

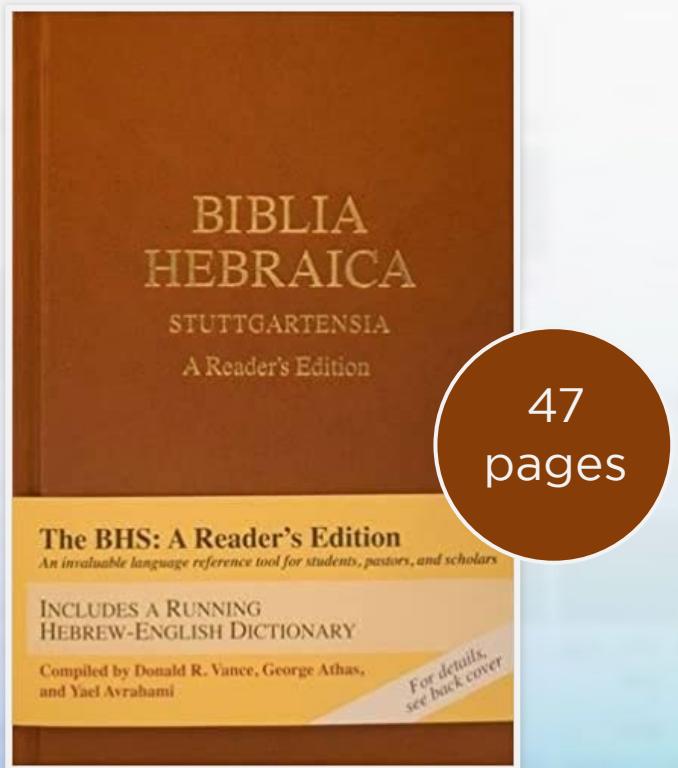
A Simplified Version of Biblical Hebrew Verb Paradigms: **A Periodic Table Approach**

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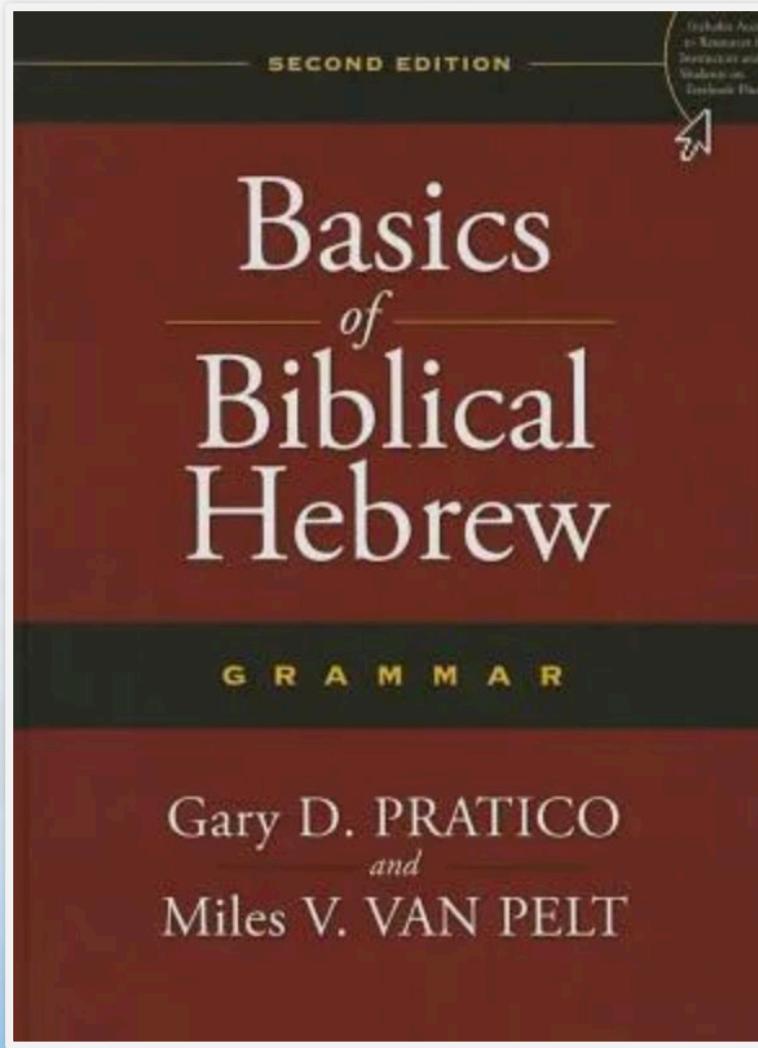
COMPREHENSIVE PRESENTATION OF BH PARADIGMS



Biblia Hebraica Stuttgartensia: A Reader's Edition



Biblical Hebrew Reviewer: A Universal Study Companion



The Challenges of Using the Traditional Paradigms approach

- Students feel overwhelmed and even discouraged at times.
- Students will soon discover that there are significant number of weak verbs that they can not simply parse with the help of the strong verb paradigms on which they spend most of their time.

