

Comparisons of Attributive and Predicative Use of Adjectives

large houses בְּתֵיִם גְּדוֹלִים
 The houses are large. הַבְּתֵיִם גְּדוֹלִים

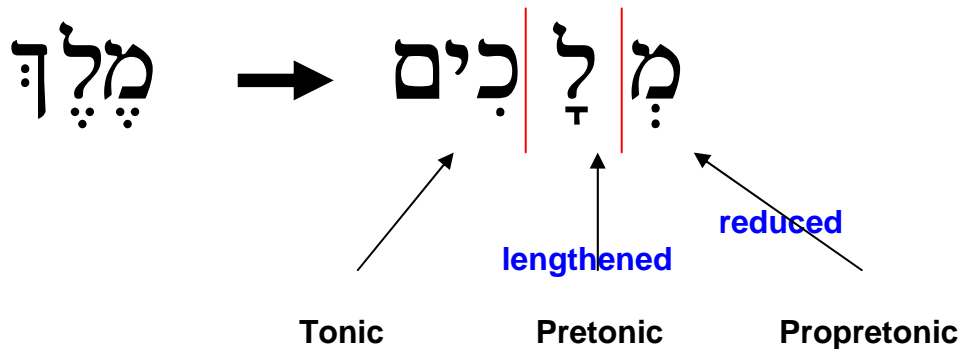
the good men הָאֲנָשִׁים הַטּוֹבִים
 The men are good. הָאֲנָשִׁים טוֹבִים

Segolate nouns

Nouns which generally have a segol under the second syllable and have an accent on the first syllable.

Often, both the first and the second syllables contain the segol, though not always. Basically, segolate nouns form their plural by undergoing “propretonic reduction” and lengthening the second syllable when the plural endings are added to the word.

For example,



The word מֶלֶךְ is a segolate. When it is pluralized, however, the first vowel is reduced to shewa and the second vowel lengthens to qamets. This same pattern occurs for the following segolate nouns.

| Plural | Translation | Singular |
|------------|-------------|----------|
| עֶרְבִים | evening | עֶרֶב |
| יְלָדִים | boy | יֶלֶד |
| גְּבָרִים | man | גֶּבֶר |
| מְלָכִים | king | מֶלֶךְ |
| כַּרְמִים | vineyard | כֶּרֶם |
| סִפְרִים | book | סֵפֶר |
| בְּגָדִים | garment | בֶּגֶד |
| גְּשָׁמִים | rain | גֶּשֶׁם |
| כְּלָבִים | dog | כֶּלֶב |

masc.

| Plural | Translation | Singular |
|-----------|-------------------|----------|
| נְעָרִים | youth, boy, child | נֶעָר |
| נַחְלִים | wadi, river | נַחַל |
| שַׁעְרִים | gate | שַׁעַר |
| פְּרָחִים | bud, flower | פֶּרֶחַ |
| זִבְחִים | sacrifice | זֶבַח |

| | | |
|-----------|------------|---------|
| נַפְשׁוֹת | soul, life | נַפֶּשׁ |
| אֲרָצוֹת | land | אֶרֶץ |
| דְּלָתוֹת | door | דֶּלֶת |

fem.