Ross Lesson 23: Qal INFA Forms, More on Pron Sfxs LECTURE NOTES

1. Forms of the Qal INFA (Infinitive Absolute) (Ross 23.1)

Qal pft 3ms	פקד	שׁלח
Qal infc	פקד	שׁלח
Qal infa	פק ד	שׁל ח

2. Uses/Syntax of the INFA (Ross 23.2)

2.1. <u>Emphasis use</u>: Main verb and infa verb share the same root letters. It strengthens the function of the main verb.

Genesis 50:24

24 וַיֹּ֤אמֶר יוֹסֵף֙ אֶל־אֶחָ֔יו אָנֹכִ֖י מֵ֑ת וֵֽאלֹהִ֞ים פָּקֹ֧ד יִפְקֹ֛ד אֶתְכֶ֗ם

Joseph said to his brothers, "I am about to die, but God will surely visit you

Genesis 37:8

הֲמָלֹ֤ךְ תִּמְלֹךְ֙ עָלֵ֔ינוּ

Will you indeed rule over us?

Genesis 2:16

מִכֹּ֥ל עֵֽץ־הַגָּ֖ן אָכֹ֥ל תֹּאכֵֽל׃

(from every tree of the garden) you may freely eat.

2.2. <u>Complementary idea</u>: one main verb, 2 infa forms; one of the infa forms matches the verbal root of the main verb.

Genesis 12:9

וַיִּסַּ֣ע אַבְרָ֔ם הָל֥וֹךְ וְנָס֖וֹעַ הַנֶּֽגְבָּה׃

And Abram travelled, going and travelling to the Negev (i.e., he continually travelled).

1 Samuel 6:12

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הָלְכוּ הָלֹךְ וְגָעֹו

</div>

They (oxen) went, going and lowing (i.e., oxen walked along, lowing as they walked).

2.3. <u>Sequence</u>: An INFA can occur in sequence with another finite verb, where it conveys the nuance of that finite verb.

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פָּקַדְתִּי וְשָׁלֹוחַ

</div>

I appointed <u>and (I) sent</u>

2.4. <u>Independent Verb</u>: An INFA can also occur without being in sequence with a finite verb, but the INFA will still be rendered as if it were a finite verb.

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זָכוֹר אֶת־יוֹם הַשַּׁבָּת

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Exod 20:8 <u>Remember</u> the Sabbath day

3. Negating the INFA (Ross 23.3)

Generally, the INFA is not negated, but the main verb is. You negate the main verb the normal way (לֹא).

Typical word order for negating INFA in a clause:

←   MAIN VB לֹא   INFA

←   INFA   MAIN VB לֹא

3 exceptions, where the INFA itself is negated: Gen 3:4; Amos 9:8; Ps 49:8 (see lecture for the Genesis passage)

4. Pronoun Suffixes on יֵשׁ and אֵין (Ross 23.4)

4.1. These two forms generally use the "Set #1" (or "E-harmony") pronoun suffixes (like prep מִן). See p. 169 in Ross for the full paradigms. Here are a few exx:

יֶשְׁנוֹ 3ms sfx   there is him = He is   אֵינֶנּוּ 3ms sfx   there is not him = He is not

יֶשְׁךָ 2ms sfx   there is you = You are   אֵינֶנָּה 3fs sfx   there is not her = She is not

יֶשְׁכֶם 2mp sfx   there is y'all = Y'all are

4.2. When they have pronoun suffixes, יֵשׁ/אֵין tend to have a copular function (translate like BE/NOT-BE, and the pron. sfx. functions as the Subject).

אִם יֶשְׁכֶם שֹׁמְרִים אֶת־הַתּוֹרָה   If you/y'all are keeping the law….

הַנָּבִיא אֵינֶנּוּ פֹה   The prophet—he is not here. (or: The prophet is not here.)

אֵינֶנִּי עֹבֵד   I am not serving.

5. Pronoun Suffixes on אַיֵּה (Where?) and עוֹד (still, yet) (Ross 23.5)

When these words have pronoun suffixes, they tend to function like a copula (BE) with extra semantic baggage (WHERE-BE?, STILL/YET-BE), while the pron. sfx. functions as the Subject. (See Ross p. 170 for the available forms.)

אַיֶּכָּה 2ms sfx   WHERE-BE you? = You are where?/Where are you?   עוֹדֶנּוּ 3ms sfx   He STILL-BE = He still is

עוֹדִי 1cs sfx   I STILL-BE = I still am

עוֹדֶנִּי עֹבֵד: I STILL-BE serving= I am still serving.

עוֹדֶנּוּ פֹה: He STILL-BE here = He is still here.