)	עַל	הָאָבְנָיִם
		the stones

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Let's Continue to Translate Verse 1:16 from Parashat Shemot!

–אִם־בֵּן הוּא וַהֲמִתֶּן אֹתוֹ – וְאִם־בַּת הִוא וָחָיָה:

אֹתוֹ	וַהֲמִתֶּן (מ–ו–ת)	הוּא	בֵּן	אִם
"et"-	cause to die!			

וָחָיָה (ח–י–ה)	הִוא	בַּת	וְאִם
			and if

Let's Translate Verse 1:17 from Parashat Shemot!

יז. וַתִּירֶאןָ הַמְיַלְּדֹת אֶת־הָאֱלֹקִים – וְלֹא עָשׂוּ כַּאֲשֶׁר דִּבֶּר אֲלֵיהֶן מֶלֶךְ מִצְרָיִם – וַתְּחַיֶּיןָ אֶת־הַיְלָדִים:

וַתִּירֶאןָ (י–ר–א)	הַמְיַלְּדֹת	אֶת – הָאֱלֹקִים
	the **midwives**	"et" -

וְלֹא	עָשׂוּ (ע–שׂ–ה)	כַּאֲשֶׁר	דִּבֶּר (ר–ב–ר)	אֲלֵיהֶן	מֶלֶךְ מִצְרָיִם

וַתְּחַיֶּיןָ (ה–י–ה)	אֶת–הַיְלָדִים
they let live	"et" -

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Let's Translate Verse 1:18 from Parashat Shemot!

יח. וַיִּקְרָא מֶלֶךְ־מִצְרַיִם לַמְיַלְּדֹת וַיֹּאמֶר לָהֶן, – "מַדּוּעַ עֲשִׂיתֶן הַדָּבָר הַזֶּה – וַתְּחַיֶּיןָ אֶת־הַיְלָדִים?":

וַיִּקְרָא (ק-ר-א)	מֶלֶךְ־מִצְרַיִם	לַמְיַלְּדֹת	וַיֹּאמֶר (א-מ-ר)	לָהֶן
		to the midwives		

מַדּוּעַ	עֲשִׂיתֶן (ע-שׂ-ה)	הַדָּבָר	הַזֶּה
why			

וַתְּחַיֶּיןָ (ח-י-ה)	אֶת־הַיְלָדִים
	"et" -

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Let's Translate Verse 1:19 from Parashat Shemot!

יט. וַתֹּאמַרְןָ הַמְיַלְּדֹת אֶל־פַּרְעֹה, – "כִּי לֹא כַנָּשִׁים הַמִּצְרִיֹּת הָעִבְרִיֹּת,– כִּי־חָיוֹת הֵנָּה – בְּטֶרֶם תָּבוֹא אֲלֵהֶן הַמְיַלֶּדֶת וְיָלָדוּ:

וַתֹּאמַרְןָ (א–מ–ר)	הַמְיַלְּדֹת	אֶל	פַּרְעֹה
	the midwives	to	

כִּי	לֹא	כַנָּשִׁים	הַמִּצְרִיֹּת	הָעִבְרִיֹּת
that/because		like the		

כִּי־חָיוֹת הֵנָּה = (that/because) they are lively [women]

בְּטֶרֶם	תָּבוֹא (ב–ו–א)	אֲלֵהֶן	הַמְיַלֶּדֶת	וְיָלָדוּ (י–ל–ד)
that before			the midwives	

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Let's Translate Verse 1:20 from Parashat Shemot!

כ. וַיֵּיטֶב אֱלֹקִים לַמְיַלְּדֹת – וַיִּרֶב הָעָם וַיַּעַצְמוּ מְאֹד:

לַמְיַלְּדֹת	אֱלֹקִים	וַיֵּיטֶב (י–ט–ב)
to the **midwives**		He did good

מְאֹד	וַיַּעַצְמוּ (ע–צ–מ)	הָעָם	וַיִּרֶב (ר–ב–ה)
	they increased		

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Let's Translate Verse 1:21 from Parashat Shemot!

כא. וַיְהִי כִּי־יָרְאוּ הַמְיַלְּדֹת אֶת יְהֱאֱלֹקִים – וַיַּעַשׂ לָהֶם בָּתִּים:

וַיְהִי (ה–י–ה)	כִּי	יָרְאוּ (י–ר–א)	הַמְיַלְּדֹת	אֶת יְהֱאֱלֹקִים
	that/because		the midwives	"et"-

וַיַּעַשׂ (ע–שׂ–ה)	לָהֶם	בָּתִּים
		houses

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Let's Translate Verse 1:22 from Parashat Shemot!