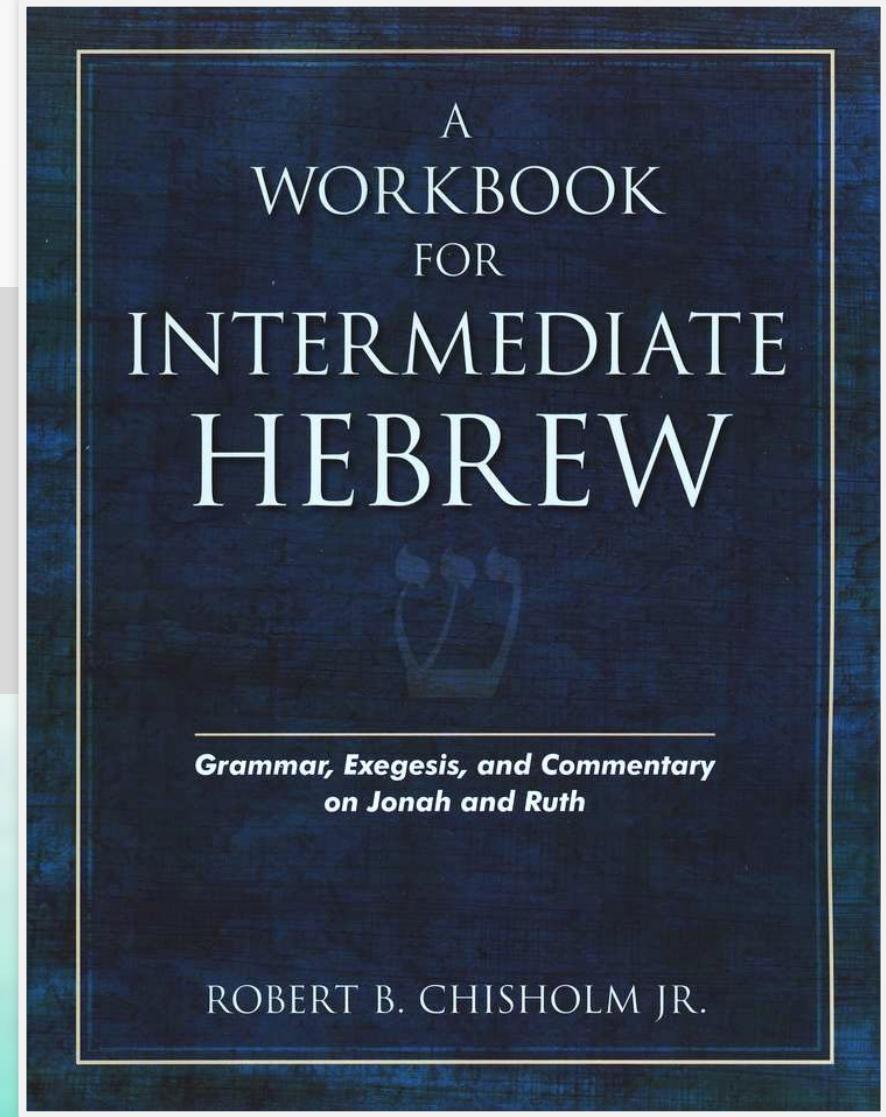
The Challenges of Using the Traditional Paradigms approach

- Students should first be able to know the root letters and the stem to consult the right table. And this poses a great challenge for beginners.
- When one of the three consonants drops or assimilates, it will be more difficult to identify which paradigm to use.

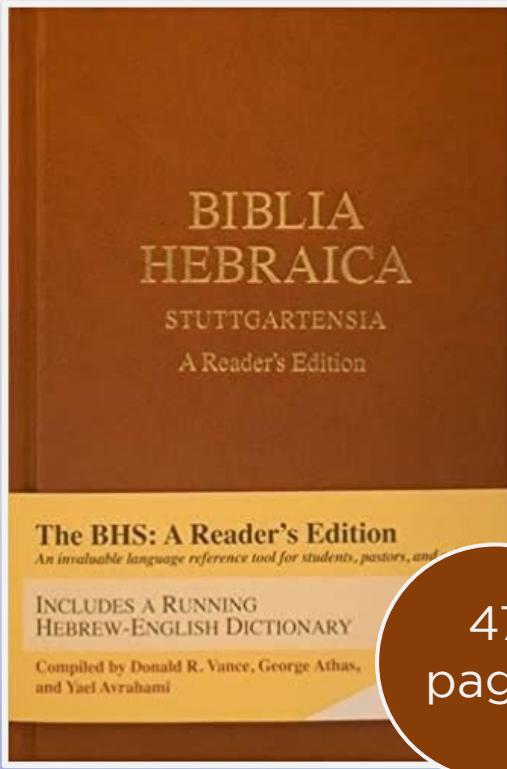
The Challenges of Using the Traditional Paradigms approach

