

# A Pure Language

A beginner's guide to the  
Hebrew Aleph-Beit

**By Lemuel ben Emunah**

The author has researched the subject matter carefully, and while there is discussion and disagreement among researchers concerning the meanings of specific letters, we are presenting here what seem to us to be the most accurate conclusions.

By Lemuel ben Emunah  
Good use permitted.  
First edition 6006 (2006 CE)

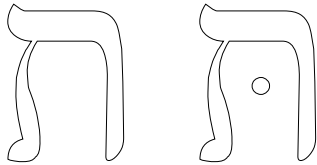
This publication is not to be sold.

May the Name of YHWH be glorified.

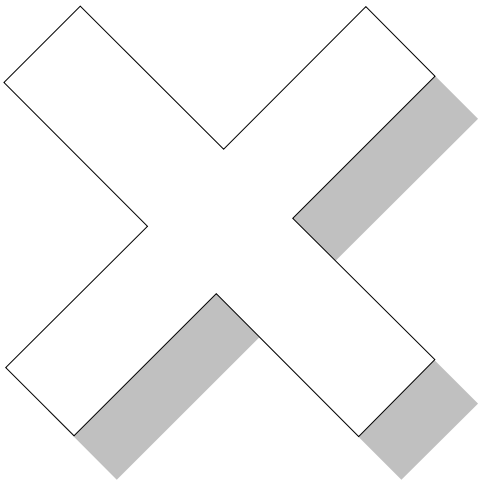
Shalom.

[www.onetorahforall.org](http://www.onetorahforall.org)

Tav - תָּ  
400



mark - תָּ



Truth, perfection,  
completion,  
precision

תָּ and ת sound like 'T'.

ת

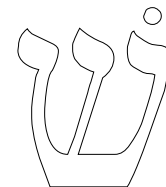
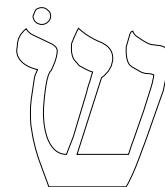
תָּ

Tz'phanyah [Zephaniah] 3:9

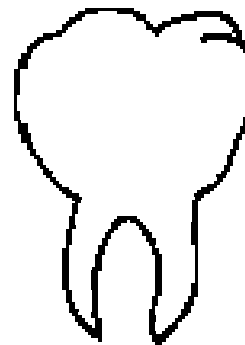
For then will I turn to the people of a pure language,  
that they may all call upon the name of YHWH, to  
serve him with one consent.

Shin - שׁיין

300



tooth, ivory - שׂן



Shaddai, peace,  
falsehood, corruption,  
sharpen

שׁ sounds like 'Sh'.

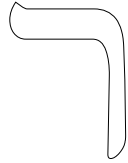
שׂ sounds like 'S'.

