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Learn to speak Hebrew as it is spoken in Israel

## Lesson 34 A (intermediate)

# Finding a Home for Luli

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(Music. **kelev nove-ach** - a dog is barking)

Eran: arzza, arzza! **Luli shvi** - Luli sit! **Good dog - kalba tova!** ken... kalba tova.

Jonathan: **Hey Eran, yuuuuu... eyze kelev chamudd!!! ah, zot kalba! eyze motek!** - **What a sweetheart. shelcha?** - Yours?

Eran: eh... lo bedi-yuk. **hi shel achoti** - **She's my sister's.** **aval,** once in a while I take her for a walk – **lif-amim ani loke-ach ota le-ti-yul.** (To Luli) **at o-hevet leta-yel im dod Eran, nachon?** - You like going out for a walk with uncle Eran, right?

(Luli is barking - **Luli novachat**)

Jonathan: **ken! nir-e li she-hi o-hevet otcha** - It looks like she likes you 😊 **Oh... hine Liat.** **She will be surprised - hi ti-hi-ye mufta-at.**

Eran: **ken Yonatan, ata lo yode-a kama hi ti-hi-ye mufta-at** - you don't know how surprised she will be. **ve-ze biglal** - and that's because... she actually...

Liat: **Luli! Luli! bo-i hena** - **Come here.** **shalom mtuka. ken, ken! eyze chamuda** - **Such a cutie. Eran! wow, eyzo hafta-a!** - **What a surprise!**

Eran: **shalom Liat! yada-ati she-tismechi** - I knew you'd be happy.

Liat: Eran, **you've made me so happy - asita o-ti kol-kach smecha.**

Eran: **ata yode-a Yonatan** - **Do you know Jonathan, where my sister got Luli?** - **me-eyfo achoti kibla et Luli?**

Jonathan: hmmm... **atem rozzim lesaper li?** - **Do you want to tell me?**

Liat: Well, it's a very nice story because... **Luli stayed a few days at my place - hi hayta kama yamim ezli.** **She even knows Josh - hi afilu makira et Josh, my cat – ha-chatul sheli.**

Eran: **I happened to met Liat in the street - pagashti et Liat ba-rechov, lifney kama yamim** - a few days ago. **ve...**

Liat: **hey Eran...**

Eran: **ken?**

Liat: **ata yode-a ma ani mazzi-a?** - **Do you know what I would suggest?** Why don't we tell Jonathan and our students the whole story...

Eran: In Hebrew!

Liat: **kamuvan!**



Eran: kamuvan!

Jonathan: kamuvan!

(Luli is barking – Luli novachat)

Liat: Okay, this is the way it happened, a few days ago, I was walking down the street, **lo levadi - not alone... ve-pagashti et Eran - and I met Eran:**

Liat: **hey Eran.** ליאת: היי ערן.

Eran: **hey Liat. yu!  
ey-ze ke-lev ma-tok!  
eych kor-im lo? hu she-lach?** ערן: היי ליאת. יו!  
איזה כלב מתוק!  
איך קוראים לו? הוא שלך?

Liat: **zot kal-ba!  
a-ni ko-ret la Luli.  
ma-zza-ti o-ta lif-ney ka-ma  
ya-mim a-val hi ve-ha-cha-tul  
she-li, Josh, lo mis-tad-rim.  
a-ta ro-zze ke-lev, o yo-de-a  
o sha-ma-ta al mi-she-hu  
she-ro-zze?** ליאת: זאת כלבה!  
אני קוראת לה לולי.  
מצאתי אותה לפני כמה  
ימים אבל היא והחתול  
שלי, ג'וש, לא מסתדרים.  
אתה רוצה כלב, או יודע  
או שמעת על מישהו  
שרוצה?

Eran: **le-zza-a-ri a-ni o-ved ach-shav  
ha-mon ve-be-ko-shi nim-zza  
ba-ba-it. re-ga, at yo-da-at  
ma? a-cho-ti razz-ta la-ka-chat  
gur mi-zza-ar ba-a-ley cha-im.** ערן: לצערי אני עובד עכשיו  
המון ובקושי נמצא  
בבית. רגע, את יודעת  
מה? אחותי רצתה לקחת  
גור מצער בעלי חיים.

Liat: **ah, ne-he-dar!  
u-lay hi tir-zze et Luli...** ליאת: אה, נהדר!  
אולי היא תרצה את לולי...

Eran: **a-ni esh-al o-ta.  
tnei li ka-ma pra-tim:  
hi me-u-ke-ret?  
bat ka-ma hi?  
hi od o-sa zzra-chim ba-ba-it?** ערן: אני אשאל אותה.  
תני לי כמה פרטים:  
היא מעוקרת?  
בת כמה היא?  
היא עוד עושה צרכים בבית?

