Time Collocations in Biblical Hebrew
A Cognitive-Statistical Analysis

Cody Kingham

Supervisor: Prof. Geoffrey Khan

Department of Asian and Middle Eastern Studies
University of Cambridge

This dissertation is submitted for the degree of
Doctor of Philosophy

St John's College   March 2021

Chapter 1

Introduction

1.1   The Cognitive Revolution

The anonymous author of the eleventh century Hebrew grammar, *Kitāb al-ʿUqūd*, begins his text the origin of language:

> Take note that rational beings examined such sounds as the creaking of a
> door, the noise of a bird, and others. Then they extracted speech sounds from
> these noises because they needed verbal expressions in order to understand each
> other's intentions, since pointing was not as adequate for this purpose as words.
> (Vidro 2013, 26)

From there, humans "contented themselves with twenty-two basic consonants," (Vidro, 26) deeming that this was enough. Then they made alphabets and vowels.

Bibliography

Vidro, N. (2013). *A Medieval Karaite Pedagogical Grammar of Hebrew.* Cambridge Genizah Studies Series. Brill, Leiden.