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Lesson 53-β (Advanced)

A 3 a.m. Phone

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Jonathan: shalom uvruchim habaim leshiur chamishim...

Liat: veshalosh...

Dan: bet.

Jonathan: Let's start this lesson by completing our review of the new vocabulary taken from Liat and Amir's conversation. [Dan ve-Liat, bevakasha.](#)

Dan and Liat: [toda, Yonatan.](#)

achshav	Now / Currently	עכשיו
klomar	Meaning / In other words	כלומר
beyt cholim	Hospital (A contiguity form)	בית חולים
tinok	Baby (when referring to a male)	תינוק
leyda	Birth	לידה
mimeni	Than I	ממני
besvivot	Around / At about	בסביבות
chazakim	Strong (when referring to a masculine noun or a group of a mixed gender)	חזקים
bechazzot	By midnight	בחצות
miskena	Poor thing / Miserable (when referring to a female)	מסכנה
az	Then	אז
kashe	Hard / Difficult	קשה
haya la kashe	It was really hard for her	היה לה קשה
azzma	Itself / Herself	עצמה
bekalut	Easily	בקלות
toch	Within	תוך



she-ata-im	Two hours	שעתיים
ach-yan	Nephew	אחיין
shmanman	Chubby (when referring to a male)	שמנמן
ada-in	Still / Yet	עדיין

Jonathan: **toda Dan vetoda Liat**. Let's continue this lesson by repeating the conversation in Hebrew and in English. This time, we will pause after each sentence, giving you, **studentim yekarim**, the opportunity to be the Hebrew speakers yourselves.

Liat:	halo?... Amir? achshav shalosh baboker... hakol beseder?	Hello... Amir? It's 3 a.m. now... everything is okay?	הלו? ... אמיר? עכשיו שלוש בבוקר... הכל בסדר?	ליאת:
Dan:	Liat, boker tov, hakol beseder, hakol... mezzuyan!	Liat, good morning, everything's okay, everything... is perfect!	ליאת, בוקר טוב, הכל בסדר, הכל... מצויין!	דן:
	magi-a lanu Mazal Tov... doda Liat!	We deserve Mazal Tov... Auntie Liat!	מגיע לנו מזל טוב... דודה ליאת!	
Liat:	doda Liat? klomar... ata bebeyt hacholim? Tali yalda?	Auntie Liat? Meaning . . . you're at the hospital? Tali gave birth?	דודה ליאת? כלומר... אתה בבית החולים? טלי ילדה?	ליאת:
Dan:	ken! lifney chazzi sha-a bediyuk, nolad lanu tinok yefeyfe.	Yes! Exactly half-an-hour ago, our beautiful baby boy was born.	כן! לפני חצי שעה בדיוק, נולד לנו תינוק יפיפה.	דן:
Liat:	wow, ani kol kach mitrageshet, Mazal Tov lachem... vegam li!	Wow! I'm so excited. Mazal tov to you... and to me!	וואו, אני כל כך מתרגשת, מזל טוב לכם... וגם לי!	ליאת:



	<p>rega, rega... ma shlom Tali? eych hayta haleйда? kama hu shokel? bachartem kvar shem bishvilo?</p>	<p>Just a second... How is Tali? How was the birth? How much does he weigh? Have you picked out a name already?</p>	<p>רגע, רגע... מה שלום טלי? איך הייתה הלידה? כמה הוא שוקל? בחרתם כבר שם בשבילו?</p>	
Dan:	<p>rak rega Liat... at yoter mitrageshet mimeni. tni li lesaper lach hakol.</p>	<p>Hold on, Liat... You are more excited than I am. Let me tell you everything.</p>	<p>רק רגע ליאת... את יותר מתרגשת ממני. תני לי לספר לך הכל.</p>	:דן
	<p>etmol besvivot shmone ba-erev Tali kibla zzirim chazakim,</p>	<p>Yesterday, at about 8 p.m., Tali started having strong contractions.</p>	<p>אתמול בסביבות שמונה בערב טלי קיבלה צירים חזקים,</p>	
	<p>miyad hisati ota lebeyt hacholim.</p>	<p>I immediately drove her to the hospital.</p>	<p>מיד הסעתי אותה לבית החולים.</p>	
	<p>bechazzot hayu la mamash ke-evim chazakim, aval ha-achayot hayu nifla-ot, hen hirgi-u ota vetiplu ba nehedar.</p>	<p>By midnight, she was really in a lot of pain, but the nurses were terrific. They calmed her down and took wonderful care of her.</p>	<p>בחצות היו לה ממש כאבים חזקים, אבל האחיות היו נפלאות, הן הרגיעו אותה וטיפלו בה נהדר.</p>	
Liat:	<p>oy miskena... az haya la kasha?</p>	<p>Oy, poor thing... Then it was really hard for her?</p>	<p>אוי מסכנה... אז היה לה קשה?</p>	:ליאת
Dan:	<p>lifney haleйда haya kashe, aval haleйда azzma avra bekalut. toch she-ata-im, ha-tinok nolad.</p>	<p>Before the delivery, it was hard. But the birth itself went easily. Within two hours, the baby was born.</p>	<p>לפני הלידה היה קשה, אבל הלידה עצמה עברה בקלות. תוך שעתיים, התינוק נולד.</p>	:דן
Liat:	<p>nu... vekama hu shokel? vetagid kvar... eych kor-im lo?</p>	<p>Nu... and how much does he weigh? And tell me already, what's his name?</p>	<p>נו... וכמה הוא שוקל? ותגיד כבר... איך קוראים לו?</p>	:ליאת
Dan:	<p>ha-ach-yan shelach shokel shlosa kilo shesh me-ot.</p>	<p>Your nephew weighs 3.6 kilos.</p>	<p>האחיין שלך שוקל שלושה קילו שש מאות.</p>	:דן
Liat:	<p>hmmm... shmanman! 😊</p>	<p>Hmmm... a little chubby!</p>	<p>המממ... שמנמן! 😊</p>	:ליאת