שׁ

שׂן

Reish - רִישׁ

200



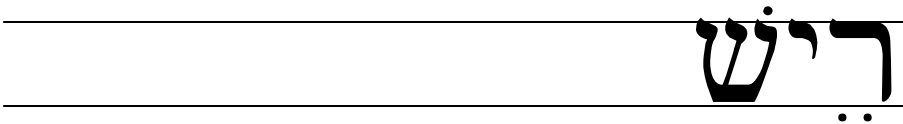
poverty - רִישׁ

head, top - ראש

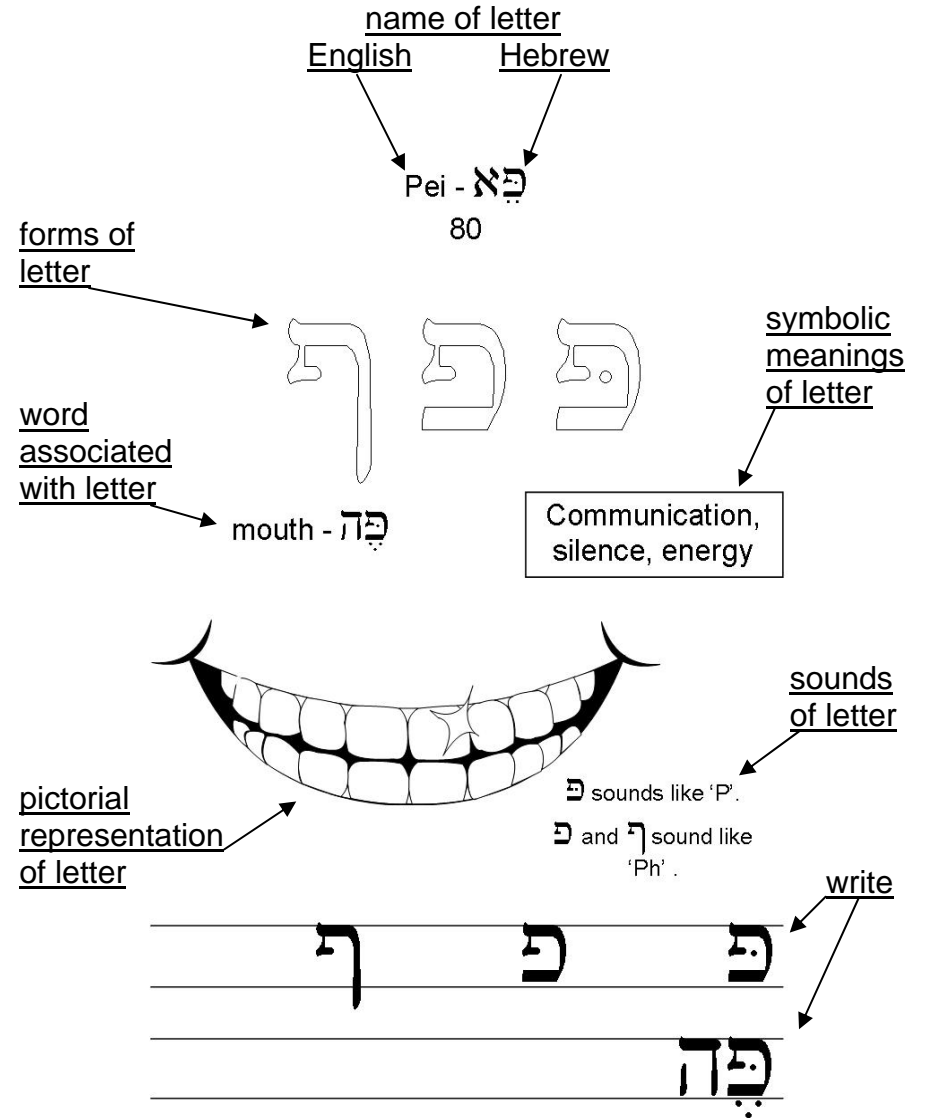
wickedness,  
false head,  
inherit, pauper



ר sound like 'R'.



# How to use this book



## Name of letter: Hebrew-English

There are some letters that have different ways of saying the name of the letter. For example: Yod or Yud, Bet or Beit. There is at least one letter that has its name and pronunciation discussed quite often; the letter Vav a.k.a. Waw. This booklet is not going to discuss the different positions taken on the pronunciation of Vav (or Waw). If you feel led to say Vav that's great, if you feel led to say Waw that's great too.

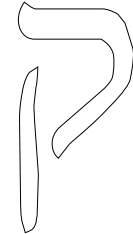
## Forms of letter

There are five letters that have two different ways to write them. The second form of the letter is known as a sofeet or final form. The final form of the letter, as its name suggests, comes at the end of a word. The final form of the letter is usually an elongated version of the main form of the letter. Example: the main form of the letter Pei is: פ. The final form is: ף. Mem is the only exception; its final form is a closed version of the main form (ם, ם).

## Word associated with letter

Each letter in the Hebrew alefbet has meaning. The basic meaning of the letter is usually closely related to the name of the letter. In this work some of the basic meanings differ from those that are commonly taught. I chose words that were the same or very similar to the name of the letter and, as often as possible, used Scripture to determine the meaning.

