A Basic Introduction To Biblical Hebrew

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Synopsis

Linguistics expert and long-time educator Hackett offers a robust introduction to biblical Hebrew grammar and the Masoretic text. The graded exercises from Hebrew to English are intended to introduce the student to the many possibilities of biblical Hebrew prose. Later lessons include texts taken from the Masoretic text of the Old Testament with footnotes to explain unusual or advanced formations. Classroom tested and suitable for self-study as well, this quick-moving one-semester course (30 lessons) features clear, readable explanations, exercises, and examples that provide students with an effective foundation in original language usage. This textbook is also suitable for an entire first-year’s study of Biblical Hebrew conducted at a slower pace. Course work includes an overview of the history of the Hebrew Bible; deductive lessons on recognition, drawing, and pronunciation of consonants and vowels; memorization and recitation of the alphabet; and proper spelling of words; as well inductive experience in translating biblical passages. The accompanying CD includes: AUDIO FILES- Vocabulary lists for each of the 30 chapters- Hebrew-to-English portions of exercises for all chapters- Major paradigms for the whole book (nouns, pronouns, verbs in all their various stems)- A reading of Genesis 22:1-19 (Appendix C) TEXT FILES- Vocabulary lists- Printable Hebrew-to-English exercises- Appendix A: Consonants of Biblical Hebrew- Appendix B: Vowels of Biblical Hebrew- Appendix C: Genesis 22:1-19 (conversationally paced reading)- Appendix D: Chart and flow sheet for finding the root of weak verbs- Verbal paradigms- Complete answer key for English-to-Hebrew and Hebrew-to English exercises Excellent textbook for students who wish to progress beyond using simple reference works and ideal for those who wish to read the Hebrew Bible deeply, widely, and accurately, as well as for any who wish to pursue advanced studies in the Hebrew Scriptures.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Jo Ann Hackett, for many years Professor of the Practice of Biblical Hebrew and Northwest Semitic Epigraphy at Harvard University, Cambridge, Massachusetts, is professor of Middle Eastern Studies at UT-Austin. She is the author of numerous monographs, including The Balaam Text from Tell Deir Alla; and has contributed to The HarperCollins Study Bible and The Oxford History of the Biblical World. Hackett is esteemed by her students for her ability to train them in both the fundamentals and intricacies of original language usage.

I used this for my elementary and Intermediate Classical Hebrew classes at Harvard. Very well written and user-friendly.

I used the prototype of this grammar book over 4 1/2 years ago in my intensive summer Hebrew courses at BYU. I also have taken classes where the assigned grammar was that of Lambin, and classes where we studied Gesenius. supplemented with journal articles. I bought this grammar this past summer and read through the entire book in a little over a week to see what differences the published copy had compared to the rough draft edition I used. Unlike the other two reviews I found the book to be very helpful during my introductory courses. Lambdin's grammar gives more details but Hackett’s grammar provided me with the skills necessary to do well in all of my subsequent classes. I believe that all of my fellow classmates would have said the same. The book was introduced to us by one Hackett's students at Harvard. I would have liked to have more details about vowel changes, but that is as a student that has taken many Hebrew classes since; at the time the book proved quite useful. Put in the necessary time and you will find that this grammar will provide you with the skills necessary to begin translating the Hebrew Bible.

great tool to learn Hebrew with

As an introduction and workbook is excellent. She's very thorough, writing very clearly.

Great text book!
Excellent study book.

When I read the pre-reviews of this book they sounded O.K. though there was in fact a lack of praise. I decided to use it for my Hebrew class and assigned it to students. Not again! The CD that comes with the book is in fact a plus. Yet the book is simply poor. There are better texts available.

This is not the best of Hebrew language introductory books. I found that the CDROM which came with it of very little benefit. It was a disappointment. Save your money and if this is required for a class you may want to skip the class unless it is free and you have no experience with Hebrew language.

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