כב. וַיְצַו פַּרְעֹה לְכָל־עַמּוֹ לֵאמֹר, – "כָּל־הַבֵּן הַיִּלּוֹד הַיְאֹרָה תַּשְׁלִיכֻהוּ – וְכָל־הַבַּת תְּחַיּוּן":

וַיְצַו (צ–ו–ה)	פַּרְעֹה	לְכָל	עַמּוֹ	לֵאמֹר
commanded				

כָּל	הַבֵּן הַיִּלּוֹד	הַיְאֹרָה	תַּשְׁלִיכֻהוּ
	the son the born	into the Nile River	You will throw him

45

Shemot 2:1-10: Miriam, Yocheved, and Bat Phaorah: Who Saved the Boy?

Shorashim (roots)

Just like all trees have roots that make them grow big and tall, verbs in Biblical Hebrew are built from roots as well, called shorashim! Most Biblical Hebrew verbs have three shoresh letters. But just like you don't always see the roots of a tree, you don't always see all the letters of a shoresh!

Our Text Shorashim

to go down - י–ר–ד

[to see - ר–א–ה]

to send- ש–ל–ה

to take - ל–ק–ה

to open - פ–ת–ה

to have compassion - ח–מ–ל

to nurse [a baby] - י–נ–ק

to go - ה–ל–כ

[to come - ב–ו–א]

[to call out - ק–ר–א]

Exercise 1: Let's Match a Shoresh with a Picture!

This is a chance to get creative. How might a shoresh fit each picture? There is no right answer! Only good explanations.

Our Text Shorashim

to go down - י–ר–ד

to send- ש–ל–ח

to take - ל–ק–ח

to open - פ–ת–ח

to have compassion - ח–מ–ל

to nurse [a baby] - י–נ–ק

to go - ה–ל–כ

_____

_____

_____

_____

Exercise 2: Let's Match the Shoresh and the Definiton!

to go	י–ר–ד
to nurse [a baby]	ר–א–ה
to have compassion	ש–ל–ח
[to call out]	ל–ק–ח
to send	פ–ת–ה
to take	ח–מ–ל
to go down	א–מ–ר
to come	י–נ–ק
to open	ה–ל–כ
to say	ב–ו–א
[to see]	ק–ר–א

Exercise 3: Let's Find the Shoresh and Write it Out! Bonus: Write the Definition!

Word	Shoresh	Shoresh Definition
וַיֵּלֶךְ	ה–ל–כ	To go
וַיִּקַּח		
וַתֵּרֶא		
וַתִּקַּח		
וַתַּחְמֹל		
וַתִּפְתַּח		
וַתֵּרֶד		
וַתִּרְאֵהוּ		

Let's Review Verbs Again in Biblical Hebrew!

In English, we speak about the past and future in different ways. For the past, we say "I ran", and for the future we say, "I will run". Biblical Hebrew is different! Biblical Hebrew adds different letters to the beginning or ending of the shoresh (root) to make it past or future. The table below shows that!

Subject	Perfect/Past	Imperfect/Future
I	שמרתִּי	אשמר
You (singular male)	שמרתָ	תשמר
You (singular female)	שמרתְ	תשמרי
He	שמר	ישמר
She	שמרה	תשמר
We	שמרנו	נשמר
You (plural male)	שמרתם	תשמרו
You (plural female)	שמרתן	תשמרנה
They (male)	שמרו	ישמרו
They (female)	שמרו	תשמרנה

Exercise 4: Let's Write Using the Verb פ–ת–ח in Perfect/Past!

You, boy: _____

You, girls: _____

We, the fourth grade: _____

The brothers: _____

Exercise 5: Let's Translate These Short Sentences!

Word	Translate with Subject
וְקָרָאתִי	I will call
וַתֹּאמֶר־לָהּ בַּת־פַּרְעֹה	Bat Pharoah said to her
וָאֲנִי אֶתֵּן	
וַתִּקַּח הָאִשָּׁה הַיֶּלֶד וַתְּנִיקֵהוּ	
וַיֵּלֶךְ אִישׁ	

Let's Translate Verse 2:1 from Parashat Shemot!

Fill in the remaining boxes with the translation of the word into English. Specific parts of words are outlined and in different colors to point them out to you. And remember, you can look at all the pages above if you get stuck!