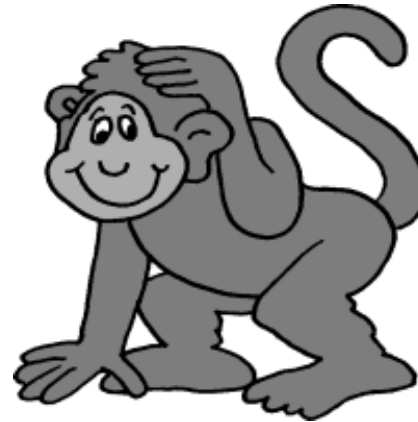
Qoph - קוף  
100



קוף

ape, monkey,  
eye of a needle

set-apart, cycle,  
completion, offering,  
least, behind



ק sounds like 'Q'.

ק

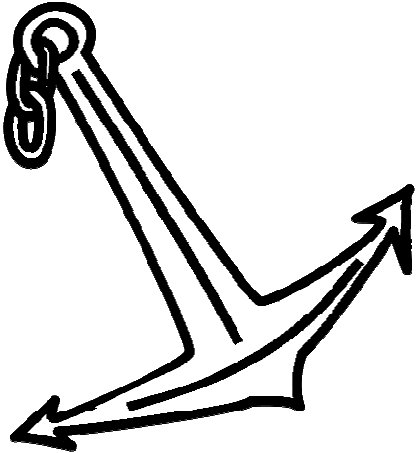
קוף

Tsadi - צַדִּי

90

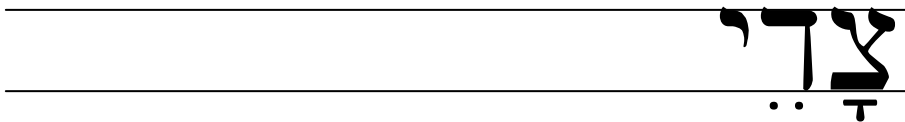
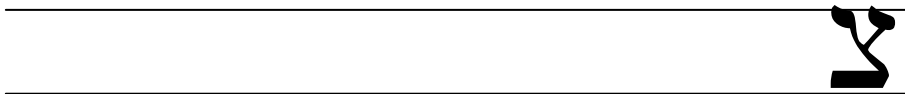


fishhook, anchor - צַדִּי



righteousness,  
submission,  
preparation, goal

צ sounds like the 'Ts' in  
cats.



## Symbolic meanings of letter

Besides the simple meaning of the letter there are symbolic meanings that are related in some fashion to the simple meaning. The meanings chosen are meant to give the student an idea of what's out there and give the student incentive to further study.

## Pictorial representation of letter

A picture or drawing that illustrates the simple meaning of the letter.

## Sounds of letter

Shows the different forms of the letter and the sounds they make. There are six letters where the sound changes with the placing or taking away of a dot called a dagesh. With the dagesh the letter has a hard sound, if you remove the dagesh the sound is softened. (Example: פּ = p, פּ = ph.) Basically you add an "h" to soften the sound. Beit is the exception to the rule; בּ = b, בּ = v.

## Write

A place to start practicing your Hebrew penmanship.

This work is meant for all ages and can be used with little or no knowledge of the Hebrew language. May YHWH bless your study.

# נקודות

[Vowel points]

אָ and אַ sound like the a in 'Father'

אֲ and אַ sound like the a in 'Father'

אִי and אֵי sound like the ai in 'Aisle'

אֵי and אֶי sound like the e in 'Met'

אֵי sounds like the ei in 'Eight'

אֵי sounds like the i in 'Pin' or 'Machine'

אֵי sounds like the i in 'Machine'

אֵי and אֹי sound like the o in 'Note'

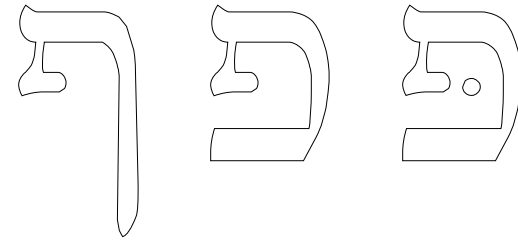
אֵי sounds like the oy in 'Boy'

אֵי and אֹי sound like the u in 'Lute'

אֵי A half vowel that sounds like uh, usually transliterated as an apostrophe. Sometimes it is a syllable divider, in which case it is not said.

