

Hebrew Grammar
Ross Homework Key

IBH 25.7

Section a. none

Section b. 1-11

1. The whole earth/land was (of) one language and one (set of) words. [or “... same language and the same words.”]
2. There was evening and there was morning, a third day.
3. He rested on the seventh day from all his work.
4. Now Abram was seventy-five years old. (To be a ‘son of X yrs’ = to be ‘X yrs old’.)
5. He had seven sons and three daughters.
6. Hear, o Israel, Yhwh our God, Yhwh (is) one!
7. And he sacrificed the offering which he had sacrificed to Yhwh, (namely) 22,000 head of cattle and 120,000 sheep.
8. He had (as) wives 700 princesses, and 300 concubines.
9. (And) they captured it at the end of¹ three years, in year six of Hezekiah, which was (lit. “it was”) year nine of Hosea, the king of Israel.
10. (And) at the end of thirty years and four hundred years (=430 years) . . . all the hosts/armies of YHWH went out from the land of Egypt.
11. These were the numbered² (men) of the sons of Israel by the house(hold) of their fathers; all of the numbered (men) of the camps by their hosts/armies were 603,550.

¹ Note that מִקֵּץ needs to be analyzed to determine its parts. This is the m.s. noun קֵץ, but in the construct state. To review what happens to nouns ending in קֵץ when placed in the construct state, see p. 100 of Ross. The prefix מִ is really the preposition מִן, but the dagesh forte (DF) that we would expect in קֵץ has dropped due to the fact that there’s a vocal shewa under the letter that should have the DF. To review this, see p. 78 at bottom of the page. Finally, how did we arrive at the translation “at the end of”? קֵץ means “end, extremity.” מִן plus קֵץ in the context of a time reference means “at the end of a certain time.”

² Acc. to DCH (Dictionary of Classical Hebrew), one sense of Qal פָּקַד is “to count, number, register, enrol.” Here we have a Qal passive ptc, mp cst of פָּקַד being used substantively: ‘the numbered (ones) of....’