

4.7.4 : זמן הווה : יש ל - Possession in the Present Tense

In the present tense **היה** is replaced by **יש**.

For example: I have - יש לי he has - יש לו they have - יש להם

In the present tense, possession can be expressed in two ways.

1) With the **ל** of possession preceding the name of the “possessor”

Jacob has a book **ליעקב ספר**

2) By using **יש ל** with the **ל** of possession preceding the name of the “possessor”

Jacob has a book **יש ליעקב ספר**

2) Or, using a possessive pronoun for the **ל** instead of a proper name. The form of the **ל** will change depending on the “person/pronoun” referred to. Note that **יש** doesn't change. For example:

He has a book **יש לו ספר**

They have friends **יש להם חברים**



It is particularly crucial to realize that when **יש** is used with “ל” it is not **יש** that signifies *possession*, but rather the **ל**. Remember that no other parts of the sentence influence the word **יש**. Its form never changes. It is **always יש**

Watch this childrens dance whose song has the words **יש לנו** in its song.

יש לנו תיש לתיש יש זקן
ולו ארבע רגליים וגם זנב קטן
פיזמון: במקל בסרגל—מה שבא ליד (2)

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Note: Never Use יש in the Past Tense!

Strict Hebrew grammar does not consider **יש לי, יש לו, היה לי, היה לו** etc. as true verbs. However, Israelis regularly use **את** in sentences like “he has the book” **יש לו את הספר**. And they do not avoid using it in a context like this: “

Did you bring the book?” “No, I don't have it. **הבאת את הספר? לא אין לי אותו**

In other words, Israelis treat **יש לי** or **היה לי** etc. as a *transitive verb* that requires **את** when the direct object is definite!

4.7.5 תרגיל: שמות הגוף - Possessive Pronouns. Present Tense

Reformulate the sentence given in bold letters for each group below. Match the possessive pronouns for each sentence group:

1. יש לאורי חבר

_____	אנחנו	_____	יש לו חבר	הוא
_____	הם	_____		אתם
_____	אני	_____		את
		_____		הן



2. אין לדפנה בית יפה

היא _____ אין לה בית יפה _____ הן

_____ אנחנו _____ אני

_____ הוא _____ אתם

_____ הם

3. יש לדוד ויונתן ספר חדש

הם _____ יש להם ספר חדש _____ אנחנו

_____ הוא _____ אתם

_____ את _____ אני

4.8 ל - THE ל THAT INDICATES "TO SOMEONE" or "FOR SOMEONE"

The *indirect object* is the word in the sentence that tells you **to whom** or **for whom** something was done. For example, in the sentence



I bought a gift for Miriam

Miriam is the indirect object because the action was done **for her benefit**. The action (*bought*) was performed on the *gift* not on Miriam. There's no confusion in this example because of the word *for* - for Miriam.

יופּי! יש לו כֶּסֶף (money)

The same is true in the following sentence:

I brought a book to Michael

However, when the words *to* or *for* are omitted in English, some people forget that Miriam and Michael are still the indirect object.



I bought Miriam gifts

I bought Michael a book

א. קניתי מתנות **ל**מרים

ב. קניתי ספר **ל**מיכאל



In Hebrew the ל that indicates *to someone* or *for someone* can never be omitted.

I wrote Miriam a letter. (*I wrote a letter to Miriam*)

כתבתי מיכתב למרים

I wrote her a letter. (*I wrote a letter to her*)

כתבתי לה מיכתב

I told Michael something. (*I told something to Michael*)

אמרתי למיכאל משהו

I told him something. (*I told something to him*)

אמרתי לו משהו



(To remind yourself of the discussion of the “direct object” look back at §3.24.)

4.8.1 לי, לך, לו - ל - The Inflection of *to, for*

Yes, the forms here are the same as the forms for the possessive pronouns of the **ל** in 4.7 above. But, the “meaning” or usage changes when used with the meaning “to” or “for”. You don’t have to memorize a new set of forms, just pay attention to how you use the “ל” in the situations described in this section.

