## Some Technical Notes and Suggestions

- <u>The ability to read Hebrew, even if slowly, is a prerequisite</u> for using the הַנָּה text and workbook. Only some reading tips are occasionally offered when relevant.
- Translations offered for Biblical passages are from a variety of those available in print. Sources for the translations, mostly of the list below, are presented *only* if more than one translation is offered for the same Hebrew passage<sup>1</sup>.

[KJ]		1611	King James Version
[OJPS]		1917	Old JPS - Jewish Publication Society Translation
[AK]	A. Kaplan	1981	The Living Torah. New York, Jerusalem: Maznaim Publishing Corporation
[JB]		1983	The Jerusalem Bible. Jerusalem: Koren Publishers
[NJPS]		1985	<i>Tanakh, The Holy Scripture - The New JPS Translation.</i> Philadelphia, Jerusalem: Jewish Publication Society.
[EF]	E. Fox	1990	The Five Books of Moses. New York: Schocken Books
[RA]	R. Alter	1996 1999 2007	The Five Books of Moses. New York, London: W. W. Norton & Company The David Story (I&IISamuel). New York, London: W. W. Norton & Company The Book of Psalms. New York, London: W. W. Norton & Company

You are encouraged to also consult any other translation you like.

• The recommended lexicons to help you work through the translation exercises at this introductory level are:

Holladay, W. L. A Concise Hebrew and Aramaic Lexicon of the Old Testament. Grand Rapids, Michigan: W. B. Eerdmans Publishing Company.

or the more extensive:

Koehler, L., Baumgartner, W., & Stamm, J. J. *The Hebrew and Aramaic Lexicon of the Old Testament*. Leiden: Brill Academic Publishers.

- Terminology used in הַנָּה is not always the terminology commonly used in other academic textbooks. When proceeding to more advanced grammars consult the comparative terms list offered in your Tool Box (Tool No. 18).
- The traditionally unpronounced divine name of the LORD appears throughout the textbook with the euphemistic abbreviation form: 'n .
- Each clause in a passage is usually printed on separate lines to allow for easier grasp.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Sources are *not* mentioned in the Answer Key in similar cases.

- Hebrew passages, and much of their translations which are offered, will usually not be fully punctuated.
- Parts of passages printed in smaller Hebrew fonts indicate that the text is beyond the current comprehension level. Translation for such parts, in smaller English fonts, is always provided either in examples or exercises.
- As there are no upper case letters in Hebrew to designate proper names, names which are assumed to be less familiar to students are often printed in italics.
- Cantelation signs (סָעָמִים) are not taught in this program. Only the *meteg* sigh is occasionally used (e.g.Vol. I, Lessons 41-43) to indicate the place of accent.
- The maqqef sign (-) connecting two words is usually omitted in passages offered. The maqqef may affect the vowels of the first word, but not the meaning of the joined words.
- Translation exercises are essential in order to benefit from the program and reinforce the application of the lexical and grammatical studies. Do your best. Note that your translation may be correct even if different from the translation offered in the Answer Key. Consider the reasons for the difference. Consult other translations.
- If you find some of the translation exercises difficult, do not skip. Read them with the offered translations in the Answer Key.
- Your Tool Box includes lists of frequently occurring vocabulary organized in different categories: nouns, verbs, pronouns, prepositions and adjectives, as well as an additional short glossary of other useful vocabulary. The Tool Box also includes various basic paradigms. These Tools, together with frequent exposure to examples and translation exercises, will help you build your competence. While translating, always look up words in your Tools. If they are not found there, proceed to the Lexicon. As you progress through the הַצָּה program, gradually familiarize yourself with the basic vocabulary appearing in your Tool Box. Eventually, memorizing will save you much time looking up words in the Lexicon, as well as allow for the internalization of forms and patterns that are transferable to the less common vocabulary.
- Your Tool Box contains a variety of parsing charts that will help you develop your analytical skills, and lead you to the right entry in your vocabulary lists or in your Lexicon.
- A few Lessons are offered as optional due to frequency considerations. You may still study them in the order in which they appear, to have a better grasp of the full grammatical system, or skip them at this stage, and return to them later, after completing the required program.