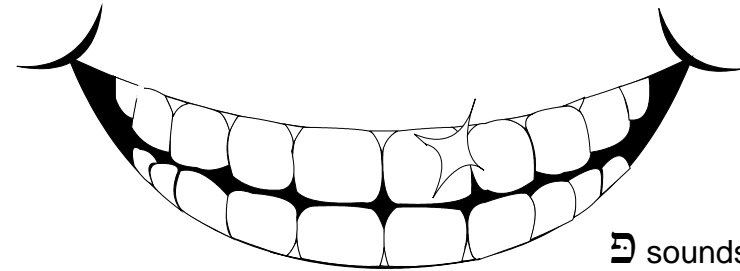
(Note: אֵי is silent.)

פּא - Pei  
80



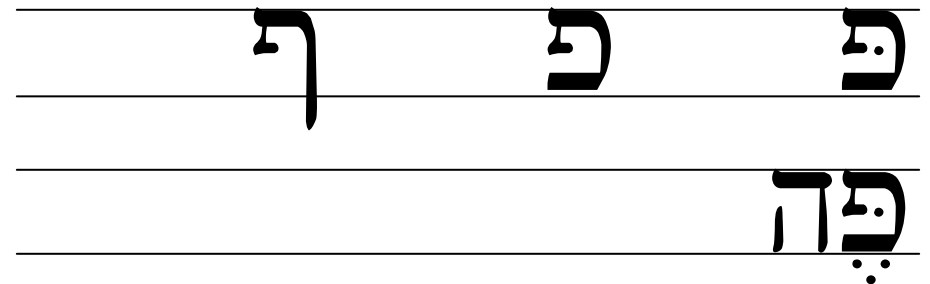
פה - mouth

Communication,  
silence, energy



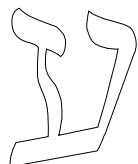
פּ sounds like 'P'.

פּ and פּה sound like 'Ph'.





Ayin - עֵין  
70



עֵין

Eye, spring, fountain

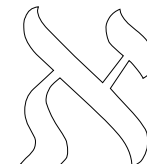
Sight,  
understanding,  
mirror, light,  
spirituality



ע is silent.

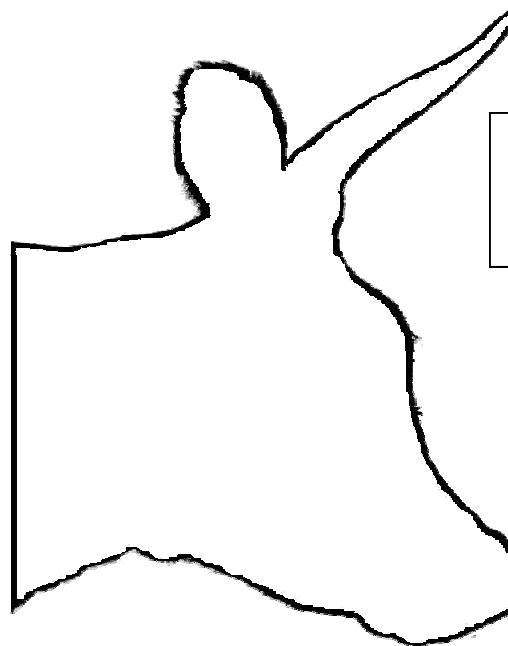


Aleph- אֵלֶף  
1



ox, thousand - אֵלֶף

first, strength,  
beginning,  
creative force

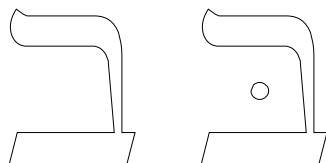


א is silent.



Beit - בֵּית

2



Temple, house, - בֵּית  
home, family



duality, blessing,  
containment and  
division

ב sounds like 'B'.