- Similar preformatives of different stems and conjugations require students to refer several tables.
- Most of the tables do not show the changes that occur when a verb comes with objective suffixes.
- The tables contain unattested forms that are of no use for the parsing of the BH text.

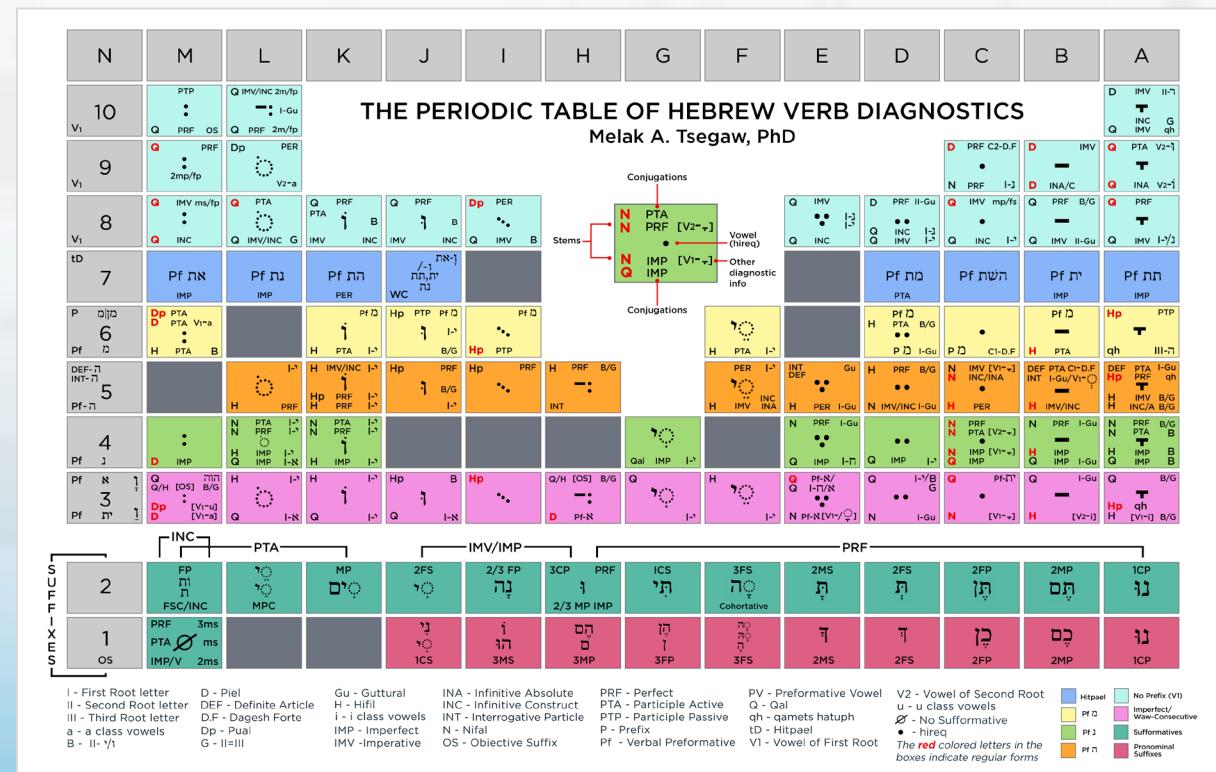
Another Approach(es)



