Plural Nouns

Oral Review Exercise

Read and translate the following sentences orally.

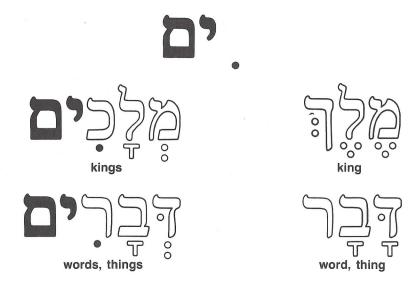
מי זאת?	5	מי אַתְּה?	L
. זֹאַת שְּׂרָה	6	אַני משֶׁה.	2
. מִי הַמֶּלֶּדְיּ	7	פּ. מִי אַתְּ?	3
. משֶׁה הַמֶּלֶרְ.	8	אָנִי לֵאָה.	4

Vocabulary

Abraham אַבְרָהָם
these m and f
word, thing m
they m
they f
and
Leah
תּוֹרֶההוֹרֶה

Masculine and Feminine Plurals

Masculine nouns are usually made plural by adding the ending



Feminine nouns are usually made plural by adding the ending



The Plural Noun

In both English and Hebrew, nouns are made plural by adding endings to their singular forms. Hebrew nouns are always either masculine or feminine. Masculine nouns are usually made plural by adding the ending \(\tilde{\D}\)\;\tilde{X}\). Feminine nouns are usually made plural by adding the ending \(\tilde{\D}\)\;\tilde{X}\).

Unusual Plurals

Many Hebrew nouns are exceptions to the basic rules of forming plurals. Look at the plural of the Hebrew word \sum_{τ}^{κ} father:

fathers father father father

masculine noun. Masculine nouns sometimes take the feminine plural ending \(\Delta\)iX, and feminine nouns sometimes take the masculine plural ending \(\Delta\)iX. However, masculine nouns are always masculine, and feminine nouns are always feminine, no matter what plural ending they have. The word \(\Delta\)iX \(\frac{fathers}{T}\) is still masculine even though it has the ending \(\Delta\)iX.

Many nouns gain or lose letters when plural endings are attached:

mothers אָמֶהוֹת	mother
blessings בָּרֶכוֹת	blessing

There are many feminine nouns like 777; that end in 7X. These nouns always lose the letter 7 when the feminine plural ending 71X is attached.

Whenever new nouns appear in the vocabulary lists of each chapter, we will give you the singular and the plural form of the noun. You must learn both these forms.

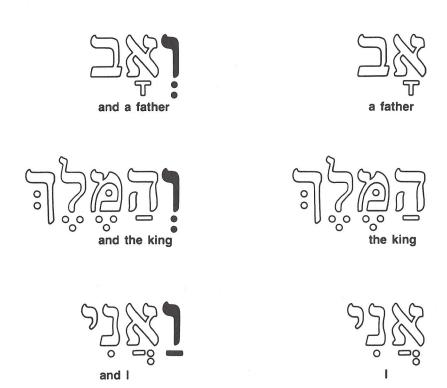
Below is a list of all the nouns you have learned that have plural forms.

kings מְלָכִים	king
words דְּבְרִים	word דְּבָר
nations עַמִּים	nation עַב
שַּבְתוֹת Sabbaths	Sabbath אַבָּע
lands אֲרָצוֹת	land
blessings בְּרָכוֹת	blessing בְּרֶכָה
mothers אַבְּהוֹת	mother
fathers אָבוֹת	father

You can see that the vowels of many of these nouns change when plural endings are added. You do not need to memorize these vowel changes. You do need to be able to recognize the plural forms.

And in Hebrew

The English word <u>and</u> is not a separate word in Hebrew. Instead, the letter 1 is attached to the beginning of a word.



The 1 <u>and</u> usually has the vowel X underneath it. You will also see it with the vowels X, X, or X. Sometimes the 1 <u>and</u> is written 1. This is pronounced <u>oo</u>, not <u>voo</u>.

a father and a king אָב וּמֶלֶּהְ a word and a blessing בָּר וּבָרֶבֶה

They in Hebrew

In the vocabulary list of this chapter, two words were introduced which both mean they: and 77. and 77. is used when referring to males. 77 is used when referring to females.

They are fathers.

הם אַבות.

They are mothers.

הָן אִמְהוֹת.

They are Abraham and Moses. רָם אַבְרָהָם וּמֹשֶׁה.

They are Sarah and Leah.

הַן שְּׂרָה וְלֵאָה.

When referring to a group that includes both males and females, the masculine form is used.

They are the father and the mother. . They are the father and the mother.

They are Moses and Leah.

הם משֶה וְלֵאָה.

In both Hebrew and English, the word they can refer to things as well as people. In Hebrew, the masculine they is used when referring to masculine nouns. The feminine they is used when referring to feminine nouns.

