Gk-101 Introduction to Hebrew and Greek

Nominals

November 06, 2014

Parsing for Nominals & Verbals

Pos	Word	Lex	Stem	Form	P	G	N	State	Det	Case	Suff
Noun						X	X	X	X	X	
Verb				X	X	X	X	X			

Pos– **Part of Speech**
Word – **Actual Manuscript word**
Lex – **Lexical form of word**
Stem – **A characteristic of Verbs**
Form – **Tense/mood of finite verbs - or the non finite form.**
P – **Person, a quality of finite verbs and pronouns.**

G - **gender**
N – **Number**
State – **either Absolute or Construct**
Det – **determination or definiteness. – A noun is definite with an article.**
Case – **grammatical function of nouns in clauses.**
Suff – **refers to pronouns attached to the end of other words.**

Gender

Pos	Word	Lex	Stem	Form	P	G	N	State	Det	Case	Suff
Noun						X	X	X	X	X	
Verb			X	X	X	X	X				

- Hebrew has a very careful system of gender.

- A Hebrew noun is either masculine or feminine. *There is NO neuter (unlike English and Greek)*

- A noun never changes gender, though there are a few nouns with common gender.

- It is essential to realize that grammatical gender is separate from physical gender.

Number

Pos	Word	Lex	Stem	Form	P	G	N	State	Det	Case	Suff
Noun						X	X	X	X	X	
Verb			X	X	X	X	X				

- Number is the grammatical quality of singularity or plurality.

- Hebrew nouns have three numbers
  - Singular   (s)   = one
  - Dual   (d)   = two
  - Plural   (p)   = two or more

- By the time of Jesus,   the Dual usage was reserved for usage of pairs – eyes, ears etc.

The Numeric Plural

- The numeric plural may be used in several ways:
  1. Numeric plural – is used numerically like English to mean more than one. This is the most common usage.
  2. Honorific plural – can be used to indicate majesty or a kind of intensive idea.   Most often used of God, but also terms for humans. For ex Isa 1:3 "master" is a grammatical plural, but refers to one master.
  3. Abstract plural – Sometimes nouns are pluralized to convert them to an abstract idea.   Jer 3:4 youth is a masculine plural noun - that must be abstract

State

Pos	Word	Lex	Stem	Form	P	G	N	State	Det	Case	Suff
Noun						X	X	X	X	X	
Verb			X	X	X	X	X				

- Hebrew nouns can exist in one of two states:
  - *Absolute* – is similar to an English noun. They stand alone, and are not bound to a following noun.

  - *Construct* – nouns are those that are constructed to or bound to a following noun. (More about this later)

Pronouns

- Exist as both
  - An independent pronoun
  - A suffexed pronoun attached to another word Psalms 1:2
- Are parsed for
  - Person (1st, 2nd, 3rd)
  - Gender (at least 2nd, and 3rd person)
- Are always in the absolute state.
- Are always determined (have an article)

Case

Pos	Word	Lex	Stem	Form	P	G	N	State	Det	Case	Suff
Noun						X	X	X	X	X	
Verb			X	X	X	X	X				

- Hebrew cases may be described similarly to their English counterparts, but with different names
  - Vocative (VOC) the same as English
  - Nominative (NOM) corresponds to the subject
  - Accusative (Acc) corresponds to the objective
  - Genitive (Gen) corresponds to the possessive

Case - Nominative

1. Subject Nom – The substantive is the subject of an action or state.

2. Predicate Nom – The substantive refers to the same entity as the subject
2 Sam 12:7,   You are *the man*

3. Nom Absolute – The substantive is isolated from a phrase and is referred to by a pronoun – called a resumptive pronoun.   The phrase after the noun absolute is a complete phrase. Gen 9:18

4. Nom in simple apposition – occurs when two nouns are next two each other, refer to the same entity, and function the same way.   2 Sam 16:8

Case Accusative

- Although Hebrew supports accusitive by word order,   an accusative ***may be*** prefixed with a particle אֶ֧ת and it may be joined to the Acc noun by the Maqqef אֶֽת־ . If provided, the particle is only translated by the word ordering into the English language.

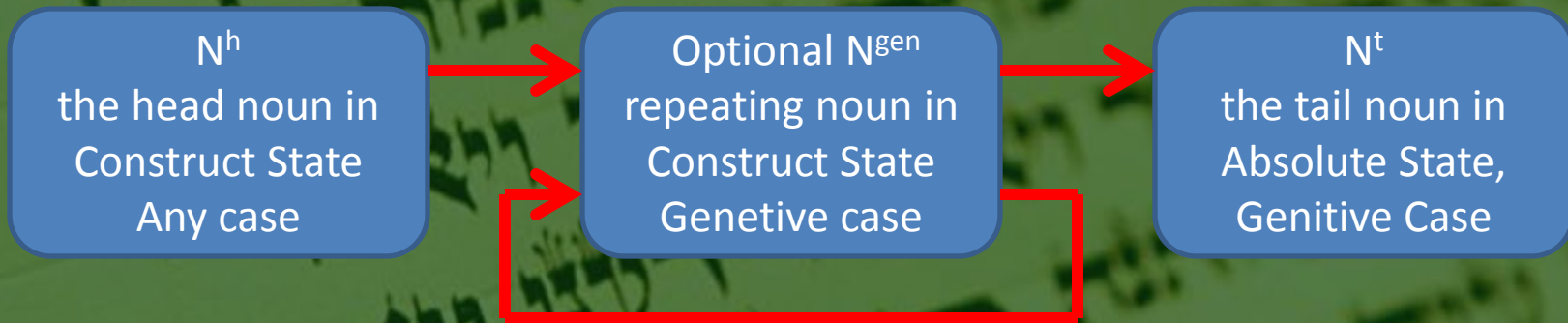- Note the following usages of the Accusative:

Accusative Examples

1. Acc of DO – the most common function with no key words 2 Ki 17:10
2. Acc of Place (at) Gen 18:1
3. Acc of Direction (to) Joshua 13:5
4. Acc of Time (at, during) Gen 14:15
5. Acc of Manner (-ly, or other adverbial expression) Jer 7:5
6. Acc of Product (into) Exod 32:4
7. Acc of Material (from) Gen 2:7
8. Acc of Instrument (with, using) Josh 7:25

Vocative

- Vocative is the case of direct address. The substantive is used in conjunction with a second person verb.

- 1 Kings 20:4 (ESV)   [4]And the king of Israel answered, "As you say, ***my lord***, ***O king***, I am yours, and all that I have."

Construct Chain & the Genitive Case

N^h the head noun in Construct State Any case	→	Optional N^{gen} repeating noun in Construct State Genetive case	→	N^t the tail noun in Absolute State, Genitive Case

- The Lexical meaning of the N^h (and N^{gen}) is supplemented with the word "of"
- The determination of the Tail (N^t) controls the determination of the whole chain

Construct Chains & the Genitive Case

Quality	Head Noun N^h	Repeat Noun N^{gen}	Tail Noun N^t
Order	First	Middle	Last
State	Construct	Construct	Absolute
Case	Any	Genitive	Genitive
Translation	Lex + of	Lex + of	Lex
Article	None	None	Optional

Functions of the Genitive Case

Class	$N^h > N^t$	Description
Possession	Gen of Possessor	Nt possesses Nh
Direction	Gen of Destination	Nt is the destination
Production	Gen of Product	Nt is the thing produced
Agency	Subjective Gen	Nt is the one doing the implied action
Action	Gen of Purpose or Result	Nt is actual result or intended purpose of Nh
		Nt is actual result of intended
Adjectival	Att Gen	Nt functions as Adj describing Nh
	Gen of apposition	Nt = Nh (-explicative Gen)
Partitive	Gen of Material	N is the material of which Nh is made
	Gen of Measure	Nt is thing measured by quantity Nh
Authority	Gen of thing ruled	Nt is governed by Nh

Note – These functions occur both in a forward $N^h > N^t$ and a reverse $N^t > N^h$

Example – Gen of Possession

- Possessor
  - Joshua 2:1 (ESV)
  - [1]And Joshua the son of Nun sent two men secretly from Shittim as spies, saying, "Go, view the land, especially Jericho." And they went and came into the house of a prostitute whose name was Rahab and lodged there.

- Possession
  - Exodus 21:34 (ESV)
  - [34]the owner of the pit shall make restoration. He shall give money to its owner, and the dead beast shall be his.

Particles of Existence

- Hebrew has an interesting way of saying something exists or does not exist:
  1. Existence with the particle יֵשׁ
  2. Non Existence with the particle אַיִן
- These particles can be used in the absolute or construct state.

Food for Thought . . . .

- One of the frequently heard names for the Messiah is taken from Isa 7:4; 8:8;
- Matthew 1:23 quotes this, and then tells us it means "God with US" . . .

עִמָּנוּ אֵל׃

אֵל Is the word for "God, Diety"
עִם Is the Preposition "with"
    that has a suffix for the 3cp Pronoun, "us"

Giving us "with us God" or more Englishish "God, with us."

ADJECTIVES

Adjective - Function

- Adjectives function in three ways:

  – Attributively – The Adjective describes a noun.

  – Predicatively – The Adjective ascribes a quality to the noun

  – Substantially – The Adjective is substituted for a noun

  Note: Adjectives unlike Nouns take both gender types.   Adjectives like articles must match the gender of the word they are modifying.

Adjective - Construction

- Three factors come into play in Hebrew constructions – The Article, the Adjective, and the Noun.

  1. Every adj agrees with its Nn in gender and number
  2. Every attributive adj agrees in definiteness
     The article there is to indicated relationship to the noun rather than any other meaning.
  3. Almost every predictive adj disagrees with it's Noun in definiteness.   Predicate Adjs occur mostly in noun clauses. When the Nn is determined and the Adj is not.

Positions and Agreement of Adjectives

Construction	Noun	Def, Noun	Article with Adj	Function	Example	Pattern
Attributive	Y	Y	Y	Attributive		T-Nn-T-Adj Nn-T-Adj
Predicate	Y	Y	N	Predicative		Adj-T-Nn T-Nn-Adj
Ambiguous	Y	N	N	Attributive or Predicative		Nn-Adj Adj-Nn
Isolated	N	-	Y/N	Substantival		T-Adj Adj