The Periodic Table Approach

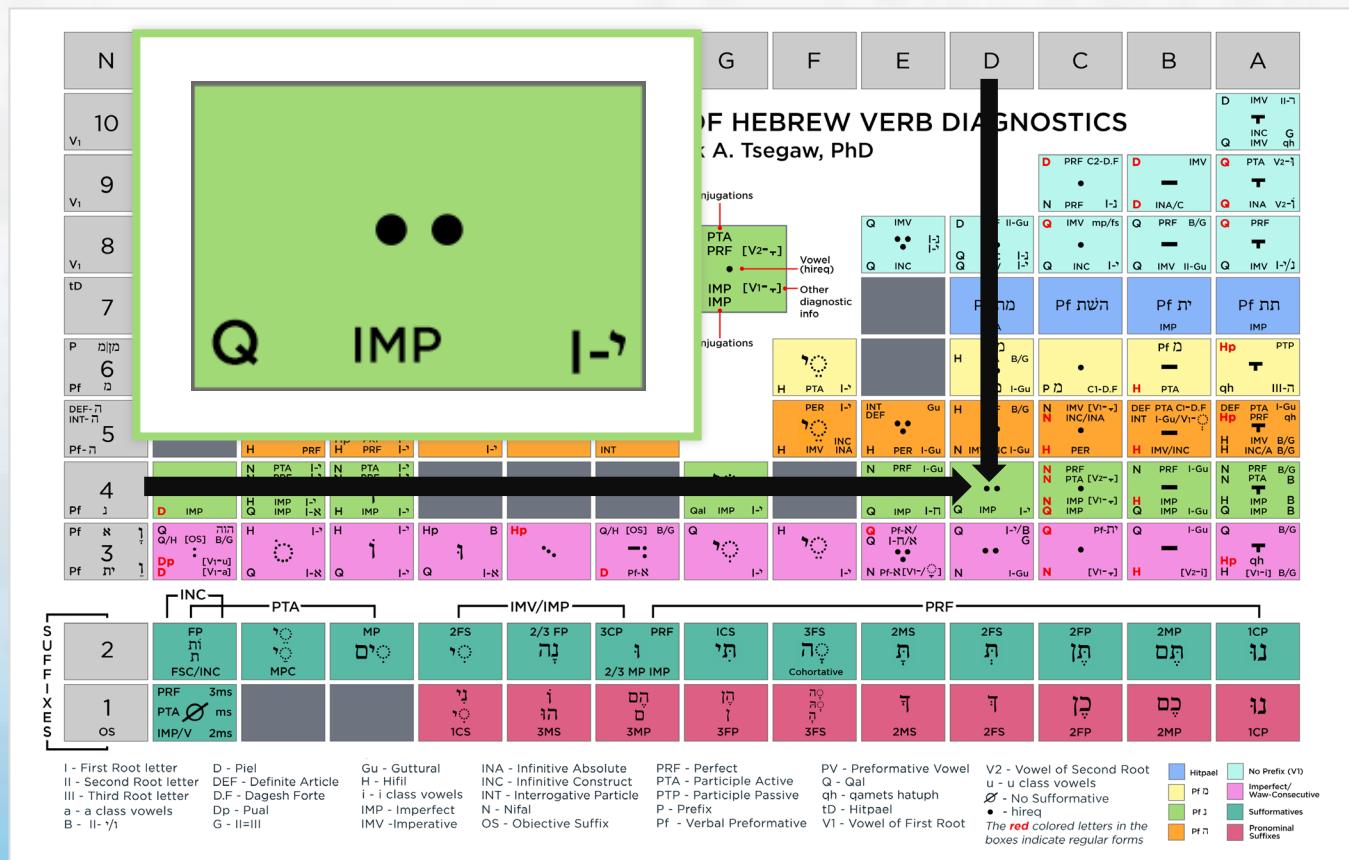


47
pages



The Periodic Table Approach

Reference can be made to each box by combining its row and column.



Rows 1 and 2

N	M	L	K	J	I	H	G	F	E	D	C	B	A
10 V _i	PTP ⋮ Q PRF OS	Q IMV/INC 2m/fp ⋮: I-Gu Q PRF 2m/fp	— Dp PER V _{2-a}										D IMV II-↪ T INC IMV G qh Q PTA V _{2-i}
9 V _i	Q PRF ⋮ 2mp/fp	Dp PER V _{2-a}											D PRF C2-D,F ⋮ N PRF I-↪ D INA/C
8 V _i	Q IMV ms/fp ⋮ Q PTA	Q PTA B ⋮ Q PTA B	Q PRF ♂ B	Q PRF ♂ B	Dp PER ⋮ ⋮								D IMV ⋮ Q IMV mp/fs ⋮ Q PRF B/G ⋮ Q PRF T

THE PERIODIC TABLE OF HEBREW VERB DIAGNOSTICS
Melak A. Tsegaw, PhD

Conjugations

N PTA PRF [V_{2-a}]