אֵ. וַיֵּלֶךְ אִישׁ מִבֵּית לֵוִי – וַיִּקַּח אֶת־בַּת־לֵוִי:

מִבֵּית לֵוִי	אִישׁ	וַיֵּלֶךְ (ה–ל–כ)
from [the] house [of] Levi		

אֶת־בַּת־לֵוִי	וַיִּקַּח (ל–ק–ח)
"et"-	

Let's Translate Verse 2:2 from Parashat Shemot!

ב. וַתַּהַר הָאִשָּׁה וַתֵּלֶד בֵּן – וַתֵּרֶא אֹתוֹ כִּיטוֹב הוּא – וַתִּצְפְּנֵהוּ שְׁלֹשָׁה יְרָחִים:

בֵּן	וַתֵּלֶד (י–ל–ד)	הָאִשָּׁה	וַתַּהַר (ה–ר–ה)
			she became pregnant

כִּיטוֹב הוּא	אֹתוֹ	וַתֵּרֶא (ר–א–ה)
that good he was (see creation Genesis 1)		

She hid him [for] three months = וַתִּצְפְּנֵהוּ שְׁלֹשָׁה יְרָחִים

Let's Translate Verse 2:3 from Parashat Shemot!

ג. וְלֹא־יָכְלָה עוֹד הַצְּפִינוֹ – וַתִּקַּח־לוֹ תֵּבַת גֹּמֶא – וַתַּחְמְרָה בַחֵמָר וּבַזָּפֶת –

הַצְּפִינוֹ (צ–פ–נ)	עוֹד	וְלֹא־יָכְלָה (י–כ–ל)
hide **him**		**and** she could not

תֵּבַת גֹּמֶא	לוֹ	וַתִּקַּח (ל–ק–ח)
ark (basket) [of] papyrus reeds		

She sealed **it [her] in** clay **and in** tar = וַתַּחְמְרָה בַחֵמָר וּבַזָּפֶת

Let's Continue to Translate Verse 2:3 from Parashat Shemot!

וַתִּשֶׂם בָּהּ אֶת־הַיֶּלֶד – וַתָּשֶׂם בַּסּוּף עַל־שְׂפַת הַיְאֹר:

וַתִּשֶׂם (שׂ–י–מ)	בָּהּ	אֶת־הַיֶּלֶד
		"et" -

וַתָּשֶׂם (שׂ–י–מ)	בַּסּוּף	עַל	שְׂפַת הַיְאֹר
	in the reeds		[the] bank of the nile river

Let's Translate Verse 2:4 from Parashat Shemot!

ד. וַתֵּתַצַּב אֲחֹתוֹ מֵרָחֹק – לְדֵעָה מַה יֵּעָשֶׂה לוֹ:

מֵרָחֹק	אֲחֹתוֹ	וַתֵּתַצַּב (נ–צ–ב)
from a distance		she stationed herself (stood)

לוֹ	יֵּעָשֶׂה (ע–שׂ–ה)	מַה	לְדֵעָה (י–ד–ע)
			to know

Let's Translate Verse 2:5 from Parashat Shemot!

ה. וַתֵּרֶד בַּת־פַּרְעֹה לִרְחֹץ עַל־הַיְאֹר – וְנַעֲרֹתֶיהָ הֹלְכֹת עַל־יַד הַיְאֹר –

וַתֵּרֶד (י–ר–ד)	בַּת־פַּרְעֹה	לִרְחֹץ	עַל	הַיְאֹר
		to bathe		

וְנַעֲרֹתֶיהָ	הֹלְכֹת	עַל־יַד	הַיְאֹר
and her maidens			

Let's Continue to Translate Verse 2:5 from Parashat Shemot!

וַתֵּרֶא אֶת יהַתֵּבָה בְּתוֹך הַסּוּף – וַתִּשְׁלַח אֶת־אֲמָתָה וַתִּקָּחֶהָ:

וַתֵּרֶא (ר–א–ח)	אֶת יהַתֵּבָה	בְּתוֹך	הַסּוּף
	"et" - the ark (basket)	inside	the reeds

וַתִּשְׁלַח (ש–ל–ח)	אֶת־אֲמָתָה	וַתִּקָּחֶהָ (ל–ק–ח)
	"et" - her servant	and she took it (female)

Let's Translate Verse 2:6 from Parashat Shemot!