Liat: **hi me-u-ke-ret,  
bat cha-zzi sha-na be-e-rech  
ve-kvar lo o-sa zzra-chim  
ba-ba-it. hi ma-mash mo-tek.** ליאת: היא מעוקרת,  
בת חצי שנה בערך  
וכבר לא עושה צרכים  
בבית. היא ממש מותק.



Eran: **ken, hi cha-mu-da a-mi-tit.**  
**Liat, yesh li tchu-sha**  
**she-ma-zza-nu le-Luli**  
**ba-it cha-dash!**

ערן: **כן היא חמודה אמיתית.**  
**ליאת יש לי תחושה**  
**שמצאנו ללולי**  
**בית חדש!**

Jonathan: **eyze sipur nifla!** - **What a lovely story!** Let's read it once more while I give the English translation... and BTW, **shalom studentim yekarim. bruchim ha-ba-im le-shi-ur mispar shloshim ve-arba alef** - **thirty four A.** Which is actually Learn Hebrew Pod **shi-ur mispar** - **lesson number...**

(Luli is barking three times)

Liat: **nachon Luli!** Counting the A, B and C lessons, we had **ninty nine lessons so far – tish-im ve-tish-a shi-urim ad ha-yom...** so today is **shi-ur mispar me-a!** -

Eran: **Lesson number one hundred!**

Liat: Of Learn Hebrew Pod...

Eran: Your Online Multimedia Hebrew Learning Center...

Liat: Which provides you with interactive...(Luli's barking)... **tov, tov,** OKAY! Luli wants her story in Hebrew and in English. And she wants it now 😊

Jonathan: Okay. **Luli, nizzacht** - **you win.** Here is your story in Hebrew and in English:

Liat:	<b>hey Eran.</b>	Hey Eran.	היי ערן.	ליאת:
Eran:	<b>hey Liat. yu!</b> <b>eyze kelev matok!</b> <b>eych kor-im lo?</b> <b>hu shelach?</b>	Hey Liat. Yu! What a nice dog! What's his name? Is he yours?	היי ליאת. יו! איזה כלב מתוק! איך קוראים לו? הוא שלך?	ערן:
Liat:	<b>zot kalba! ani koret la Luli.</b> <b>mazzati ota lifney kama</b> <b>yamim aval hi ve-ha-chatul</b> <b>sheli, Josh, lo mistadrim.</b>	That's a female dog! I call her Luli. I found her a few days ago but she and my cat, Josh don't get along.	זאת כלבה! אני קוראת לה לולי. מצאתי אותה לפני כמה ימים אבל היא והחתול שלי, ג'וש לא מסתדרים.	ליאת:



Liat:	<b>ata rozze kelev, o yode-a o shamata al mishe-hu she-rozze?</b>	Do you want a dog, or know or heard about someone who wants?	<b>אתה רוצה כלב, או יודע או שמעת על מישהו שרוצה?</b>	ליאת:
Eran:	<b>lezza-ari ani oved achshav hamon ve-bekoshi nimzza ba-ba-it.</b>	Regretfully I work now a lot and am hardly at home.	<b>לצערי אני עובד עכשיו המון ובקושי נמצא בבית.</b>	ערן:
	<b>rega, at yoda-at ma? achoti razzta la-kachat gur mi-zza-ar ba-aley cha-im.</b>	Wait a second, do you know what? My sister wanted to take a puppy from the pound.	<b>רגע, את יודעת מה? אחותי רצתה לקחת גור מצער בעלי חיים.</b>	
Liat:	<b>ah, ne-hedar! ulay hi tirzze et Luli...</b>	Oh wonderful! Maybe she will want Luli...	<b>אה, נהדר! אולי היא תרצה את לולי...</b>	ליאת:
Eran:	<b>ani esh-al ota. tni li kama pratim: hi me-ukeret? bat kama hi? hi od osa zrachim ba-ba-it?</b>	I will ask her. Give me some details: Is she neutered? How old is she? Is she housebroken?	<b>אני אשאל אותה. תני לי כמה פרטים: היא מעוקרת? בת כמה היא? היא עוד עושה צרכים בבית?</b>	ערן:
Liat:	<b>hi me-ukeret, bat chazzi shana be-erech ve-kvar lo osa zrachim ba-ba-it. hi mamash motek.</b>	She is neutered, about half a year old and she is fully housebroken. She's a real sweetheart.	<b>היא מעוקרת, בת חצי שנה בערך וכבר לא עושה צרכים בבית. היא ממש מותק.</b>	ליאת:
Eran:	<b>ken hi chamuda amitit. Liat, yesh li tchusha she-mazzanu le-Luli ba-it chadash!</b>	Yes she's a real cutie. Liat, I have a feeling that we found Luli a new home!	<b>כן, היא חמודה אמיתית. ליאת יש לי תחושה שמצאנו ללולי בית חדש!</b>	ערן:

Jonathan: **Liat, kol ha-kavod!** For finding Luli, keeping her and really doing everything you could to find her a loving home, I really admire that! And Eran, **kol ha-kavod** to you too, for thinking of a solution and finally, as we can clearly see and hear, setting Luli up as a member of your sister's family. **Bravo - kol h a-kavod le-shnechem.** And...**walla, achla di-alog**, I enjoyed it very much, plus it provides us with some interesting verbs to explore...



Eran: [nachon Yonatan](#), many of the verbs used in our dialogue belong to the 'guttural third root letter' family of verbs.

Liat: Which we started exploring [be-shi-ur mispar esrim ve-sheva](#), the Sukkot lesson discussing the letter hey.

Eran: And then continued exploring this issue in [shi-ur mispar esrim ve-tesha](#), when Jonathan told us about his passion for running.

Liat: The last lesson that discussed the guttural third root letter of the [Pa-al](#) building block was [be-shi-ur mispar shloshim ve-shta-im](#), our chanuka lesson, when me and Eran made those wonderful [sufgani-yot](#) and [levivot... hmmm... yami...](#)

Eran: [nachon](#), and there we also saw that the third guttural letter could also be the letter [ayin](#) or the letter [alef](#).

Jonathan: [nachon me-od!](#) Lesson [shloshim ve-arba bet](#) and lesson [shloshim ve-arba gimel](#) will be dedicated to the guttural letters [hey](#), [ayin](#) and [alef](#) as a third root letter in the [Pa-al](#) building block. We will go over their different conjugations in the past, present and future tenses. But right now, let's review the new **non-verb** vocabulary words from your dialogue:

<a href="#">kelev / kalba</a>	Male dog / Female dog	<a href="#">כלב / כלבה</a>
<a href="#">chatul / chatula</a>	Male cat / Female cat	<a href="#">חתול / חתולה</a>
<a href="#">gur / gura</a>	Male puppy / Female puppy	<a href="#">גור / גורה</a>
<a href="#">me-ukeret</a>	Neutered (When referring to a female)	<a href="#">מעוקרת</a>
<a href="#">mesoras</a>	Neutered (When referring to a male)	<a href="#">מסורס</a>
<a href="#">zza-ar ba-aley cha-im</a>	Pound Literally: the Israeli ASPCA, that is: the ISPCA	<a href="#">צער בעלי חיים</a>
<a href="#">matok / mtuka</a>	Sweet / Cute (When referring to a male) Sweet / Cute (When referring to a female)	<a href="#">מתוק / מתוקה</a>
<a href="#">motek</a>	Sweetie / sweetheart / darling (often used as a term of affection for both the male and female).	<a href="#">מותק</a>
<a href="#">lo ose zrachim ba-bait</a>	An expression which means that a dog does not have accidents at home Fully housebroken.	<a href="#">לא עושה צרכים בבית</a>





<b>lifney</b>	<b>Before / Ago</b>	<b>לפני</b>
<b>kama</b>	<b>How much / How many</b>	<b>כמה</b>
<b>yamim</b>	<b>Days</b>	<b>ימים</b>
<b>al</b>	<b>About / Of</b>	<b>על</b>
<b>mishe-hu</b>	<b>Someone (When referring to a male)</b>	<b>מישהו</b>
<b>lezza-ari</b>	Literally: <b>To my sorrow</b> Meaning: <b>Regretfully / Unfortunately</b>	<b>לצערי</b>
<b>hamon</b>	<b>A lot / Plenty</b>	<b>המון</b>
<b>bekoshi</b>	<b>Hardly / Barely</b>	<b>בקושי</b>
<b>rega</b>	<b>A moment.</b> Usually used in a colloquial sense as: <b>Wait a moment / Just a moment</b>	<b>רגע</b>
<b>pratim</b>	<b>Details</b>	<b>פרטים</b>
<b>od</b>	<b>Still / Yet</b>	<b>עוד</b>
<b>chazzi</b>	<b>Half of</b>	<b>חצי</b>
<b>chazzi shana</b>	<b>Half a year</b>	<b>חצי שנה</b>
<b>amtitit</b>	<b>Real / Genuine</b>	<b>אמיתית</b>
<b>tchusha</b>	<b>Feeling / Hunch / Sensation</b>	<b>תחושה</b>

Jonathan: You probably noticed that we didn't exactly read the words in the order in which they appeared in the conversation. The first part of the list was dedicated to 'pet terminology related' words.