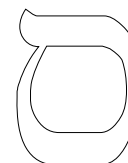
ב sounds like 'V'

ב

בֵּית

Samech - סָמֵךְ

60



Rest, support - סָמֵךְ

protection,  
memory,  
completeness

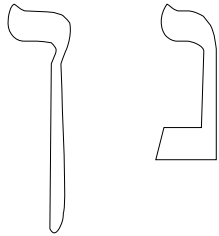


ס sounds like 'S'.

ס

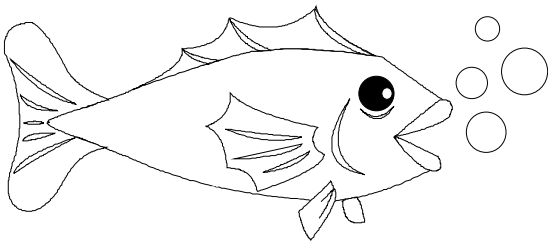
סָמֵךְ

Nun - נוּן  
50

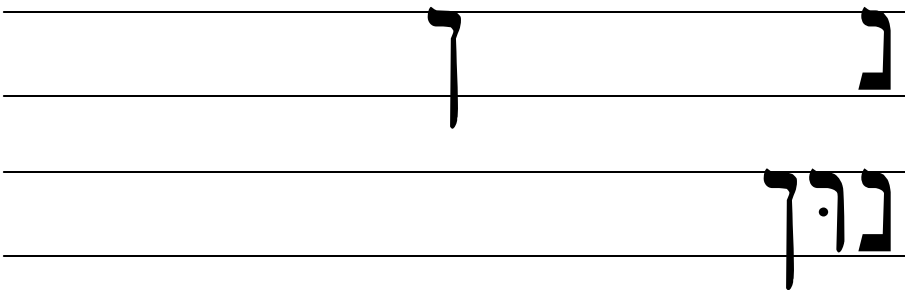


נוּן  
propagate, increase,  
fish

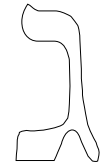
endurance, soul,  
faithfulness,  
constancy



נ and ן sound like 'N'.

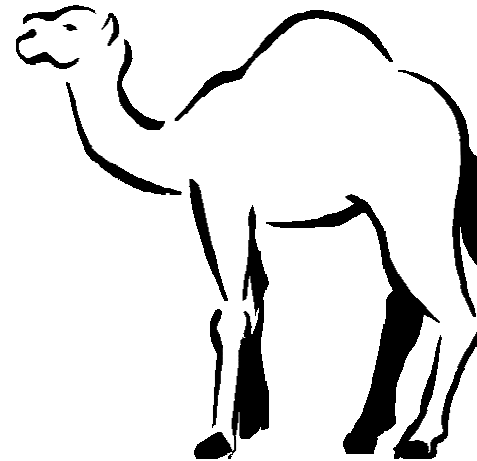


Gimel - גִּמְלוֹ  
3

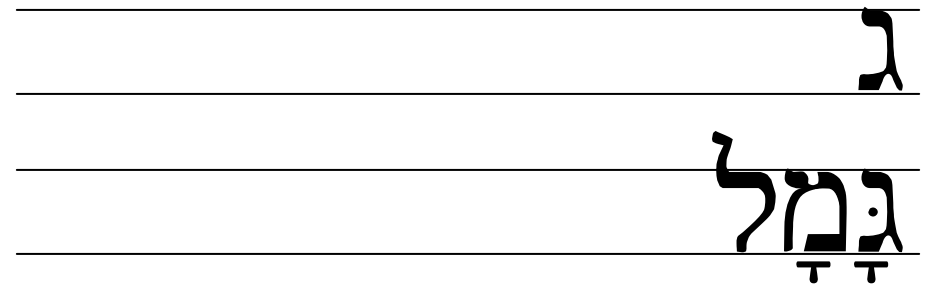


camel - גִּמְלוֹ

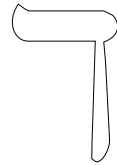
kindness, abundance,  
fruitfulness, affliction