INC		PTA		IMV/IMP				PRF						
SUFFIXES	2	FP תָּתָּ FSC/INC	MP יִמְּ MPC	2FS יִיְּ	2/3 FP נֶהָ	3CP נִיְּ	PRF 2/3 MP IMP	ICS תִּיְּ	3FS הַנִּיְּ Cohortative	2MS הַתִּיְּ	2FS תִּתְּ	2FP תִּתְּןִיְּ	2MP תִּתְּנִיְּ	1CP נִיְּ
SUFFIXES	1 OS	PRF 3ms PTA ⚡ ms IMP/V 2ms			1CS נִיְּ	3MS הַנִּיְּ	3MP תִּםְ	3FP תִּנְ	3FS הַנִּנְ	2MS הַתִּנְ	2FS תִּנְ	2FP תִּנְנִיְּ	2MP תִּנְנִיְּ	1CP נִנְ

SUFFIXES	2	FP תָּתָּ FSC/INC	MP יִמְּ MPC	2FS יִיְּ	2/3 FP נֶהָ	3CP נִיְּ	PRF 2/3 MP IMP	ICS תִּיְּ	3FS הַנִּיְּ Cohortative	2MS הַתִּיְּ	2FS תִּתְּ	2FP תִּתְּןִיְּ	2MP תִּתְּנִיְּ	1CP נִיְּ
SUFFIXES	1 OS	PRF 3ms PTA ⚡ ms IMP/V 2ms			1CS נִיְּ	3MS הַנִּיְּ	3MP תִּמְ	3FP תִּנְ	3FS הַנִּנְ	2MS הַתִּנְ	2FS תִּנְ	2FP תִּנְנִיְּ	2MP תִּנְנִיְּ	1CP נִנְ

I - First Root letter D - Piel
 II - Second Root letter DEF - Definite Article
 III - Third Root letter H - Hifil
 a - a class vowels H - i class vowels
 B - II-γ IMP - Imperfect
 Dp - Dagesh Forte INT - Interrogative Particle
 G - II-III N - Nifal
 OS - Objective Suffix Q - Qal
 PTA - Participle Active q - qamets hatuph
 PTP - Participle Passive P - Prefix
 Pv - Preformative Vowel tD - Hitpael
 V1 - Vowel of First Root u - u class vowels
 V2 - Vowel of Second Root ⚡ - No Sufformative
 u - u class vowels ● - hireq
 ⚡ - No Sufformative ○ - vav-consecutive
 P - Verbal Preformative P - Patah
 The red colored letters in the boxes indicate regular forms



Rows 3 to 6

THE PERIODIC TABLE OF HEBREW VERB DIAGNOSTICS

Melak A. Tsegaw, PhD

N	M	L	K	J	I	H	G	F	E	D	C	B	A
10 V ₁	PTP Q PRF OS Q PRF 2m/fp	Q IMV/INC 2m/fp Dp PER Dp V2-a	-: I-Gu 2mp/fp	Q PRF 2m/fp	Q PRF OS Dp PER Dp V2-a	Q PRF OS Dp PER Dp PTP							
9 V ₁	Q PRF OS 2mp/fp	Q PRF OS Dp PER Dp V2-a	Q PRF OS Dp PER Dp PTP	Q PRF OS Dp PER Dp PTP	Q PRF OS Dp PER Dp PTP	Q PRF OS Dp PER Dp PTP	Q PRF OS Dp PER Dp PTP	Q PRF OS Dp PER Dp PTP	Q PRF OS Dp PER Dp PTP	Q PRF OS Dp PER Dp PTP	Q PRF OS Dp PER Dp PTP	Q PRF OS Dp PER Dp PTP	Q PRF OS Dp PER Dp PTP
DEF-ה INT-ה Pf-ה	DEF PTA CI-D.F INT PTA VI-ה Pf-ה	PRF H PTA B	PRF H PTA I-ה	PRF H PTA B/G	PRF H PTA B/G	PRF H PTA B/G	PRF H PTA B/G	PRF H PTA B/G	PRF H PTA B/G	PRF H PTA B/G	PRF H PTA B/G	PRF H PTA B/G	PRF H PTA B/G
4 Pf י	IMP D IMP	PRF H Q IMP I-ה	PRF H Q IMP I-ה	PRF H Q IMP I-ה	PRF H Q IMP I-ה	PRF H Q IMP I-ה	PRF H Q IMP I-ה	PRF H Q IMP I-ה	PRF H Q IMP I-ה	PRF H Q IMP I-ה	PRF H Q IMP I-ה	PRF H Q IMP I-ה	PRF H Q IMP I-ה
3 Pf נִי	Q/H [OS] הוה B/G Dp D [V1-u] [V1-a]	PRF H Q I-נִי	PRF H Q I-נִי	PRF H Q I-נִי	PRF H Q I-נִי	PRF H Q I-נִי	PRF H Q I-נִי	PRF H Q I-נִי	PRF H Q I-נִי	PRF H Q I-נִי	PRF H Q I-נִי	PRF H Q I-נִי	PRF H Q I-נִי

