6.2.Independent Prepositions:

These prepositions stand alone.

לִפְנֵי הַמֶּ֫לֶךְ before the king

תַּ֫חַת הָעֵץ under the tree

אַחַר הַמַּבּוּל after the flood

בֵּין הַמַּ֫יִם between the water

6.3.Maqqef Prepositions.

These prepositions joined to their objects by a raised horizontal stroke called a Maqqef.

עַל־הָאֶ֫בֶן upon the stone

אֶל־הַהֵיכָל to the temple

עַד־הַנָּהָר as far as the river

מִן־הָאָ֫רֶץ from the land

6.4.Inseparable Prepositions.

These prepositions are prefixed directly to their objects and never occur independently. Only three:בְּ לְ כְּ

6.4.1.Before most consonants: appear with Vocal Shewa.

בְּשָׁדֶה in a field

לְנַ֫עַר for a young man

כְּמֶ֫לֶךְ like a king

6.4.2.Before a reduced or Hateph vowel: take the corresponding short vowel of the Hateph vowel.

כַּאֲנָשִׁים like men

בֶּאֱמֶת in truth

לָהֳלִי for sickness

6.4.3.Before consonants with Vocal Shewa: the inseparable prepositions are spelled with Hireq.

לִנְבִיאִים for prophets

לִבְרִית for a covenant

6.4.4.In nouns with the definite article: definite article’s vowel and Daghesh Forte are retained, but definite article’s consonant is replaced by the consonant of the preposition.

הַשָּׂדֶה בַּשָּׂדֶה in the field

הָאֵשׁ בָּאֵשׁ in the fire

הַנַּ֫עַר לַנַּ֫עַר for the boy

הַמֶּ֫לֶךְ כַּמֶּ֫לֶךְ like the king

6.5.2.The Form of the preposition מִן

The preposition מִן can also occur as an inseparable preposition. When this happens, the נ of the preposition assimilates into the first consonant of the noun to which it is prefixed. The assimilated נ is subsequently represented by a Daghesh Forte.

מִן־מֶ֫לֶךְ from a king → מִמֶּ֫לֶךְ from a king

A. When מִן is inseparably prefixed to a word beginning with a begadkephat consonant, the Daghesh Lene of the begadkephat consonant becomes a Daghesh Forte as in בַּ֫יִת to מִבַּ֫יִת(from a house).

B. When מִן is inseparably prefixed to a word beginning with a guttural consonant, the Hireq under the מ lengthens to Tsere as in מֵאִישׁ(from a man), or מֵעִיר(from a city).

C. Virtual doubling: When מִן is inseparably prefixed to a word beginning with ח, Daghesh Forte is often rejected by the guttural but without compensatory lengthening as in מִחוּץ(from outside). In some instances, compensatory lengthening will occur, as in מֵחֶ֫רֶב(from a sword).

6.6.The use of the preposition מִן.

1.Comparative Use.

2.Superlative Use.

3.Partitive Use.

6.7.The Definite Direct Object Marker.

The direct object is the word that receives the action of the verb. In Hebrew, the definite direct object marker, also called the accusative marker, is often spelled exactly the same as the preposition אֵת/אֶת־ which translates “with”.

6.9.Vocabulary.