

Ross Lesson 7: Noun Endings, Sentences, Conjunction WAW LECTURE NOTES

1. Noun and Adjective Endings (Ross 7.1)

Below is a chart containing the proper endings that we add to nouns and adjectives to mark whether the word is masculine singular, masculine plural, feminine singular, or feminine plural. Then we have the nouns סוס (horse) and סוּסָה (mare) with these endings. You need to be able to reproduce this chart, since the endings are applicable to a great many types of words: nouns, adjectives, and participles (which we'll meet later). Ø = zero/no ending.

1.1. The forms

	Endings Alone		Endings with Nouns	
	Sing.	Pl.	Sing.	Pl.
Masc.	Ø-	ים־	סוס	סוסים
Fem.	ה־ ת־	ות־	סוּסָה	סוסות

Here are some blank charts that you can use to drill yourself for memory.

	Endings Alone		Endings with Nouns	
	Sing.	Pl.	Sing.	Pl.
Masc.				
Fem.				

	Endings Alone		Endings with Nouns	
	Sing.	Pl.	Sing.	Pl.
Masc.				
Fem.				

1.2. Some cautions: irregular plural endings.

Sing. Noun Gender/Number

אָב ms (father)

אַשָׁה fs (woman/wife)

Pl. Noun Gender/Number

אָב mp (fathers)

נָשׁ fp (women/wives)

1.3. Semantics of “number” (sg./pl.). _____

Semantics

➤ Numerical plurality:
more than one

➤ Mass noun vs. Count
noun

➤ Plural for abstract noun

➤ Plural of majesty (or
honorific plural)

Sg noun, meaning

עֵיר _____

כֶּסֶף _____

דָּם _____

Pl noun, meaning

עָרִים _____

כֶּסֶפִּים _____

דָּמִים _____

אֱלֹהִים _____

2. Clauses/Sentences (Ross 7.2)

2.1. Some terms:

Verbal sentence:

Verbless sentence:

Null = not written/expressed; null-copula = no copula (BE) is written.

2.2. Verbal clauses/sentences:

Dr. M loves chocolate.

Dr. M swims in chocolate.

קָטַל מֶשֶׁה סוֹס:

V S O (verb-subject-obj)

V S PP (verb-subj-prep phrase)

2.3. Verbless clauses/sentences:

S (V) SC: (S = subject; SC = subject complement; V = copula, but copula is null in BH)

You are handsome. (SC = adj)
You are a man. (SC = noun)
You are at work. (SC = PP)

Hebrew exx:

הַמֶּלֶךְ עַל־הַכֶּסֶּא: מִי צָדִיק:

2.4. Case function: how a noun functions in its grammatical role in a clause

Nominative function = _____

Accusative function = _____

Genitive function = _____

3. Conjunction **וַ** 'and, but, yet' (Ross 7.3)

3.1. Typically prefix **וַ** to front of noun (conj. waw comes standard with VS, like inseparable preps)

וְסוֹס _____

וְאִשׁ וְאִשָּׁה _____

3.2. Ways conj **וַ** is prefixed similarly to the inseparable prepositions (**בְּ לְ בֵּ**)

a. When word begins with CS (waw loses both eyes, replaced by corresponding short vowel):

אֲדָמָה

אָדָם

b. When word begins with **יְ** (yod quiesces and the waw takes a hireq-yod **וֵי**):

יהוּדָה becomes

3.3. Ways conj וְ is prefixed NOT like the inseparable prepositions (בְּ לְ כִּי)

a. Conj וְ becomes וֹ (shureq) when word begins with VS (no Red Ryder):

שְׁמוּאֵל

b. Conj וְ becomes וֹ (shureq) when word begins with a “BuMP” consonant (ב מ פ):

מֵיִם

c. Conj וְ does NOT eat “hay sandwiches” (that’s why the conj. וְ is so skinny!); the article’s full form remains:

הַמֶּלֶךְ + prep לְ > _____ (‘to the king’), but

הַמֶּלֶךְ + conj וְ > _____ (‘and the king’)

3.4. Before ACCENTED syllables, the conj וְ > וֹ (frequently, not always).

So two possibilities to say ‘and water’ (notice מֵיִם accents the first syllable to which the conjunction is added/prefixed):

מֵיִם (due to BuMP rule)

מֵיִם (due to accent on 1st syll)

3.5. Summary: 4 forms of the conj וְ

Form	When
⌋	Normal
⌋	BuMP/word begins with VS
⌋	Word begins with accented syllable.
⌋	Word begins with —

4. Translating the conjunction *WAW* ⌋ (Ross 7.4)

- a. If ⌋ joins non-sentences (nouns, adjs, etc.), translate ‘and’.
- b. If ⌋ joins sentences (or clauses), normally you’ll translate ‘and’. If the two sentences are semantically contrastive, then translate ‘but’.
- c. If ⌋ joins sentences (or clauses) in a parenthetical way, translate ‘now...’.