X	E	S	1 OS	PRF PTA ms IMP/V ms 2ms	1CS	3MS	3MP	3FP	3FS	2MS	2FS	2FP	2MP	1CP
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I - First Root letter
II - Second Root letter
III - Third Root letter
a - a class vowels
B - II-'/י'

D - Piel
DEF - Definite Article
D.F - Dagesh Forte
Dp - Dual
G - II=III

Gu - Guttural
H - Hifil
I - i class vowels
IMP - Imperfect
IMV - Imperative

INA - Infinitive Absolute
INC - Infinitive Construct
INT - Interrogative Particle
N - Nifal
OS - Objective Suffix

PRF - Perfect
PTA - Participle Active
PTP - Participle Passive
P - Prefix
Pf - Verbal Preformative

PV - Preformative Vowel
Q - Qal
qh - qamets hatuph
tD - Hitpael
V1 - Vowel of First Root

V2 - Vowel of Second Root
u - u class vowels
∅ - No Suffixative
• - hireq
The red colored letters in the boxes indicate regular forms

Hitpael
Pf I
Pf J
Pf N
Pronominal
Suffixes

Row 7

N	M	L	K	J	I	H	G	F	E	D	C	B	A
10 V1	PTP • Q PRF OS	Q IMV/INC 2m/fp —: I-Gu Q PRF 2m/fp											D IMV II- T INC G Q IMV qh
9 V1	Q PRF • 2mp/fp	Dp PER V2-a											D PRF C2-D.F. • N PRF I- D INA/C
8 V1	Q IMV ms/fp • Q INC	Q PTA • Q IMV/INC G	Q PTA B IMV INC	Q PRF B IMV INC	Dp PER • Q IMV B								D IMV T V2- Q PTA V2- T Q INA V2- Q PRF T Q IMV I-/1
tD 7	Pf אָתָּה IMP	Pf נָתַּתְּ IMP	Pf הָתַּתְּ PER		Pf וְתַּתְּ WC								

THE PERIODIC TABLE OF HEBREW VERB DIAGNOSTICS
Melak A. Tsegaw, PhD

Conjugations

Stems

Vowel (hireq)

Other diagnostic info

tD 7	Pf אָתָּה IMP	Pf נָתַּתְּ IMP	Pf הָתַּתְּ PER	Pf וְתַּתְּ WC									
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Pf אָתָּה 3 Dp נָתַּתְּ [V1-u] [V1-a]	Q/H [OS] B/G • Q I-N	I-N Q I-N	I-N Q I-N	I-N D PTA-N	I-N Q I-N	I-N Q I-N	I-N Q I-N	I-N Q I-N	I-N Q I-N	I-N Q I-N	I-N H [V2-1] H [V1-1] B/G			
S U F F E E S 2 1 OS	INC PTA 3ms PTA Ø ms IMP/V 2ms	PTA FSC/INC MPC	MP מִפְכָּרֶת	2FS יֵלֹךְ	2/3 FP נָאֵן	3CP יָאֵן	PRF 2/3 MP IMP	ICS יְהִי	3FS נָאֵן	2MS תָּאֵן	2FS תָּאֵן	2FP תָּאֵן	2MP תָּאֵן	1CP נָאֵן

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/y/

D - Piel
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V1 - Vowel of First Root

V2 - Vowel of Second Root
u - u class vowels
Ø - No Sufformative
• - hireq
The red colored letters in the boxes indicate regular forms

Hitpael
Pf נ
Pf י
Pf ת
Pf נ
Pf ת
No Prefix (V1)
Imperfect/
Wav-Consecutive
Sufformatives
Pronominal
Suffixes