ו. וַתִּפְתַּח וַתִּרְאֵהוּ אֶת־הַיֶּלֶד – וְהִנֵּה־נַעַר בֹּכֶה – וַתַּחְמֹל עָלָיו – וַתֹּאמֶר: "מִיַּלְדֵי הָעִבְרִים זֶה":

אֶת־הַיֶּלֶד	וַתִּרְאֵהוּ (ר–א– ה)	וַתִּפְתַּח (פ–ת–ח)
"et" -	she saw **him**	

בֹּכֶה (ב–כ– ה)	נַעַר	וְהִנֵּה
crying	young child	**and** here

עָלָיו	וַתַּחְמֹל (ח–מ– ל)

זֶה"	"מִיַּלְדֵי הָעִבְרִים	וַתֹּאמֶר: (א–מ– ר)

Brandeis

Let's Translate Verse 2:7 from Parashat Shemot!

ז. וַתֹּאמֶר אֲחֹתוֹ אֶל־בַּת־פַּרְעֹה – "הַאֵלֵךְ וְקָרָאתִי לָךְ אִשָּׁה מֵינֶקֶת מִן הָעִבְרִיֹּת? – וְתֵינִק לָךְ אֶת־הַיָּלֶד?"

וַתֹּאמֶר (א–מ–ר)	אֲחֹתוֹ	אֶל	בַּת־פַּרְעֹה
		to	

הַאֵלֵךְ (ה–ל–כ)	וְקָרָאתִי (ק–ר–א)	לָךְ	אִשָּׁה מֵינֶקֶת מִן הָעִבְרִיֹּת
should ?		to you	a woman who nurses **from the** Hebrews?

וְתֵינִק (י – נ – ק)	לָךְ	אֶת־הַיָּלֶד?"
		"et"-

Let's Translate Verse 2:8 from Parashat Shemot!

ח. וַתֹּאמֶר-לָהּ בַּת-פַּרְעֹה: "לֵכִי" וַתֵּלֶךְ הָעַלְמָה וַתִּקְרָא אֶת-אֵם הַיָּלֶד:

וַתֹּאמֶר (א–מ– ר)	לָהּ	בַּת-פַּרְעֹה	"לֵכִי" (ה–ל– כ)

וַתֵּלֶךְ (ה–ל– כ)	הָעַלְמָה	וַתִּקְרָא (ק–ר– א)	אֶת-אֵם הַיָּלֶד
	the young woman		"et"- mother [of] the child

Let's Translate Verse 2:9 from Parashat Shemot!

ט. וַתֹּאמֶר לָהּ בַּת־פַּרְעֹה: – "הֵילִיכִי אֶת־הַיֶּלֶד הַזֶּה וְהֵינִקִהוּ לִי – וַאֲנִי אֶתֵּן אֶת־שְׂכָרֵךְ" – וַתִּקַּח הָאִשָּׁה הַיֶּלֶד וַתְּנִיקֵהוּ:

וַתֹּאמֶר (א–מ–ר)	לָהּ	בַּת־פַּרְעֹה

הֵילִיכִי (ה–ל–כ)	אֶת־הַיֶּלֶד הַזֶּה	וְהֵינִקִהוּ (י–נ–ק)	לִי
Make (him) go!	"et"-	Nurse him!	

וַאֲנִי אֶתֵּן אֶת־שְׂכָרֵךְ = " I will give you "et"- a reward"

וַתִּקַּח (ל–ק–ח)	הָאִשָּׁה	הַיֶּלֶד	וַתְּנִיקֵהוּ (י–נ–ק)
			she nursed him

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Let's Translate Verse 2:10 from Parashat Shemot!

י וַיִּגְדַּל הַיֶּלֶד – וַתְּבִאֵהוּ לְבַת־פַּרְעֹה וַיְהִי־לָהּ לְבֵן –– וַתִּקְרָא שְׁמוֹ מֹשֶׁה –

הַיֶּלֶד	וַיִּגְדַּל (ג–ד–ל)
	He grew

לְבֵן	לָהּ	וַיְהִי (ה–י–ה)	לְבַת־פַּרְעֹה	וַתְּבִאֵהוּ (ב–ו–א)
				She caused him to come

מֹשֶׁה	שְׁמוֹ	וַתִּקְרָא (ק–ר–א)

Let's Continue to Translate Verse 2:10 from Parashat Shemot!

וַתֹּאמֶר ״כִּי מִן־הַמַּיִם מְשִׁיתִהוּ״׃

מְשִׁיתִהוּ״	הַמַּיִם	מִן	״כִּי	וַתֹּאמֶר (א–מ–ר)
I brought him out				