Dan:	☺ dome le-aba... veshmo - Gal!	He takes after his Daddy... and his name - Gal.	☺ דומה לאבא... ושמו - גל!	:דן
Liat:	eyze shem yafe! ani kvar meta lifgosh oto. efshar lavo?	What a nice name! I'm already dying to meet him. Can I come?	איזה שם יפה! אני כבר מתה לפגוש אותו. אפשר לבוא?	:ליאת
Dan:	Liat... hash-a achshav shalosh. kulanu ada-in nihiye kan baboker.	Liat... it's three o'clock! We'll all still be here in the morning.	ליאת... השעה עכשיו שלוש. כולנו עדיין נהיה כאן בבוקר.	:דן
Liat:	okay. az nitra-e be-arba?	Okay, see you at four then?	אוקיי. אז נתראה בארבע?	:ליאת

Jonathan: **achla! achshav, bo-u namshich et hadi-yun shelanu al shmot ezzem veshmot toar be-lvrit - let's continue our discussion about nouns and adjectives in Hebrew.**

mi rozze lehatchil - who wants to go first?

Liat: ani atchil, Yonatan. ☺

Jonathan: sababa!

Liat: **toda!** In order to provide more information about a verb we use the part of speech known as an *adverb*. If I want to say to you, Jonathan, that you run very fast, I would say: **Yonatan ata razz me-od maher**. I'm actually using two adverbs to describe how well you run ☺ – **very fast** – **meod maher**. And what I am describing here is the verb 'run.'

Jonathan: A wonderful example Liat! ☺

Liat: **toda Yonatan, yadati shetohav et ze!** ☺ Anyway... we will probably talk more about adverbs and their proper usage in Hebrew later in our program. But since they are a part of speech that does not require declension, they will constitute a narrower part of our studies.

To describe nouns, we use the part of speech known as adjectives.



Understanding the structure of nouns and adjectives is one of the main curriculum goals in our Learn Hebrew Pod Advanced Level program. **Dan, tirzze lehamshich - would you like to continue?**

Dan: **betach, toda Liat.** Okay... So what is an adjective? **kfi sheamart, Liat - as you just said, Liat,** the answer for that is quite simple: **shem hatoar - the adjective,** is a word which comes next to a noun and describes it. In English it is placed before the noun – nice house. In Hebrew it comes right after it – **ba-it yafe.**

And this rule about word order is actually something we learned right from the very beginning. It is, of course, the famous . . . Cheese Cream Rule! Just like the nouns they describe, adjectives have 4 possible options for how they appear in Hebrew:

Singular masculine – Singular feminine

Plural masculine – Plural feminine

Liat: The simple rule here is that the appearance of the adjective matches the appearance of the noun it describes -- by gender (masculine or feminine) and by number (singular or plural). A second rule is that an adjective will always match the noun it describes for the purpose of indicating whether or not the noun is definite. If it is definite, both the noun and its adjective get the prefix 'hey'.