<u>Plural</u>		<u>Singular</u>	
<i>to us, for us</i>	לָנוּ	<i>to me, for me</i>	לִי
<i>to you, for you (m.)</i>	לָכֶם	<i>to you for you (m.)</i>	לְךָ
<i>to you, for you (f.)</i>	לָכֶן	<i>to you, for you, (f.)</i>	לְךָ
<i>to them, for them (m.)</i>	לָהֶם	<i>to him, for him</i>	לוֹ
<i>to them, for them (f.)</i>	לָהֶן	<i>to her, for her</i>	לָהּ

I gave **you** (or "to you") a flashlight

אני נתתי לך פנס

You had a flashlight.

היה לך פנס

He did a big favor **for me**.

הוא עשה לי טובה גדולה.



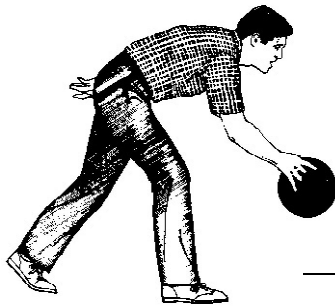
כאבה לה הרגל
or
הרגל ככאבה לה

4.8.2 המישפט בעברית

Read the Following Sentences. They show the normal word order in Hebrew.

לה	לו	לך	לך	לי
להן	להם	לכן	לכם	לנו

1. יש לי חברה.
2. יש לך ספר טוב.
3. האם היתה לך מימייה?
4. הייתה לנו דודה באמריקה (אבל היא מתה).
5. היה להם ידיד טוב בישראל אבל עכשיו הוא לא שם.



6. היה לה בית גדול במיניאפוליס

7. יש לכן מורה טובה לעברית?

8. יש לו אף ארוך!

9. יש לך אח גדול?

מה יש לו? (כדור) _____

4.8.3 לתרגם לאנגלית

Translate each of the sentences into English. Then reverse the gender of the pronouns indicating possession and rewrite only the resulting pronoun in Hebrew. (There may not always be a change.)

1. יש לי חברה. _____ 

2. יש לך ספר טוב? _____

3. הייתה לך מימייה? _____

4. הייתה לנו דודה באמריקה (אבל היא מתה). _____

5. היה להם ידיד טוב בישראל אבל עכשיו הוא לא שם. _____

6. היה לה בית גדול במיניאפוליס. _____

7. יש לכן מורה טובה לעברית? _____

8. יש לו אף ארוך! _____

9. יש לך אח גדול? _____

4.9 עבודה בקבוצות: איך אומרים?

1. David has money. _____

2. I forgot that David *has many teachers. _____

3. I said that *perhaps Rina has an uncle in Jerusalem. _____

4. Grandma has a big nose. _____



*See §3.23 on the use of ן

4.9.1 המישפט בעברית: שיר לילדים

Word order in Hebrew can be quite flexible. Here is a nursery rhyme about a teddy bear that Israeli mothers sing to their toddlers. It begins with the ל of possession.

I have a nimble little teddy bear
and his name is Yumbo
(with) a sweet nose, a cute mouth
and in his head there's nothing!



לי דובון זריז וקט
וקוראים לו "יומבו"
אף מתוק ופה נחמד
ובראש אין כלום בו!

4.10 קריאה נוספת: פתק לדינה



כמה מינים של
פירות יש כאן?



ד'נה:
השאת את המפתחות לבית-הקפה
"אצן". את זריכה עלת לטקס. תג'ד' אמר כהן א'
את ש' אוכל המקרר (refrigerator). איתר לך.
לכאכול כל מה שאת רוצה! אני מושפת לחזור
אחרי ש.
שונה.

4.11 לוח פעלים

Review the charts below for the binyanim **פעל, פיעל, הפעיל**. Note that there are three possible English translations for each Hebrew verb.