Recommended Steps

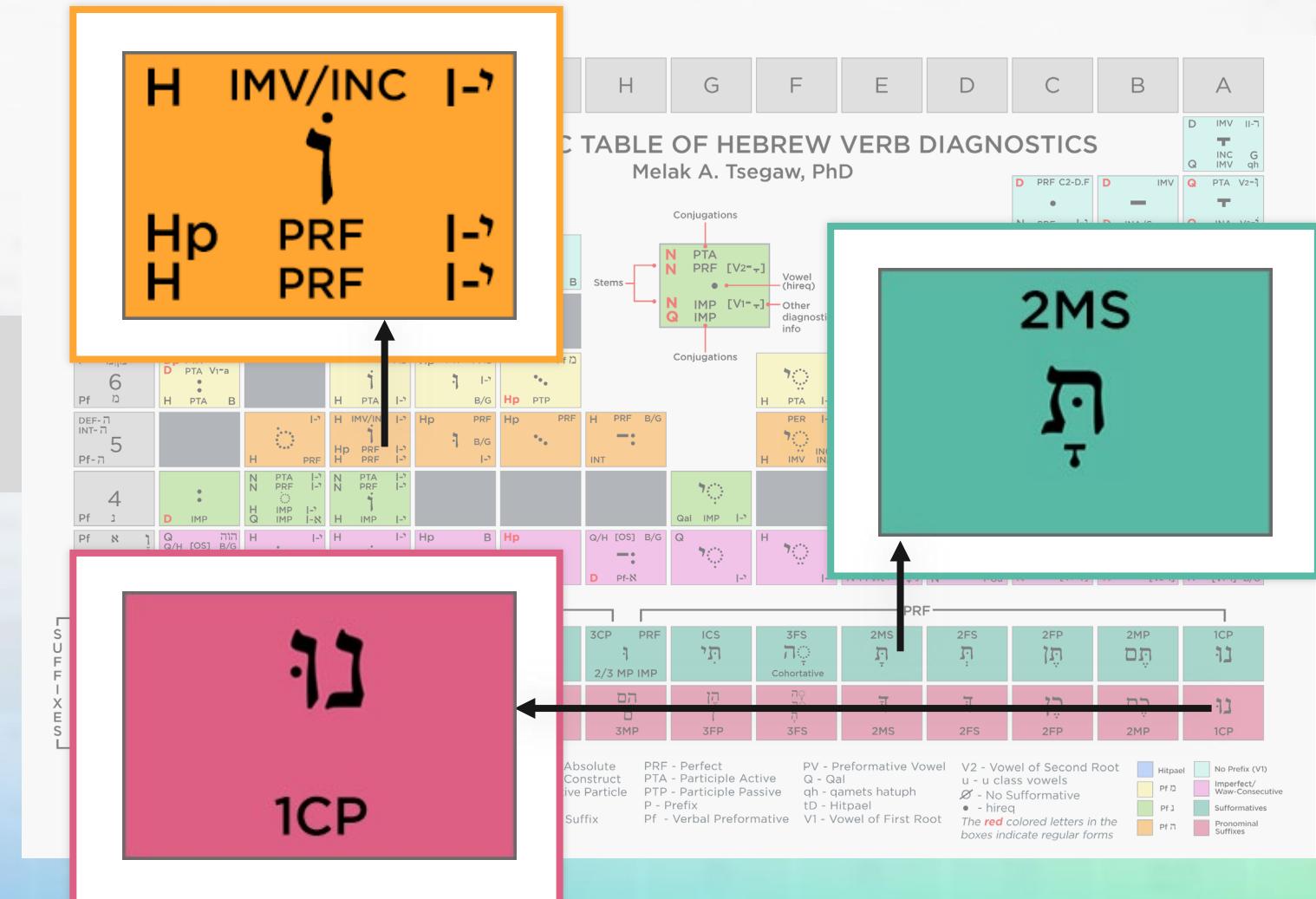
- **Step 1** - Check if suffixes of Row 1 and/or Row 2 are present
- **Step 2** - Check if the verb comes with a preformative and use the row that matches (Rows 3-7).
- **Step 3** - Check if the verb is without a preformative and focus on Rows 8-10.