Jonathan: **nachon me-od.** Let's review some of our noun examples from the A Lesson, but this time, let's describe each one with an adjective. We will repeat each example twice: first when the noun refers to something indefinite, and next when it refers to something definite or specific. Let's start with the inanimate nouns:

Dan: **Old house – ba-it yashan, the old house – haba-it hayashan**

Old houses – batim yeshanim, the old house – habatim hayeshanim

Liat: **Long dress – simla aruka, the long dress – hasimla ha-aruka**

Long dresses – smalot arukot, the long dresses – hasmalot ha-arukot

Jonathan: Let's check the abstract nouns:

Dan: **Great victory – nizzachon gadol, the great victory – hanizzachon hagadol**

Great victories – nizzchonot gdolim, the great victories – hanizzchonot hagdolim

Liat: **Pure love – ahava tehora, the pure love – ha-ahava ha-tehora**



Pure loves – **ahavot tehorot**, the pure loves – **ha-ahava hatehorot**

Jonathan: Now let's take a look at how it works when we're dealing with humans:

Dan: **Excellent teacher** – **more mezzu-yan**, the **excellent teacher** – **hamore hamezzu-yan**

Excellent teachers – **morim mezzu-yanim**, the **excellent teachers** – **hamorim hamezzu-yanim**

Liat: **Excellent teacher** – **mora mezzu-yenet**, the **excellent teacher** – **hamora hamezzu-yenet**

Excellent teachers – **morot mezzu-yanot**, the **excellent teachers** – **hamorot hamezzu-yanot**

Jonathan: And the same goes for when we're dealing with animals:

Dan: **Big elephant** – **pil gadol**, the **big elephant** – **hafil hagadol**

Big elephants – **pilim gdolim**, the **big elephants** – **hapilim hagdolim**

Liat: **Big elephant** – **pila gdola**, the **big elephant** – **hapila hagdola**

Big elephants – **pilot gdolot**, the **big elephants** – **hapilot hagdolot**

Jonathan: **nifla!** As we saw, the adjective conforms to the noun it describes in both gender and number.

Dan: And when referring to something specific or definite, both the noun and its adjective get the prefix 'hey'.

Jonathan: In terms of their structure, nouns and adjectives are often formed using special patterns. As we go through our program we will examine, study, learn and understand many of these typical patterns and forms, which in Hebrew are called **mishkalim**. But another source of nouns and adjectives is actually a system we are already quite familiar with: **the Hebrew building block system**.

We should be clear right up front that the building block system is first and foremost a conjugational system for verbs: it provides us the casting molds by which the final forms of **verbs** are created by conjugating them for different personal pronouns and in different tenses.



As it relates to **nouns and adjectives**, the building blocks simply lend us certain patterns to help us derive them, and they give us yet another mnemonic tool to help us quickly expand our vocabulary.

Liat: Don't worry! We will never need conjugate nouns and adjectives in the past, present, and future tenses! And the forms we borrow for nouns and adjectives will never affect the way we conjugate verbs using the building blocks.

Jonathan: Like many of the things we study in our program, this approach to looking at the relationship between the building blocks and nouns and adjectives is unique to Learn Hebrew Pod, and we will be talking much more about it as we progress. But for now let's just recognize that the building blocks lend us some forms by which we can work with nouns and adjectives completely outside the realm of verbs. And, of course, this is absolutely consistent with our first assumption in the A Lesson discussion:

Dan: When analyzing the logic underlying a language, most of the words that create it can be divided into two major groups: **verbs** and **nouns**.

Jonathan: Okay, now that we've completed our introduction to nouns and adjectives, let's turn to what will be the main content of the Advanced Level B Lessons: our expert exploration of Hebrew verb conjugations. In today's lesson we will take a look at a different present-tense form of the **Pa-al** building block: the form **Pa-el**.

Liat: As we know, the future tense of **Pa-al** appears in one of two forms: **ef-al** (such as in the verb **elmad**) or **ef-ol** (such as in the verb **eshmor**).

Dan: A word of advice: In our Advanced Level, we will, of course, refer back to much of the material taught in our program so far. Should you need to review certain topics mentioned in our lessons, one of the best ways to do this is through a special tool we've made available on the Learn Hebrew Pod website. To find lessons in which the subject under discussion has been previously taught, just go to the 'Lessons' tab on our website and use the 'Search by Keyword' or 'Search by Tag' fields. For example, the topic Liat just mentioned can be found under the tags: **'ef-al' future form** and **'ef-ol' future form**. Clicking these tags will take you directly to a list of previous lessons where these topics were discussed.

Liat: **nachon Dan!** So, as I mentioned, we have already learned about these two different forms used for future-tense conjugations in the **Pa-al** building block. Today



we will learn a slightly different variation used not for the future, but for the **Pa-al** present tense!

