

A COMPARISON OF FIVE FIRST-YEAR HEBREW RESOURCES
Biblical Hebrew Language & Exegesis Study Group
ETS Annual Meeting 2009, New Orleans, LA

	Topics	Fields, <i>Hebrew for the Rest of Us</i> (Zondervan, 2008)	Futato, <i>Beginning Biblical Hebrew</i> (Eisenbrauns, 2003)	Garrett & DeRouchie, <i>A Modern Grammar for Biblical Hebrew</i> (B&H Academic, 2009)	Pratico & Van Pelt, <i>Basics of Biblical Hebrew</i> , 2 nd ed. (Zondervan, 2001, 2007)	Webster, <i>The Cambridge Introduction to Biblical Hebrew</i> (Cambridge Univ. Press, 2009)
1.	Purpose	Equip English-only Bible students with enough biblical Hebrew to use the new & developing Bible study tools. Focus is given to reading & pronouncing Hebrew words plus a little more syntax than is usually given in first year.	First-year biblical Hebrew textbook	First-year biblical Hebrew textbook & workbook/answer key with supplemental intermediate-level material	First-year biblical Hebrew textbook with corresponding workbook & answer key	First-year biblical Hebrew textbook & printable workbook/answer key with supplemental intermediate-level material
2.	General textbook organization	The book is divided into 6 "Weeks" of studies: 1. Consonants (with history of Hebrew language as filler) 2. Vowels & pronunciation (with brief summary of canon, text, & versions as filler) 3. Hebrew word roots, types of Hebrew clauses, conjunctions, & prepositions 4. Nouns & cases, article, & adjectives 5. Verb "tenses" & their structures & functions 6. Methods: word studies & techniques for dealing with prose & poetry	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Orthography & Phonology (chs 1–3) Basic Morphology & Clause Syntax (chs. 4–40) Note: The morphology of nouns, verbs, etc. is not dealt with in blocks. I cover the Qal verb (all conjugations & weaknesses) in chs. 6–26 with other topics interspersed, e.g., adjective, pronouns, construct state. I do this to allow time for the assimilation of the basic pattern. I then treat the derived patterns in chs. 28–40, again with other topics interspersed, e.g., temporal & interrogative clauses & numbers. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Orthography, Phonology, Syllable Principles (chs 1–4) Basic Morphology & Clause Syntax (chs. 5–26) Detailed Study of the Qal Verb (chs. 27–30) Detailed Study of Derived Stems (chs. 31–35) Cantillation & Other Masoretic Markings, Detailed Study of Clause & Text Syntax, & Poetry (chs. 36–41) Appendixes: Using <i>BHS</i>, <i>BHQ</i>, & lexicons; textual criticism & lexicography; glossary for study of Hebrew grammar; Hebrew–English vocab; principal parts & verb paradigms 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hebrew alphabet, vowels, & syllables – orthography & phonology (chs. 1–3) Hebrew Nominal System (chs. 4–11) Introduction to the Verb System (ch. 12) Qal Stem Verbs: Strong & Weak (chs. 13–22) Sentence Syntax (ch. 23) Derived Stem Verbs: Strong & Weak (chapters 24–35) Introduction to <i>BBH</i> & Hebrew Accents (ch. 36) Appendices: verbal paradigms (Qal & derived stems, strong & weak), selected summary charts, Hebrew–English lexicon 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Orthography, Phonology, Syllable Principles (chs 1–2) Substantives, Qal Ptc. & Inf. cs. (chs. 3–9) Qal Verb (chs. 10–15) Derived Stems (chs. 16–22) Intermediate study of syntax, clauses & poetry (chs. 23–32) Appendices include: glossary of words used 50+ in the Bible, summary of paradigm patterns (principal parts & weak verb changes), paradigms Chapters begin with <i>Focus</i> & conclude with <i>Summary</i>. Chs. 1–22 include a <i>Vocabulary</i> list & description of the <i>Learning Activities</i> on the CD.
