The Letter Vahv as a Consonant /vahv/ = /v/   וו 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/.

See Software Chapter 1:3
for a writing demonstration

Write:

"bachelor" _____   /rah-vahk/ רווק

"hope" _____   / tihk-vah/ תִקְווה

"Neck" _____   /tsa-vahr/ צוואר

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

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

**Use with Software Chapter 3:1 "Building Reading Proficiency",
Exercise Set 4**

See Software Chapter 1:3
for a writing demonstration

Practice writing *GIH-mehl* _____ ג

"also" _____ /gahm/ גם

"holiday" _____ /xahg/ חג

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

"big" (m) _____ /gah-dohl/ גדול

"big (f.)" _____ /g-doh-lah/ גְדולה

Practice Reading: גדול גְדולה רֶגע אחרֵי לְהקְשיב תיקְווה בְּקול

Diphthongs: */ahy/, /ohy/, and /ooy/* איי אוי אויי 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/*   שירי   "my songs" /shih-rahy/ שירַיי

Write"

"enough" _____ /dahy/ דיי

"desirable" _____ /rah-tsooy/ רצוי

"oy" _____ /ohy/ אוי

"after me" _____ /ah-xah-rahy/ אחריי

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

אולי יֵש יוֹתֵר מִדיי שֵׂיעָר /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 הוּא התְחלה

Sing a song of great hope. שירוּ שיר תיקְווה גְדולה

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

שיר שיר הוּא התְחלה _____

_____ שירוּ שיר תיקְווה גְדולה

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

Use with Software Chapter 1:14 "The Use of the Dagesh"

The **dot**, called a *dah-gehsh*, inside the letter בּ indicates the sound /b/. However, in texts without nikkud the *dah-gehsh* דגֵש is omitted – even when the ב is to be pronounced /b/ and not /v/. (The דגֵש is included in poetry, prayer books and biblical texts since they include full nikkud.) In this course we will include the דגֵש at first, to help you during the initial period of learning Hebrew. Note that בּ 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
דָגֵשׁ *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.

הוּא בחור בּודֵד

Review: *beht = /b/* בּ   *veht = /v/*   ב   **1.16.1**

Use with Software Chapter 3:1 "Building Reading Proficiency",
Exercise Set 5

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

notebook	_____	מִחְבֶּרֶת	Hebrew	_____	עברית
in the notebook	_____	בּמִחְבֶּרֶת	Sabbath	_____	שבּת
bottle	_____	בּקָבּוּק	to listen	_____	לְהקָשׁיב
Tel Aviv				_____	תֵל־אביב
Sabbath greeting				_____	שבּת שלום

PEH = /p/ פּ   *FEH = /f/*   פ   **1.16.2**

Look for the dot inside the letter.

As in the case of בּ and ב, the /*dah-gehsh*/ דָגֵשׁ in the פּ indicates how this letter is
to be pronounced. Like the בּ and ב, the פּ and פ are only *one letter, not two*. The
דָגֵשׁ is a mark to guide the reader in pronunciation. It is not supplied in Hebrew
where the nikkud is not included! *The* פ *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   פ   *as* פּ *or* ב
as ב *as we proceed.*

See Software Chapter 1:3
for a writing demonstration

Write *feh* _____ פ

Write *peh* _____ פּ

Read Carefully
סַפָּר barber
סֵפֶר book

1.16.2.1 לִקְרוֹא וְלִכְתּוֹב - Read and write these words and phrases

map _____ מַפָּה   once again _____ עוֹד **פַּ**עַם

where _____ אֵיפֹה   *(slang)* great! _____ יוֹפִי

key _____ מַפְתֵּחַ

1.17 בִּיטוּיִים - CLASSROOM PHRASES

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.

בְּבַקָשָׁה לְהַקְשִׁיב   בְּיַחַד   בְּבַקָשָׁה

לַחְזוֹר אַחֲרַיי   מַהֵר מִדַיי   עוֹד פַּעַם!

יוֹתֵר גָדוֹל

בְּבַקָשָׁה לְמַהֵר

1.18 THE LETTER *YOOD* AS A CONSONANT - י

YOOD י *an*d **DOUBLE *YOOD*** יי

/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. _____ י

See Software Chapter 1:3
for a writing demonstration

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

day	יוֹם	bigger	יוֹתֵר גדול
right (*direction*)	ימין	together	יחד
I know (m)	אני יוֹדֵע	I know (f)	אני יודעת
(*slang*) great!	יוֹפי	there is/are	יֵש

/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*	חַיֶּלֶת

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

טלְיָה, בתְיָה, יִרְמִיָהו */yer-mi-YAH-hu/, /BAT-ya/, /TAL-ya/.*

We will <u>not</u> double the yood in words with the following pattern:

house */BAY-yit/*	בַּיִת
wine */yah-yin/*	יַיִן
summer */kah-yitz/*	קַיִץ
water */MAH-yeem/*	מַיִם
the letter *ayeen*, eye */AH-yeen/*	עַיִן

עַיִן

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

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: חַיָיל.