Dan: Let's take our first example for this verb form straight from the book of Psalms, where it appears in the first person conjugation in the past tense:

שִׁיר הַמַּעֲלוֹת לְדָוִד.

שָׂמַחְתִּי בְּאֹמְרִים לִי. בַּיֵּת יְהוָה נִלְכְּ.

shir ha-ma-alot le-David.

samachti be-omrim li. beyt adonay nelech.

The translation for this verse is:

A Song of Ascents of David.

I **rejoiced** when they said unto me: 'Let us go unto the house of the Lord.'

Jonathan: **dugma mezzu-yent Dan**, an excellent example. The verb **samachti**, using the root letters: **S, M and Ch – sin, mem ve-chet**, is translated here as 'rejoiced' and is conjugated just like any other verb in the **Pa-al** building block first person in the past tense: **samachti**, just like **katavti** or **achalti**, etc.

Liat: My Biblical example is taken from Second Kings, Chapter 11, Verse 14:

וְכָל-עַם הָאָרֶץ שָׂמַח, וְתִקַּע בְּחִצְצֹרֹת.

ve-chol am ha-arezz same-ach, ve-toke-a bachazzozzrot.

The literal translation for this verse is:

And the whole people of the land is rejoicing, and blowing with trumpets.

Here we see the same root used by Dan: **S, M and Ch – sin, mem ve-chet** – in the masculine singular conjugation in the present tense. But unlike in the past tense, the present tense of this **Pa-al** verb looks a bit different than what we are used to seeing.



Jonathan: **nachon!** The masculine singular present tense for **Pa-al** usually appears in the form **Po-el**--such as **kotev** or **shomer**. When the last letter is 'chet', we give the 'chet' an 'ach' sound, such as in the verb **loke-ach** - **takes** or **shole-ach** – **sends**. So generally, we would have expected the conjugation here to be **someach**. But instead it is **sameach**.

Liat: **bediyuk!** The first root letter in this special form of the **Pa-al** uses the 'a' sound in place of the usual 'o' sound: **sameach** – not **someach**. That's why we call this special form **Pa-el**.

Jonathan: Let's conjugate another verb that uses the **Pa-el** form in its present tense (and we'll look also at its past and future tenses). We will use the root letters **G, D** and **L** - **gimel, daled ve-lamed**. The meaning of the verb is **to grow up** or **to grow older**. We will compare it to the verb **lavash** - **wore**.

Past Tense:

Singular conjugations:

		lavash		gadal
Dan:	I wore	lavashti	I grew up	gadalti
Liat:	I wore	lavashti	I grew up	gadalti
Dan:	You wore	lavash ta	You grew up	gadalt a
Liat:	You wore	lavasht	You grew up	gadalt
Dan:	He wore	lavash	He grew up	gadal
Liat:	She wore	lavsh a	She grew up	gadl a



Plural conjugations:

		lavash		gadal
Dan:	We wore	lavashnu	We grew up	gadalnu
Liat:	We wore	lavashnu	We grew up	gadalnu
Dan:	You wore	lavash tem	You grew up	gadal tem
Liat:	You wore	lavash ten	You grew up	gadal ten
Dan:	They wore	lavshu	They grew up	gadlu
Liat:	They wore	lavshu	They grew up	gadlu

Jonathan: As we can see, the past tense for **gadal** is exactly the same as the past tense for **lavash**.

Let's skip the present tense for a second and check the future tense:

Future Tense:

Singular conjugations:

		lavash		gadal
Dan:	I will wear	elbash	I will grow up	egdal
Liat:	I will wear	elbash	I will grow up	egdal
Dan:	You will wear	tilbash	You will grow up	tigdal
Liat:	You will wear	tilbeshi	You will grow up	tigdeli
Dan:	He will wear	ilbash	He will grow up	igdal
Liat:	She will wear	tilbash	She will grow up	tigdal



Plural conjugations:

lavash

gadal

Dan:	We will wear	ni lavash	We will grow up	ni gadal
Liat:	We will wear	ni lavash	We will grow up	ni gadal
Dan:	You will wear	ti lavashu	You will grow up	ti gdelu
Liat:	You will wear	ti lavashu	You will grow up	ti gdelu
Dan:	They will wear	i lavashu	They will grow up	i gdelu
Liat:	They will wear	i lavashu	They will grow up	i gdelu

Jonathan: As we can see again, the future tense for **gadal** is exactly the same as the future tense for **lavash**. No difference at all! Now, let's return to the present tense:

Present Tense:

Singular conjugations:

lavash

gadal

Dan:	I wear	ani lavash	I grow	ani gadel
Liat:	I wear	ani lavashet	I grow	ani gdela
Dan:	You wear	ata lavash	You grow	ata gadel
Liat:	You wear	at lavashet	You grow	at gdela
Dan:	He wears	hu lavash	He grows	hu gadel
Liat:	She wears	hi lavashet	She grows	hi gdela



Plural conjugations:

		lavash		gadal
Dan:	We wear	anachnu lovshim	We grow	anachnu gdelim
Liat:	We wear	anachnu lovshot	We grow	anachnu gdelot
Dan:	You wear	atem lovshim	You grow	atem gdelim
Liat:	You wear	aten lovshot	You grow	aten gdelot
Dan:	They wear	hem lovshim	They grow	hem gdelim
Liat:	They wear	hen lovshot	They grow	hen gdelot

Jonathan: Instead of **godel** we say **gadel**

Instead of **godelet** we say **gdela**

Instead of **godlim** we say **gdelim**

Instead of **godlot** we say **gdelot**.

In the present tense, we see this **Pa-el** form for several roots in the **Pa-al** building block, such as in the case of the verb **gadal**. There's no rule for knowing which roots use this form: it's just a question of memorizing them. Please check the Practice Verb activities under the Games Tab on our website for additional verbs that are conjugated in the **Pa-el** form.

A very common word that uses the form **Pa-el** is the verb "to sleep":

Dan: **ani yashen, ata yashen, hu yashen** – I sleep, you sleep, he sleeps

anachnu yeshenim, atem yeshenim, hem yeshenim – we sleep, you sleep, they sleep



Liat: **ani yeshena, at yeshena, hi yeshena** – I sleep, you sleep, she sleeps

anachnu yeshenot, aten yeshenot, hen yeshenot – we sleep, you sleep, they sleep

Jonathan: But in the case of the verb 'yashen', we get our first look at a very interesting feature of Hebrew: **Similar** forms to the ones used in the present tense conjugations can be also used as adjectives. We can also say:

Dan: **ani yashen, ata yashen, hu yashen** – I'm asleep, you're asleep, he's asleep

anachnu yeshenim, atem yeshenim hem yeshenim – we're asleep, you're asleep, they're asleep

Liat: **ani yeshena, at yeshena, hi yeshena** – I'm asleep, you're asleep, she's asleep

anachnu yeshenot, aten yeshenot, hen yeshenot – we're asleep, you're asleep, they're asleep

Jonathan: Not functioning as a verb BUT using the form DERIVED from the present tense, is an often-used method for creating adjectives in Hebrew. Let's take a second look now at the verb **sameach** which we saw as an example of the present tense **Pa-el** form. There, it functioned as a verb and was translated as 'to rejoice.' But now we will see that we can also use a form DERIVED from this **Pa-el** present tense verb to function as an adjective, translated as 'happy':

Dan: **ani sameach, ata sameach, hu sameach** – I rejoice, you rejoice, he rejoices

anachnu smechim, atem smechim, hem smechim – we rejoice, you rejoice, they rejoice

Liat: **ani smecha, at smecha, hi smecha** – I rejoice, you rejoice, she rejoices

anachnu smechat, aten smechat, hen smechat – we rejoice, you rejoice, they rejoice

Jonathan: But also:

Dan: **ani sameach, ata sameach, hu sameach** – I'm happy, you're happy, he's happy

anachnu smechim, atem smechim, hem smechim – we're happy, you're happy, they're happy



Liat: **ani smecha, at smecha, hi smecha** – I'm happy, you're happy, she's happy

anachnu smechat, aten smechat, hen smechat – we're happy, you're happy, they're happy

Jonathan: Let's conclude this lesson with another quote from the Bible. In Deuteronomy 16, verses 11 to 15 the root letters **sin, mem ve-chet** appear 3 times-- twice as a verb and once as an adjective:

And you will rejoice before the Lord your God.

ve-samachta lifney Adonay elohecha.

וְשָׂמַחְתָּ לִפְנֵי יְהוָה אֱלֹהֶיךָ.

And you will rejoice in your feast.

ve-samachta bechagecha.

וְשָׂמַחְתָּ, בְּחַגְּךָ.

And you will be altogether joyful.

ve-ha-ita ach sameach.

וְהָיִיתָ, אַךְ שָׂמֵחַ.

Jonathan: **toda sheha-item itanu. lehitraot beshiur chamishim veshalosh gimel.**

Dan and Liat: **toda, lehitraot**, and always.... Be happy! 😊