3.	Suggested duration of instruction & usability in alternative formats	The design is for roughly half of a semester of a 3-credit semester course (used alongside Mounce's <i>Greek for the Rest of Us</i> , Zondervan, 2007). The last two chapters on prose & poetry are optional.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> I cover the whole grammar in two two-semester hour courses: the first course covers chs. 1–20; the second course covers chs. 21–40. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2–3 semesters, traditional or alternative formats; generally designed for two chs. per week Four possible stopping points: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ch. 26 (all essential first-year material with Qal weak + derived strong & weak verbs through principal parts) ch. 30 (above + detailed study of Qal) ch. 35 (above + detailed study of derived stems) ch. 41 (above + intro to intermediate issues of cantillation, discourse analysis, & poetry) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Two traditional semesters or something comparable. Hebrew 1 normally covers chapters 1–23 (nominal system & Qal verbs, strong & weak). Hebrew 2 normally covers chapters 24–36 (derived stem verbs, strong & weak). The second semester concludes with the translation of biblical texts from the workbook & corresponding <i>Graded Reader</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2 semesters, traditional or alternative formats All essential first-year material covered by ch. 22 May stop at ch. 22. May select from chs. 23–32 in any sequence for class goals beyond morphology. Designed for doing one chapter per week, <ul style="list-style-type: none"> allows for in-class lab times easy to fit a one day a week schedule without piling up vocabulary lists

4.	Pronunciation system employed	Modern Israeli for the vowels; mix of classical & Israeli for the consonants.	Modern Israeli	Classical	Classical	Modern (but distinguishes segol from sere)
5.	Use of rules for accent shift & vowel change?	Shifts & vowel changes are mentioned, but no rules given. Students should be able to pronounce words, but may make mistakes in location of tone.	Rules introduced in ch. 8 & referenced throughout the rest of the grammar	Simple rules introduced in ch. 4 & referenced throughout rest of the <i>Grammar</i> ; students both understand & apply	Rules for syllabification & vowel preferences are presented in chapter 3 & applied systematically throughout the remainder of the grammar.	Simple rules introduced in ch. 2 & referenced throughout rest of the <i>Grammar</i> ; students both understand & apply.
6.	Verbal stem classification	<i>qatal</i> , <i>weqatal</i> , <i>yiqtol</i> , <i>weyiqtol</i> , <i>wayyiqtol</i> , <i>qotel</i> , but students will also learn other systems in order to read secondary literature.	Perfect, imperfect, vav-relative imperfect, vav-relative perfect	<i>qatal</i> , <i>yiqtol</i> , <i>wayyiqtol</i> , <i>weqatal</i> , <i>weyiqtol</i> with traditional counterparts commented on & regularly placed in parentheses	Perfect, Imperfect, Waw Consecutive	perfect, imperfect, preterite (alternate names explained), perfect consecutive
7.	Presentation of verbal stems & weak roots	Limited to one overview chapter in week 5 & put to use in word study chapter. No paradigm memorization.	Each conjugation of the Qal is introduced in a separate chapter. Memorization of the strong verb required. Weak verbs introduced in batches in 5 chapters; memorization of the synopsis is required. All conjugations of the strong verb in the derived patterns are introduced in a single chapter, followed by chapters on weak roots. Memorization of strong root in each pattern required & memorization of synopsis of weak roots in each pattern required.	