

The Letter Vahv as a Consonant /vahv/ = /v/ ץ 1.14.3



When the *vahv* occurs as a consonant in the middle of a word, it is written twice to show that it has the sound of /v/ and is not a vowel indicator for /oh/ or /oo/.



Write:

"bachelor" _____ /rah-vahk/ רוק

"hope" _____ /tihk-vah / תיקווה

"Neck" _____ /tsa-vahr/ צוואר

(Notice that the *lc* in the word צוואר is not pronounced.)



See Demo



The letter /GIH-mehl/ = /g/ as in "good" ג 1.14.4



Use with Software Chapter 3:6 "Building Reading Proficiency", Exercise Set 4

Practice writing *GIH-mehl* _____



ג

See Demo

"also" _____ /gahm/ גם

"holiday" _____ /xahg/ חג

"minute, just a minute!" _____ /REH-gah/ רקע

"big" (m) _____ /gah-dohl/ גדול

"big" (f.) _____ /g-doh-lah/ גדולה



Practice Reading: גדול גדולה רקע אחרי עֵהקסיה תיקווה בקום

Diphthongs: /ahy/, /ohy/, and /ooy/ א"י א"י א"י 1.14.6

A *diphthong* is a combination of two vowel sounds. For example: /ah/ + /ee/ = /ahy/ as in "rye". Notice that we write /ahy/ in Hebrew with a double *yood* as a signal to the reader not to read /ih/.

"my song" /shih-ri/

ש"ר

"my songs" /shih-rah-y/ ש"ר



Write”

”enough” _____ /dahy/ צ”

”desirable” _____ /rah-tsooy/ רצוי

”oy” _____ /ohy/ אוי

”after me” _____ /ah-xah-rah/ אחרי



BUT...Inconsistencies do exist: for example, the dipthong /ahy/ with one yood /oo-lahy/ "perhaps" אוילי

אויילי יש יותר מד"ש'ער ?/say-ahr/

A SONG IS NOT JUST WORDS - A SONG IS A BEGINNING - שיר 1.15

Here are the next two lines of the song you are learning: Practice reading them.



A song is a beginning

שיר שיר הוא התחלה

Sing a song of great hope.

שירו שיר תיקווה גדולה



Now copy these two lines in Hebrew. Read them from your own writing.



_____ שיר שיר הוא התחלה

_____ שירו שיר תיקווה גדולה

THE DOT INSIDE A LETTER: /dah-GEHSH/ - הַצֵּט 1.16



Use with Software Chapter 1:14 “The Use of the Dagesh”

The **dot**, called a *dah-gehsh*, inside the letter ב indicates the sound /b/. However, in texts without nikkud the *dah-gehsh* בַּ is omitted – even when the ב is to be pronounced /b/ and not /v/. (The בַּ is included in poetry, prayer books and biblical texts since they include full nikkud.) In this course we will include the בַּ at first, to help you during the initial period of learning Hebrew. Note that ב and ב are simply alternate pronunciations of a single letter. They are not considered two separate consonants despite the difference in sound.



Although the several rules related to the use of the **בְּ** are quite regular, It is not necessary to learn them all at this stage. For now, it is enough to note that the dot is present at the beginning of a word and not at the end of a word.

הוא בחור בוגר

Review: *beht* = /b/ בְּ *veht* = /v/ בְּ 1.16.1



Use with Software Chapter 1:4 “Building Reading Proficiency”,
Exercise Set 5

Practice Writing: Listen to all the audio, then write in the words.

notebook _____ מחברת Hebrew _____ צהרית

in the notebook _____ במחברת Sabbath _____ שבת

bottle _____ בקבוק to listen _____ להקשיב

Tel Aviv _____ תל-אביב

Sabbath greeting _____ שבת שלום

PEH = /p/ פְּ *FEH* = /f/ פֿ 1.16.2

Look for the dot inside the letter.

As in the case of בְּ and בֿ, the /dah-gehsh/ בְּ in the פְּ indicates how this letter is to be pronounced. Like the בְּ and בֿ, the פְּ and פֿ are only *one letter, not two*. The בְּ is a mark to guide the reader in pronunciation. It is not supplied in Hebrew where the nikkud is not included! *The פְּ is always /p/ at the beginning of a word, and /f/ at the end of a word. You will learn to know when to read a פְּ as פְּ or בְּ as בְּ as we proceed.*

See Demo

Write *feh* _____



See Demo

Write *peh* _____



Read Carefully
 barber פֶּה
 book פֶּה

Read and write these words and phrases - **לְקַח וּלְתַתֵּן** 1.16.2.1

map _____ מַפָּה once again _____ צוֹרֵף
 where _____ אֵיפֶה (slang) great! _____ 'וֹפֵ'
 key _____ מִפְתֵּיחַ



CLASSROOM PHRASES - **בִּיטוּ"ס** 1.17

Here are a few phrases that your instructor uses in class. You know most of the letters in these words. Listen and repeat in chorus as they are pronounced by your instructor.



בְּהַקְשָׁה לְהַקְשֵׁה בְּחֻז בְּהַקְשָׁה
 לְחֻזוֹר אַחֲרַי" מִהֵרָ אֲצֵ" צוֹרֵף פֶּה!
 יוֹתֵר גְּדוֹל



בְּהַקְשָׁה לְמִהֵרָ

THE LETTER *YOOD* AS A CONSONANT - **י** 1.18

YOOD ' and *DOUBLE YOOD* "


/yood/ at the beginning of a word 1.18.1

Remember: When writing *yood*, you begin at the height of the regular letters, but use only half of the line. _____



See Demo

When the *yood* appears at the beginning of a word, it sounds like /y/

day	יוס'	bigger	יותר גדול	
right (<i>direction</i>)	ימין'	together	יחד'	
I know (m)	אני יודע	I know (f)	אני יודעת	
(<i>slang</i>) great!	יופי'	there is/are	יש	

/yood/ in the Middle of a Word - 1.18.2

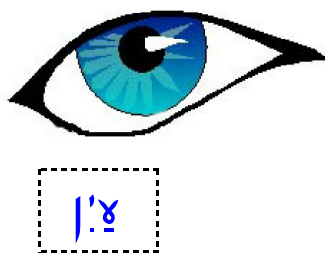
Because *yood* in the middle of a word could also be a vowel indicator, as in the word for "song" שיר, Modern Hebrew often doubles the letter *yood* to signal its consonantal value as /y/. For example:


"tourist" /tah-yahr/	תייר	
"soldier" (f) /xah-YEH-leht	חיילת	

Note: The rule of doubling the yood is not always observed. This is especially true in the spelling of personal names like

טליה, בת'יה, ירמיהו /yer-mi-YAH-hu/, /BAT-ya/, /TAL-ya/.

We will not double the yood in words with the following pattern:



house /BAY-yit/	בית	
wine /yah-yin/	ין	
summer /kah-yitz/	קיץ	
water /MAH-yeem/	מים	
the letter <i>ayeen</i> , eye /AH-yeen/	עין	

A note to the instructor - על המורה להסביר שמאוחר יותר (לא עכשיו!) יוסבר שאין לכתוב יו"ד כפולה אחר אותיות השימוש, פרט ללמ"ד שבצורת המקור: לייצא, לייצל

The location of the vowel mark when a double yood is written

Since the double writing of *yood* is a way to clarify the reading of the *yood* as a consonant, you normally will not see both a vowel symbol and the double *yood*. However should *nikkud* be provided, the vowel symbol is placed under the **first** *yood*.

For example: חיילת.