Eran: When I first met Liat the other day, I saw her holding a dog. I said:

<b>hey Liat. yo!</b>	Hey Liat. Yo!	<b>היי ליאת. יו!</b>
<b>eyze kelev matok!</b>	What a nice dog! What's	<b>איזה כלב מתוק!</b>
<b>eych kor-im lo? hu shelach?</b>	his name? Is he yours?	<b>איך קוראים לו? הוא שלך?</b>

Just met her... I thought Luli is a male dog. I said **kelev matok** - **cute/sweet male dog**, but seeing as Luli is a **kalba**, I should have said **kalba mtuka** - **cute/sweet female dog**. I also said **lo** instead of **la** and **hu** instead of **hi**.

Jonathan: As often discussed in our program, all words in Hebrew are gendered. If a specific noun or object can be both masculine and feminine, Hebrew employs either a different word or conjugation to denote this gender difference.



**kelev** – a male dog

**kalba** – a female dog

The same is true for the adjective:

**matok** - sweet / cute when referring to a male

**mtuka** - sweet / cute when referring to a female

And the combination:

**kelev matok** – a cute male dog

**kalba mtuka** – a cute female dog

Liat: When I was talking about Josh, **my male cat I said: ha-chatul sheli**. If I he was a female cat, I would have said: **ha-chatula sheli**.

**chatul** - a male cat

**chatula** - a female cat

Josh is also **me-od matok** - **very sweet!** If I had a female cat, she would have been **me-od mtuka!**

Eran: I later said:

**achoti razta lakachat**

**gur mi-zza-ar ba-aley cha-im.**

My sister wanted to take  
a puppy from the pound.

ערן: אחותי רצתה לקחת  
גור מצער בעלי חיים.

In this case of course, my sister was not looking specifically for a male puppy... in Hebrew when we are talking in the general or abstract we generally use the masculine form. But still, Josh, when he was a puppy, was a **gur** - a male puppy and Luli is **gura** - a female puppy.

**gur matok, gura mtuka.**

Jonathan: This is something that we learned early on, in lesson seven B. As we mentioned then, when transforming a masculine noun into a feminine, often, we just simply need to add a suffix. A common suffix is the 'a' vowel: **gur, gura.**

In **some** of the words, we can also hear additional minor changes in the way we inflect different consonants, such as the **ye** in **yeled** which becomes a **ya** in **yalda**. **yeled, yalda.** This is also the case when indicating a male dog versus a female dog **ke** in **kelev** - a male dog, which becomes a **ka** in **kalba** - a female dog. Previously we were focused on the suffixes. Now, let's go over some rules of thumb for the changes that occur at the beginning of the word as well:





Eran: When a masculine noun starts with an U sound, it will remain the same when transformed into the feminine. For example:

**A male horse - sus. A female horse – susa.**

And in our dialogue:

**A male puppy – gur. A female puppy – gura.**

The same is often true for words that start with an O sound:

**A male monkey – kof. A female monkey – kofa.**

We just add the 'a' suffix to transform the word into the feminine.

Liat: When a masculine noun starts with a closed syllable, meaning, with a 'rest/ stop sign' it also remains the same when converted into the feminine:

**A male mouse – achbar. A female mouse – achbara.**

**A male swan – barbur. A female swan – barbura.**

**A male student – talmid. A female student – talmida.**

We just add the 'a' suffix and it becomes a feminine noun.

Jonathan: And now for the more complicated cases... let's learn two patterns used for changing from the masculine to the feminine form:

Eran: When I first met Luli I said: **kelev matok**. But, Luli is a female dog, so I should have said: **kalba mtuka**.

**matok - mtuka.**

Liat: This is a common pattern. Let's see what's not happening when we add the 'a' suffix:

**matok** does not become **matoka**.

We do not preserve the A vowel of the first syllable. The first syllable can be described as a reversed stop sign or a reversed diphthong. In Hebrew it is written using the **shva na vowel**.

Jonathan: To better understanding the **shva na** and how it's pronounced, we recommend using our "How to Read Hebrew - Introduction and Guidelines" 1 and 2 and its accompanying online course.

Eran: In this pattern, the vowel for the second syllable sometimes changes from O to U

**matok** becomes **mtuka**.



Jonathan: Let's listen to a few more examples from this pattern group:

Liat: **Green** – *yarok* for a male, *yeruka* for a female.