Overview of verb in ch. 6 with memorization of inflected verbs as vocab in chs. 6-7 > Qal strong & III-Hey overview & paradigms in chs. 9-18 > Qal weak principal parts in chs. 20-21 > Derived stem strong & weak principal parts in chs. 22-24 > Detailed Qal weak with paradigms in chs. 27-30 > Detailed derived weak with paradigms in chs. 31-35 <i>Goal: minimize memorization of paradigms through use of principal parts (main form for qatal, yiqtol, infC, etc)</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Qal strong & weak verbs are presented in chapters 13-22 Derived stem verbs, strong & weak, are presented in chapters 23-35 Paradigm memorization is kept to an absolute minimum A diagnostic system of identification is used for derived stem verbs Weak verb morphology is emphasized to minimize paradigm memorization 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Non-finite forms & Qal first Derived stem inf. furnish most principal parts (= "ID badge") <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Impf. forms presented as a combination of ID badge/inf. plus the impf. affixes Derived stem pf. & impf. grouped according to theme vowel & compared to matching Qal paradigm Weak verbs morph "ID badges" into "aliases," compiled into a quick reference chart Stative & fientive verbs & their roles in different genres distinguished from beginning Moving graphics in TekScroll show how pf. verb endings come from pronouns, how impf. affixes attach to inf. base, weak root behaviors, etc. Select verbs of strong & weak roots (incl. some inflected forms) occur as vocab before the verb forms are covered
8.	Required Vocabulary	None – the emphasis in <i>Hebrew for the Rest of Us</i> is on understanding technical grammatical terms found in commentaries & articles.	10 words per chapter	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Approx. 12 words per chapter with memorization of all words used 79x or more by ch. 41 Third-semester "catch-up" lists included if first-year ends at chs. 26, 30, or 35 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All words occurring in the Hebrew Bible 70 or more times, excluding proper names (chapters 3-35) Box of printed vocabulary cards are available Audio files available Computer application available for vocabulary drilling – FlashWorks 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Approx. 20 words per week/ch. Flexibility of frequency <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Database includes words used 50+ times. Quick Ref. sheet allows assigning Vocab. anywhere from 100+ to 50+ Vocabulary often grouped by semantic domain Vocabulary drilled in the Practice Readings in TekScroll

9.	Exercises	Exercises for almost every chapter. Website (www.teknia.com) includes downloadable electronic forms for students to use. This eases grading also. Optional exercises for ch 16 are also found here, which are not in the book.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Practice exercises are sequential in each chapter: 1) focus on new material, 2) review previous lessons, 3) synthesis of previous & new material, & 4) reading of biblical texts. Answer key in back of book 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Separate workbook with answer key; chapter-by-chapter with review sections; perforated Simple Hebrew formation from the beginning is provided but is not necessary. Guided Hebrew Bible readings from ch. 8 forward Translation of biblical Hebrew sentences from ch. 14; ch. 17 forward is all biblical Hebrew 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Separate workbook with answer key; chapter-by-chapter The workbook is intentionally large with a variety of exercises in each lesson to provide maximum flexibility for the instructor Includes both shorter texts & larger biblical texts Answer key provided on the CD included with the grammar 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Workbook + AnswerKey on CD Vast majority of Workbook exercises & Practice on TekScroll (about 1500 on TekScroll) are from Bible verses from ch. 3 forward. Transl of Bible paragraphs & chapters in ch. 6 & ch. 9 forward Provides forms to practice reproducing principal parts/ID badges & paradigms if desired
10.	Use of cantillation system?	No – only brief mention.	No	Ch. 15 = intro to pausal forms > Ch. 25 = <i>silluq</i> , <i>athnach</i> , <i>zaqeph qaton</i> , & <i>munaḥ</i> > Ch. 26 = full cantillation system	Introduced in ch. 36	Incorporates pausal forms throughout. Athnach in ch. 2; additional pausal accents in ch. 23.
