

Sentences in the Negatives

אֵין

The word אֵין is used to negate nouns and participles in Hebrew.
The following are some examples of its usage.

אֵין מַיִם בְּבַיִת:

There is **no** water in the house.

אֵין הַסּוֹפֵר כּוֹתֵב:

The scribe is **not** writing.

The above examples show that the word אֵין can be used in the beginning of any sentence in the present tense to change into negative.

לֹא

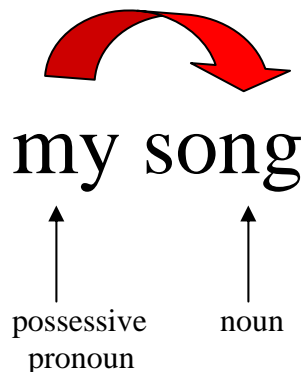
The word לֹא is used with perfect or imperfect, and is placed immediately before the verb.
The following is an example of its usage.

הַאֲנָשִׁי הַצְעִירִים הָאֵלֶּה לֹא יָדְעוּ אֶת-הַתּוֹרָה:

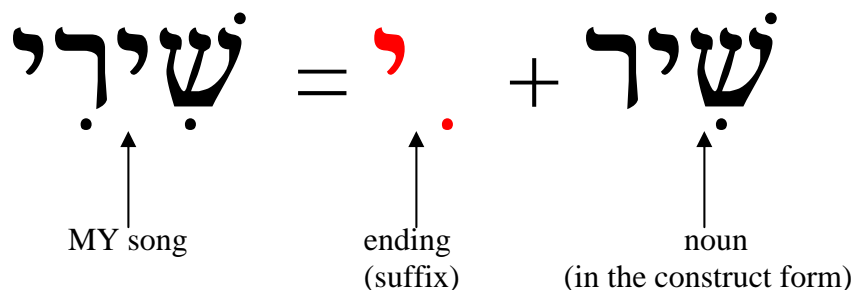
These young men did **not know** the Law.

Pronominal Suffixes

At the end of nouns, it is very common to attach suffixes to denote possessive cases. These suffixes are called Pronominal Suffixes. For example, in English, if you wanted to say a song that belongs to me, we normally say “my song.” In this case, the following is true where the possessive pronoun is placed before the noun.



In Hebrew, possession can be expressed by attaching “pronominal” endings to nouns. For example, the word for book in Hebrew is סֵפֶר. To say “my book,” one would add the 1st person singular ending (which is “ִי”) to the construct form of the noun to derive “my book.”



The nouns with pronominal suffixes are considered definite nouns for obvious reasons.

As it is seen above, the suffixes are attached to the construct form of nouns. This means that the nouns will go through some vowel changes. We will examine the construct state in Lesson 31.

* Notice the feminine 3rd person singular case in the chart below. It looks like the final ם has a dagesh. Since ם cannot take a dagesh, it must not be a dagesh. It, therefore, is called *mappiq*. This can be a good reminder that when one sees this, it, almost all the time, means “her _____.”

Suffixes attached to

Singular nouns

		Fem.	Masc.
1c	my	יְ	
2s	your	ךָּ	ךָ
3s	his/her	הָ	וּ
1c	our	נוּ	
2pl	your	כֶּן	כֶּם
3pl	their	ן	ם

Plural nouns

		Fem.	Masc.
1c	my	יְ	
2s	your	יְךָ	יְךָ
3s	his/her	יְהָ	יְוּ
1c	our	יְנוּ	
2pl	your	יְכֶן	יְכֶם
3pl	their	יְהֶן	יְהֶם

Suffix Chart

	Fem.	Masc.
my horse	סוּסִי	
your horse	סוּסֶיךָ	סוּסֶיךָ
her horse	סוּסֶיהָ	סוּסֶיוּ
our horse	סוּסֵינוּ	
your horse	סוּסֵיכֶן	סוּסֵיכֶם
their horse	סוּסֵיהֶן	סוּסֵיהֶם

	Fem.	Masc.
my horses	סוּסֵי	
your horses	סוּסֵיךָ	סוּסֵיךָ
her horses	סוּסֵיהָ	סוּסֵיוּ
our horses	סוּסֵינוּ	
your horses	סוּסֵיכֶן	סוּסֵיכֶם
their horses	סוּסֵיהֶן	סוּסֵיהֶם

Hebrew II

	Fem.	Masc.
my mare	סוֹסְתִי	
your mare	סוֹסְתְּךָ	סוֹסְתְּךָ
her mare	סוֹסְתֶיהָ	סוֹסְתּוֹ
our mare	סוֹסְתֵינוּ	
your mare	סוֹסְתְּכֶן	סוֹסְתְּכֶם
their mare	סוֹסְתֵיהֶן	סוֹסְתֵיהֶם

	Fem.	Masc.
my mares	סוֹסוֹתַי	
your mares	סוֹסוֹתֶיךָ	סוֹסוֹתֶיךָ
her mares	סוֹסוֹתֶיהָ	סוֹסוֹתּוֹ
our mares	סוֹסוֹתֵינוּ	
your mares	סוֹסוֹתְּכֶן	סוֹסוֹתְּכֶם
their mares	סוֹסוֹתֵיהֶן	סוֹסוֹתֵיהֶם

Here are some rules to remember. These rules are obvious when one looks at the charts carefully.

1. Suffixes are regular and do not change.
2. Masculine plural endings are dropped.
3. Feminine plural endings are retained.
4. All of the suffixes for the plural nouns have ם between the noun and the suffix. This ם is the element in the pronominal suffixes that let you know whether the noun is singular or plural (i.e., “his horse” or “his horses”).