Examples

דברת

Examples

הוֹשֵׁעַתָּנוּ

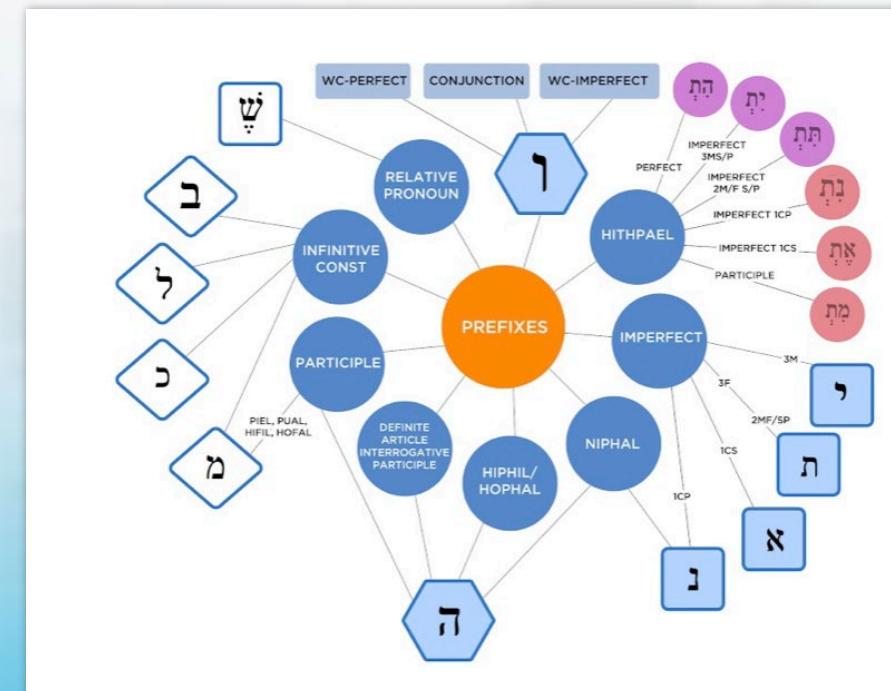
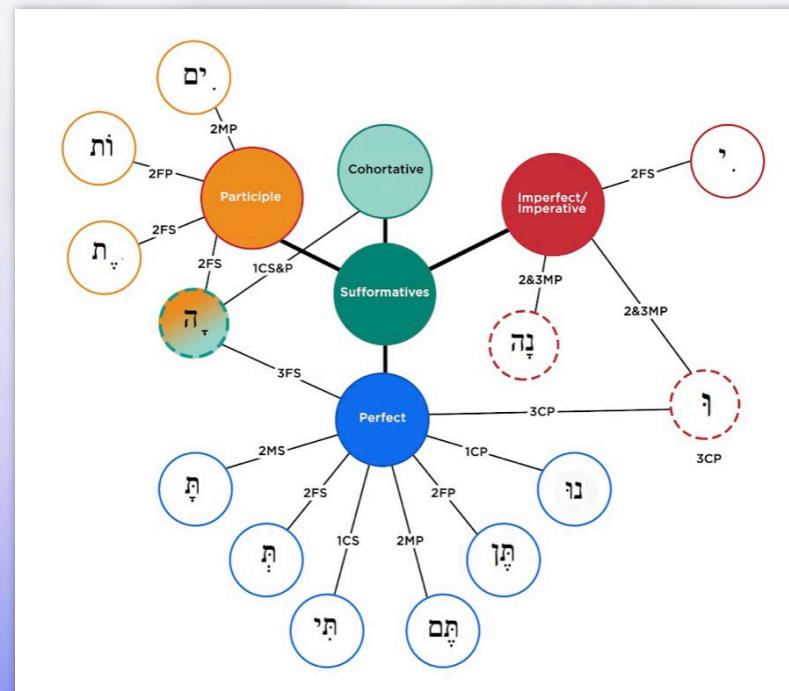


Pedagogical Advantages of the Periodic Table Approach

Pedagogical Advantages of the Periodic Table Approach

Recognition

Suffixes and Prefixes



Pedagogical Advantages of the Periodic Table Approach

Recognition

Similar forms

THE PERIODIC TABLE OF HEBREW
Melak A. Tsega

The table includes a legend at the bottom:

- II - Second Root letter
- III - Third Root letter
- a - a class vowels
- B - II-γ/ι
- DEF - Definite Article
- D.F - Dagesh Forte
- Dp - Dual
- G - II=III
- H - Hiri
- i - i class vowels
- IMP - Imperfect
- IMV - Imperative
- NA - Infinitive Absolute
- INC - Infinitive Construct
- INT - Interrogative Particle
- N - Nifal
- OS - Objective Suffix
- PRF - Perfect
- PTA - Participle Active
- PTP - Participle Passive
- P - Prefix
- Pf - Verbal Preformative
- PV - Preformative Vowel
- Q - Qal
- qh - qamets hatuph
- tD - Hitpael
- V1 - Vowel of First Root

Legend:

- Hitpael
- No Prefix (V)
- Pf D
- Imperf/ Waw-Consecutive
- Pf 1
- Suffixatives
- Pf נ
- Pronominal Suffixes

Pedagogical Advantages of the Periodic Table Approach

Reconstruction

ר-י

ג-י

ר/נ=ו

ו=ו

ו-ה

Pedagogical Advantages of the Periodic Table Approach

Retention

The Periodic Table approach has helped students to grasp the morphological features of Hebrew verbs and aid their memorization of the diagnostics.

Student's Testimonial

John Aubrey De Villiers

Obvious Bukhos Mpofu

Enock Sambongo

Conclusion

Work-in-Progress