4.11.1 פעל ופעלתי - זמן עבר

I wrote, did write, was writing
You (masc. sing.) wrote, did write, were writing
You (fem. Sing.) wrote, did write, were writing
He wrote, did write, was writing
She wrote, did write, was writing

אני כתבתי
אתה כתבת
את כתבת
הוא כתב
היא כתבה



We wrote, did write, were writing
You (masc. pl.) wrote, did write, were writing
You (fem. pl.) wrote, did write, were writing
They (masc. pl.) wrote, did write, were writing
they (fem. pl.) wrote, did write, were writing

אנחנו כתבנו
אתם כתבתם
אתן כתבתן
הם כתבו
הן כתבו

4.11.2 פִּיעֵלוֹפִיעֵלְתִּי - זִמְנֵי עֵבֶר

There are two differences between **פִּיעֵלוֹפִיעֵלְתִּי** and **פִּיעֵלוֹפִיעֵלְתִּי** They are in **the vowel** and the **addition of a yood** in the first syllable.

I spoke, did speak, was speaking
 You (masc. sing.) spoke, did speak, were speaking
 You (fem. sing.) spoke, did speak, were speaking
 He spoke, did speak, was speaking
 She spoke, did speak, was speaking

אֲנִי דִּבַּרְתִּי
 אַתָּה דִּבַּרְתָּ
 אַתְּ דִּבַּרְתְּ
 הוּא דִּבֶּר
 הִיא דִּבְּרָה



We spoke, did speak, were speaking
 You masc. pl.) spoke, did speak, were speaking
 You (fem. pl.) spoke, did speak, were speaking
 They (masc. pl.) spoke, did speak, were speaking
 They (fem. pl.) spoke, did speak, were speaking

אֲנַחְנוּ דִּבַּרְנוּ
 אַתֶּם דִּבַּרְתֶּם
 אַתְּוּ דִּבַּרְתֶּן
 הֵם דִּבְּרוּ
 הֵן דִּבְּרוּ

4.11.3 הַפְּעִילוֹהַפְּעֵלְתִּי - זִמְנֵי עֵבֶר

I explained, did explain, was explaining
 You (masc. sing.) explained, did explain, explaining
 You (fem. sing.) explained, did explain, were explaining
 He explained, did explain, was explaining
 She explained, did explain, was explaining

אֲנִי הִסְבַּחְתִּי
 אַתָּה הִסְבַּחְתָּ
 אַתְּ הִסְבַּחְתְּ
 הוּא הִסְבִּיחַ
 הִיא הִסְבִּיחָה



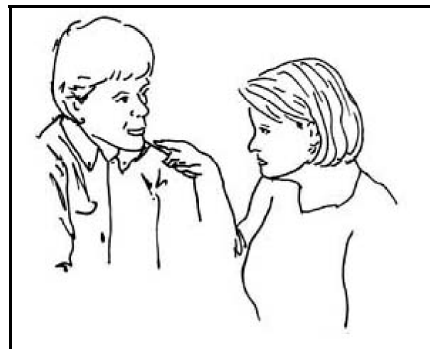
We explained, did explain, were explaining
 You (masc. pl.) explained, did explain, were explaining
 You (fem. pl.) explained, did explain, were explaining
 They (masc. pl.) explained, did explain, were explaining
 They (fem. pl.) explained, did explain, were explaining

אֲנַחְנוּ הִסְבַּחְנוּ
 אַתֶּם הִסְבַּחְתֶּם
 אַתְּוּ הִסְבַּחְתֶּן
 הֵם הִסְבִּיחוּ
 הֵן הִסְבִּיחוּ

פִּעֵל
 כָּבַר אֶמְרַתְּ לָךְ.

פִּיעֵל
 כָּבַר סִפַּרְתְּ לָךְ.

הַפְּעִיל
 כָּבַר הִסְבַּרְתְּ לָךְ.



אִיפֹה הִי'ת ?