They are the words.

הַם הַדְּבָרִים.

They are the lands.

הן הָאַרְצוֹת.

The word 7 k these is used with masculine and feminine nouns.

These are the nations.

אָלֵה הַעַמִים.

These are the blessings.

אָלֶה הַבְּרָכוֹת.

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Exercises

1. Translate the following sentences into English.

ר. זאת הַבְּרַכָה. ו. הוא הַמֶּלֶדְּ.

8. אָלֶה הַבַּרַכוֹת. 2. הם המלכים.

פ. אַנִי ומשֵה אָבוֹת. 3. הָיא הַאָם.

4. הַן הַאָּמָהוֹת. 10. שַׂרָה וְאַתְּ אָמַהוֹת.

.11. הוא הַמֶּלֶךְ וְהֵם הַדְּבָרִים. .5 זה העם.

6. אֵלֶה הָעַמִּים. 12. אֵלֶה הַמְּלָכִים וְהֶן הָאֵרָצוֹת.

2. Change the plural forms to singular. Translate.

הם מַלְכִים. הוֹא מֵלֶךָ. Example: הָם מִלְכִים.

5. אלה העמים. ו. אָלֶה הַאָּרֶצוֹת.

2. מִי הַמְּלָכִים? 6. אֵלֵה הַבְּרָכוֹת.

3. אָלֶה הַשַּׁבָּתוֹת. ז. הַם אָמָהוֹת וָאָבוֹת.

8. אֵלֶה דָבַרִים. 4. מִי הָאִמֶּהוֹת?

3. Change the singular forms to plural. Translate.

Example: הַם מְלֶכִים. הַם מָלֶכִים.

. זאת השבת. . זאת האַרֶץ.

6. הַמֵּלֵדְ אָב. .2 זה עם.

3. מי המלה? . זאת ברכה.

8. זַה הַדָּבַר.

4. Translate these sentences into English.

ַר אֵלֶה הָאֲרָצוֹת, וְזֵה הָעָם.

.2 אַבְרָהָם וַאֲנִי אָבוֹת.

PLURAL NOUNS

3. הַן הָאִפָּהוֹת וָהֵם הַמְּלָכִים.

4. היא אם, ומי אַתּ?

5. אַתָּה הָאָב וְהַמֶּלֶךְּ.

6. זאת הַתּוֹרָה, וְאֵלֵּה הַדְּבְרִים.

7. אַנִי הַאָם וְהִיא לְאַה.

8. הָאִפָּהוֹת שַּׁרָה וְלֵאָה וְהָאָבוֹת מֹשֶׁה וְאַבְרָהָם.

פ. זֹאת הָאָרֶץ, וְאֵלֵּה הָעַמִּים.

.10 יִשִּׂרָאֵל הָעָם וְהָעָם אֶחְד.

11. הם האבות, ומי האמהות?

5. Replace the underlined word with the word in parentheses. Change the rest of the sentence if needed. Translate.

ו. אַתְּ אֶם. (אַב)

2. הוא הַמֵּלֵךְ. (הַם)

3. אַבְרָהָם וּמֹשֶה אָבוֹת. (הֵם)

4. הֵם מְלָכִים. (אָמַהוֹת)

5. זֹאַת הַשַּׁבָּת. (הַתּוֹרָה)

6. הַם הָאָם וְהָאָב. (הַמֶּלֶדְ)

7. הָן אַרְצוֹת. (זֹאת)

8. אֲנִי לֵאָה. (אַבְרָהָם)

The Beginning of Sim Shalom שִׁים שָׁלוֹם טוֹבָה וּבְרָכָה חֵן וְחָמֵד וְרַחֲמִים mercy loving grace grant goodness peace grant

Sim Shalom is the final prayer of the Shemoneh Esreh, or Amidah prayer, in the morning service. Notice the typical feminine ending אַ of the nouns אַבְּרָבָּה and אַבְּרָבָּה. Notice the repeated use of ז, meaning and. The word אַבְּרָבָּה is a noun in the plural form in Hebrew, but is translated with a singular meaning as mercy or compassion.

"Grant peace, welfare, blessing, grace, lovingkindness and mercy . . ."

Daily Prayer Book, Hertz, 1975, p. 155

The Shehecheyanu בְּרוּךְ אַתְּה, יִיְ אֱלֹהִינוּ, מֵלֶךְ הְעוֹלְם, שֵׁהְחֵיְנוּ וְקִיְמְנוּ וְהִגִּיעְנוּ לַוְמַן הַוָּה. who has made us live

Shehecheyanu is said on the first day of all festivals, and at many other celebrations. Notice the use of 1, meaning and.

"Blessed art thou, Lord our God, King of the universe, who hast granted us life and sustenance and permitted us to reach this season."

Daily Prayer Book, Birnbaum, 1977, p. 710