Eran: **Yellow** – *zzahov* for a male, *zhehuba* for a female.

Jonathan: And here are a few examples for when we **maintain the O sound** of the second syllable:

Liat: **Black** – *shachor* for a male, *shchora* for a female.

Eran: **Big** – *gadol* for a male, *gdola* for a female.

Jonathan: Now, let's review another common pattern for changing from the masculine to the feminine form:

Eran: Luli is not a *kelev*

Liat: Luli is a *kalba*.

Eran: Here's how it works: *kelev*, *kalba*. We change the *e* for an *a* vowel: *ke - ka*, making it a closed syllable, and then we add the '*a*' suffix.

Liat: *kelev – kalba*

Eran: *melech – malka*

Liat: *yeled – yalda*

Jonathan: Okay, now let's read the conversation again, this time in the Intermediate slightly slower pace, detaching and defining the syllables while keeping the rhythm of speech which prepares us for fluency and conversational dexterity:

Liat:	<b>hey Eran.</b>	Hey Eran.	היי ערן.	ליאת:
Eran:	<b>hey Liat. yu!</b> <b>eyze kelev matok!</b> <b>eych kor-im lo?</b> <b>hu shelach?</b>	Hey Liat. Yu! What a nice dog! What's his name? Is he yours?	היי ליאת. יו! איזה כלב מתוק! איך קוראים לו? הוא שלך?	ערן:
Liat:	<b>zot kalba!</b> <b>ani koret la Luli.</b>	That's a female dog! I call her Luli.	זאת כלבה! אני קוראת לה לולי.	ליאת:
	<b>mazzati ota lifney kama</b> <b>yamim aval hi ve-ha-chatul</b> <b>sheli, Josh, lo mistadrim.</b>	I found her a few days ago but she and my cat, Josh don't get along.	מצאתי אותה לפני כמה ימים אבל היא והחתול שלי, ג'וש לא מסתדרים.	



Liat:	<b>ata rozze kelev, o yode-a o shamata al mishe-hu she-rozze?</b>	Do you want a dog, or know or heard about someone who wants?	ליאת: <b>אתה רוצה כלב, או יודע או שמעת על מישהו שרוצה?</b>
Eran:	<b>lezza-ari ani oved achshav hamon ve-bekoshi nimzza ba-ba-it.</b>	Regretfully I work now a lot and am hardly at home.	ערן: <b>לצערי אני עובד עכשיו המון ובקושי נמצא בבית.</b>
	<b>rega, at yoda-at ma? achoti razzta la-kachat gur mi-zza-ar ba-aley cha-im.</b>	Wait a second, do you know what? My sister wanted to take a puppy from the pound.	<b>רגע, את יודעת מה? אחותי רצתה לקחת גור מצער בעלי חיים.</b>
Liat:	<b>ah, ne-hedar! ulay hi tirzze et Luli...</b>	Oh wonderful! Maybe she will want Luli...	ליאת: <b>אה, נהדר! אולי היא תרצה את לולי...</b>
Eran:	<b>ani esh-al ota. tni li kama pratim:</b>	I will ask her. Give me some details:	ערן: <b>אני אשאל אותה. תני לי כמה פרטים:</b>
	<b>hi me-ukeret? bat kama hi? hi od osa zrachim ba-ba-it?</b>	Is she neutered? How old is she? Is she fully housebroken?	<b>היא מעוקרת? בת כמה היא? היא עוד עושה צרכים בבית?</b>
Liat:	<b>hi me-ukeret, bat chazzi shana be-erech ve-kvar lo osa zrachim ba-ba-it. hi mamash motek.</b>	She is neutered, about half a year old and she is fully housebroken. She's a real sweetheart.	ליאת: <b>היא מעוקרת, בת חצי שנה בערך וכבר לא עושה צרכים בבית. היא ממש מותק.</b>
Eran:	<b>ken hi chamuda amitit. Liat, yesh li tchusha she-mazzanu le-Luli ba-it chadash!</b>	Yes she's a real cutie. Liat, I have a feeling that we found Luli a new home!	ערן: <b>כן, היא חמודה אמיתית. ליאת יש לי תחושה שמצאנו ללולי בית חדש!</b>

(Luli is barking)

Jonathan: **toda Eran, toda Liat, toda Luli! ve-toda gam lachem studentim yekarim.** If you find a dog or a cat in the street, please find a home for them, they are **our friends** – **ha-chaverim shelanu** 😊 **le-hitra-ot be-shi-ur shloshim ve-arba bet.**

Eran ve-Liat: **le-hitra-ot be-shi-ur shloshim ve-arba bet.**

(Music. Free Pet's conversation)