11.	Additional or secondary teaching aids	Helps are in the works for the website (www.teknia.com) such as quizzes, lectures, PowerPoint slides, etc.	No	At www.bhacademic.com/A-Modern-Grammar-for-Biblical-Hebrew/ : <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sample syllabi for traditional & alternative formats PowerPoint & Keynote lectures Multiple usable quizzes & exams with answer keys Discourse-level literary-structural diagrams for use with readings in chs. 26–41 (also on CD accompanying book) Third-semester vocab "catch-up" lists 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Over 450 color charts/overheads (in color) Numerous vocabulary memorization aids (cards, audio, computer application), laminated summary chart, vocabulary guide, graded reader, survival kit, author lectures 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> TekScroll Grammar Illustrations have moving graphics as well as "slides." Teach from the CD. TekScroll has thousands of practice items for in-class or student use involving interactive feedback Vocabulary resources Paradigm resources
12.	Additional or secondary student-learning aids	On www.teknia.com , there are downloadable flashcards for consonants & vowels	No	On CD accompanying book: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Audio-vocab & iFlash computer vocab cards Third-semester vocab "catch-up" lists if first-year ends at chs. 26, 30, or 35 	See above	On CD accompanying book: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> TekScroll, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Grammar Illustrations with moving graphics Parsing practice (interactive) Translation Practice Vocab program with audio Workbook & Answer key (lowers purchase price) Printable vocabulary flashcards Supplementary vocabulary lists Color paradigms Strong Verb Quick Reference Sheet & "Alias Profiles" Paradigm writing templates (paradigms are taught by components not simple rote)

FIRST YEAR HEBREW RESOURCES PUBLISHED SINCE 1993
 Compiled by Hélène Dallaire and Jason S. DeRouchie

Date	Publisher	Title	Author
2010	Hendrickson	<i>A Basic Introduction to Biblical Hebrew</i>	Jo Ann Hackett
2009	Cambridge Univ. Press	<i>The Cambridge Introduction to Biblical Hebrew</i>	Brian Webster
2009	B&H Academic	<i>A Modern Grammar for Biblical Hebrew</i>	Duane Garrett & Jason DeRouchie
2008	Zondervan	<i>Hebrew for the Rest of Us</i>	Lee Fields
2007	Zondervan	<i>Basics of Biblical Hebrew, 2nd ed.</i>	Gary Pratico & Miles Van Pelt
2007	--Draft--	<i>Ancient Hebrew: A Student Grammar</i>	John Cook & Robert Holmstedt
2006	Kregel	<i>Invitation to Biblical Hebrew</i>	Russell Fuller & Kyoungwon Choi
2006	Baylor	<i>Learning to Read Biblical Hebrew: An Introductory Grammar</i>	Robert Ray Ellis
2005	Cambridge	<i>The Cambridge Biblical Hebrew Workbook</i>	Nava Bergman
2004	Yale	<i>Biblical Hebrew: Text and Workbook, 2nd ed.</i>	Victoria Hoffer, Bonnie Kittel, & Rebecca Wright
2004	Brill	<i>Introduction to Classical Hebrew</i>	Donald Vance
2004	Virtualbookworm.com	<i>Learn to Read Biblical Hebrew</i>	Jeff Brenner
2004	Concordia	<i>Fundamental Biblical Hebrew, 2nd ed. with Aramaic</i>	Andrew Bartelt & Andrew Steinmann
2003	Eisenbrauns	<i>Beginning Biblical Hebrew</i>	Mark Futato
2003	SBL	<i>Hebrew for Biblical Interpretation</i>	Arthur Walker-Jones
2002	B&H Academic	<i>A Modern Grammar for Classical Hebrew</i>	Duane Garrett
2002	Concordia	<i>Fundamental Biblical Hebrew</i>	Andrew Bartelt
2002	Yale Univ. Press	<i>Biblical Hebrew for Students of Modern Israeli Hebrew</i>	Marc Zvi Brettler
2002	Shangri La Publ.	<i>Introduction to Biblical Hebrew</i>	Charles Isbell
2001	Baker	<i>Introducing Biblical Hebrew</i>	Allen Ross
2001	Zondervan	<i>Basics of Biblical Hebrew</i>	Gary Pratico & Miles Van Pelt
2000	Smyth & Helwys	<i>Learning Biblical Hebrew: A New Approach Using Discourse Analysis</i>	Bryan Rocine
2000	Sheffield	<i>An Elementary Grammar of Biblical Hebrew</i>	Edwin Hostetter
1999	SIL	<i>Learning Biblical Hebrew, 2nd ed.</i>	John Dobson
1999	Jerusalem Perspective	<i>Living Biblical Hebrew for Everyone</i>	Randall Buth
1998	Univ. Press of America	<i>A Grammar of Biblical Hebrew</i>	Robert Bornemann
1997	Vance Publ.	<i>A Practical Grammar of Biblical Hebrew</i>	Laurence Vance
1996	SPCK	<i>Biblical Hebrew for Beginners</i>	Dan Cohn-Sherbok
1995	Abingdon	<i>A Grammar for Biblical Hebrew, rev. ed.</i>	C. L. Seow
1993	Univ. Press of America	<i>Hebrew for Theologians</i>	Jacques Doukhan
1992	Eerdmans	<i>Biblical Hebrew: An Introductory Grammar</i>	Page Kelley