

Hebrew Grammar
Ross Homework Key

IBH 36.7

Section a. 1-20

- (1) I/you (fs) drank it¹; שתה Qal pft 1cs/2fs + 3ms sfx
- (2) when I build; בנה Qal infc + 1cs sfx + prep ב
- (3) you saw; ראה Qal pft 2ms
- (4) do not weep!; בכה Qal juss 2mp
- (5) he saw/he showed (or 'caused to see'); ראה Qal wci 3ms / Hiph wci 3ms
- (6) let him multiply/increase (someone/thg); רבה Hiph. juss 3ms
- (7) you were uncovered; גלה Pu. pft 2ms
- (8) water!/give a drink!; שקה Hiph. impv 2ms (or Hiph Infa)²
- (9) (and) he commanded; צוה Pi. wci 3ms
- (10) we were commanded; צוה Pu. pft 1cp
- (11) YHWH (is) my shepherd; רעה Qal ptc ms + 1cs sfx³
- (12) the built city (the city which is/was built); בנה Qal pass. ptc fs
- (13) I built; בנה Qal pft 1cs
- (14) let him build; בנה Qal juss. 3ms (this is an apocopated form)
- (15) he will lead into exile; גלה Hiph. impf 3ms
- (16) be revealed/uncovered/removed!; גלה Niph. impv 2ms

¹ See Ross 24.3.3 (p. 173) to remind yourselves why the pft 1cs and 2fs forms look the same when adding direct object pronominal suffixes. The same applies to question #17.

² Without a sentence context, we don't know how to translate an Infa form.

³ The normal uninflected Qal ptc of this verb is רעה; however, since the 1cs sfx cannot be added to the mater he, we drop the historic long vowel segol-he and then add the sfx.

(17) I/you (fs) commanded you (ms); צוה Pi. pft 1cs/2fs + 2ms sfx

(18) I will surely multiply (someone); [a] רבה Hiph. inf; [b] רבה Hiph. impf 1cs

(19) you covered/concealed; כסה Pi. pft 2ms

(20) we are commanding; צוה Pi. ptc mp

Section b. 1-10: translate and parse verbs. NOTE: Do not parse וַיְהִי and/or וַיְהִי.

(1) You will (or ‘must, should’) shepherd my people like a good shepherd; you shall not (or ‘must/should not’) turn from the way.⁴ [a] רעה Qal impf 2ms; [b] רעה Qal ptc ms + prep כ; [c] פנה Qal impf 2ms

(2) Do not drink the water, and do not eat the bread. [a] שתה Qal juss 2ms (apoc); [b] אכל Qal juss 2ms

(3) When he saw the woman, he told/declared to her that YHWH (had) sent him. [a] ראה Qal infc + 3ms sfx + prep כ; [b] נגד Hiph. wci 3ms; [c] שלח Qal pft 3ms + 3ms sfx

(4) The woman said to them (fp), “May YHWH grant you, that you may find peace.” And they lifted their voice and wept. [a] אמר Qal wci 3fs; [b] נתן Qal juss 3ms; [c] מצא Qal impv 2fp + conj. ו; [d] נשא Qal wci 3fp; [e] בכה Qal wci 3fp

(5) The prophet said, “O shepherds, hear the word of YHWH: ‘I shall seek my flock/sheep and I shall shepherd them.’” [a] אמר Qal wci 3ms; [b] רעה Qal ptc

⁴ Recall that the Imperfect conjugation is used not only for future forms, but also for modal forms that involve English modal auxiliary verbs like *would, should, may, might*, etc. For the second main verb, לא + 2nd person Impf can be understood as a negative command (a generic prohibition, normally rendered ‘you shall not X’) or a simple Impf with modal semantics (like the first main verb, only with a negative particle).

mp; [c] שמע Qal impv 2mp; [d] דרש Qal impf 1cs; [e] רעה Qal wcp 1cs + 3mp sfx⁵

(6) YHWH turned to him and said, “Go in this, your strength,⁶ and deliver⁷ Israel from the hand (or ‘palm’) of Midian. Have I not sent you?” [a] פנה Qal wci 3ms (apoc); [b] אמר Qal wci 3ms; [c] הלך Qal impv 2ms; [d] ישע Hiph. wcp 2ms; [e] שלח Qal pft 1cs + 2ms sfx

(7) The angel/messenger commanded, saying, “Let a temple be built to YHWH.” [a] צוה Pi. wci 3ms (apoc); [b] אמר Qal infc + prep ל; [c] בנה Niph. juss 3ms (apoc)

(8) The shepherd led out the flock in order to water them (give them a drink). [a] יצא Hiph. wci 3ms; [b] רעה Qal ptc ms + art. ה; [c] שקה Hiph. infc + 3mp sfx

(9) The angel of YHWH said to her, “I will surely multiply your seed, and it/they⁸ will not be counted/numbered from (because of/due to) abundance. [a] אמר Qal wci 3ms; [b] רבה Hiph. infc; [c] רבה Hiph. impf 1cs; [d] ספר Niph. impf 3ms

(10) YHWH made known his salvation; in the presence/sight of the nations/Gentiles he revealed his righteousness. [a] ידע Hiph. pft 3ms; [b] גלה Pi. pft 3ms

⁵ With the addition of the 3mp pronominal sfx, the R1 qameṣ in the Qal wcp 1cs form וְרָעִיתִי reduced to vocal shewa due to propretonic reduction with change of stress (see Ross p. 174). How can you tell that the final syllable is stressed? Look at the form in the textbook: וְרָעִיתִים. Do you see the sillûq (with sôp pāsûq following the word)? That’s the Masoretic accent, marking the stressed syllable (which is now final).

⁶ The demonstrative הַ is not, technically, in attributive position; otherwise, it would agree with the definite noun (definite due to having the pronominal sfx) by having the definite article, as well as the right number/gender (see Ross pp. 116–17). We should probably understand it, therefore, as being in apposition: “in your strength, (in) this.” Functionally, it doesn’t differ much in meaning from the attributive use.

⁷ The waw-consecutive perfect form here follows an imperative and should be translated as an imperative, too. See Ross, p. 153 (point 1).

⁸ Because the word ‘seed’ here stands for offspring or children, it can be understood both as singular or plural.