

Hebrew Grammar
Ross Homework Key

IBH 25.7

Section a. 1-20 None (Do Drill Sheet instead for Dr. M; here are answers for practice.)

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|---|---|
| (1) תֵּשַׁע שָׁנָה | (13) אַרְבַּעִים וְשָׁנָה גְבוּרִים / שָׁנָה |
| (2) שִׁבְעַת בָּנִים | וְאַרְבַּעִים גְבוּרִים |
| (3) שְׁמֹנֶה עָרִים | (14) בְּשָׁנַת שְׁלֹשִׁים וְשִׁבְעַת (שָׁנָה) / |
| (4) שָׁנָה יוֹם | בְּשִׁלְשִׁים וְשִׁבְעַת שָׁנָה ¹ |
| (5) הַיּוֹם הַרְבִּיעִי | (15) שְׁמֹנֶה מֵאוֹת שָׁנָה |
| (6) הַשָּׁנָה הַשְּׁנִית | (16) תֵּשַׁע מֵאוֹת וְחֲמִשׁ שָׁנָה / חֲמִשׁ |
| (7) חֲמִשָּׁה עָשָׂר דְּבָרִים | שָׁנִים וְתֵשַׁע מֵאוֹת שָׁנָה ² |
| (8) שְׁמֹנֶה עָשָׂרָה בְּרִכּוֹת | (17) שָׁלֹשׁ מֵאוֹת שָׁנָה וְשָׁשִׁים וְחֲמִשׁ |
| (9) עָשָׂרִים מְלָכִים | שָׁנָה / חֲמִשׁ וְשָׁשִׁים שָׁנָה |
| (10) חֲמִשִּׁים כְּלִי / כְּלִים | וְשָׁלֹשׁ מֵאוֹת שָׁנָה ³ |
| (11) עָשָׂרִים וְאַחַד יוֹם / אֶחָד | (18) שִׁבְעַת מֵאוֹת שָׁנָה וְשִׁבְעִים |
| וְעָשָׂרִים יוֹם | וְשִׁבְעַת שָׁנָה / שִׁבְעַת וְשִׁבְעִים |
| (12) שָׁלֹשׁ וְשָׁשִׁים עָרִים / שָׁשִׁים | שָׁנָה וְשִׁבְעַת מֵאוֹת שָׁנָה ⁴ |
| וְשָׁלֹשׁ עָרִים | (19) מֵאָה וְעָשָׂרִים שָׁנָה |
| | (20) שֵׁשׁ מֵאוֹת אֶלֶף שָׁנָה |

¹ If the ordinal number is not above 10/tenth, then it will occur in attributive adjectival position. Otherwise, the Hebrew Bible typically follows one of the two strategies I've provided here: (1) the counted item goes in the cst state, and the larger ordinal number occurs in the form of a cardinal number ('in [the] year of thirty-seven [years]' = 'in the thirty-seventh year'); or (2) the ordinal number precedes the noun being numbered, but the number's *form* is cardinal rather than ordinal ('in thirty-seven, year' = 'in the thirty-seventh year').

² The second option given here is actually the one found in the Bible, in Gen 5:11. There, the word for year is repeated. Keep in mind that שָׁנָה is a fem. noun, but it looks masc. in the plural, שָׁנִים (like אִשָּׁה/נָשִׁים). Finally, the 9 before 100 can be in the abs. or cst. state (first answer has it in the abs., second answer has it in the cst.).

³ As with the prior one, in the second option I've given you the actual form found in the Bible, in Gen 5:23.

⁴ In the second option I've given you the actual form found in the Bible, in Gen 5:31.

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 of⁵ three years, in year six of Hezekiah, which was (lit. “it was”) year nine of Hoshea, 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 numbered⁶ (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.

⁵ Note that **מִקְצֵה** needs to be analyzed to determine its parts. This is the m.s. noun **קֶצֶה**, but in the construct state. To review what happens to nouns ending in **קֶ** 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 **ק** 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”? **קֶצֶה** means “end, extremity.” **מִן** plus **קֶצֶה** in the context of a time reference means “at the end of a certain time.”

⁶ 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...’