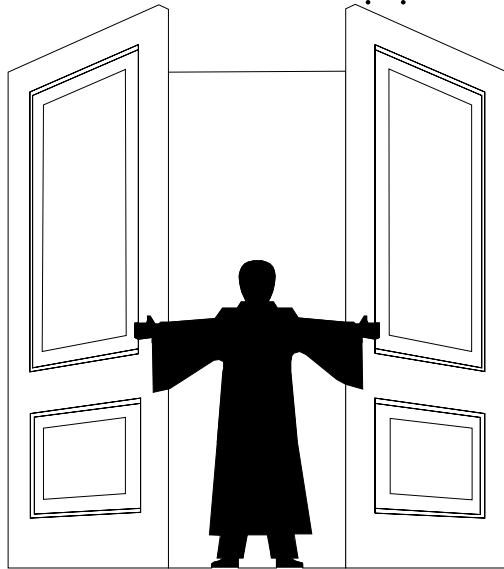
ג sounds like 'G'.



Dalet - דָּלֶת  
4



door, gate - דָּלֶת

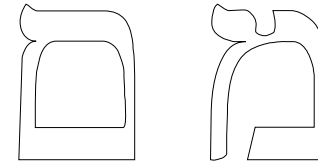


change, earth,  
trust, servant

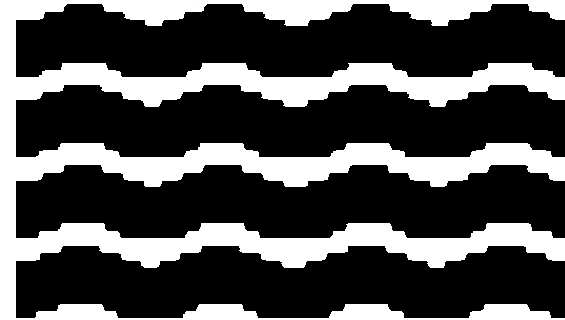
ד sounds like 'D'.

ד  
דָּלֶת

Mem - מֶם  
40



waters - מַיִם

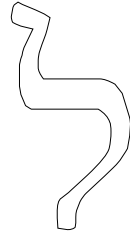


maturing, chaos,  
the revealed and  
the hidden

מ and ׀ sound like 'M'.

ם      ׀  
מַיִם

Lamed - לָמֶד  
30



לָמֶד

to be taught, learn



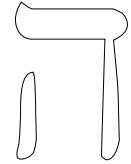
King, heart,  
purpose, change,  
tongue, speech

ל sounds like 'L'.



לָמֶד

Hey - הָא  
5



Behold! - הָא



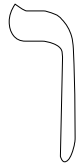
creation, divinity,  
free choice, mercy

ה sounds like 'H'.

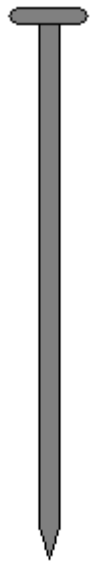


הָא

Vav - וּ  
6



hook, nail, peg - וּ

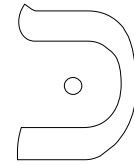
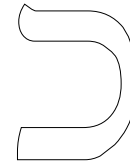
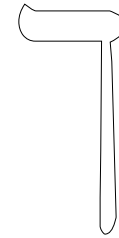


continuity, union,  
physical perfection

וּ sounds like 'V'.

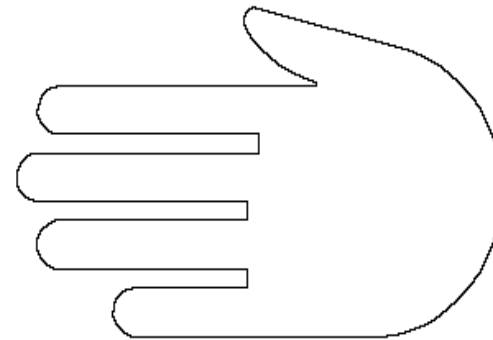


Kaph - כּ  
20

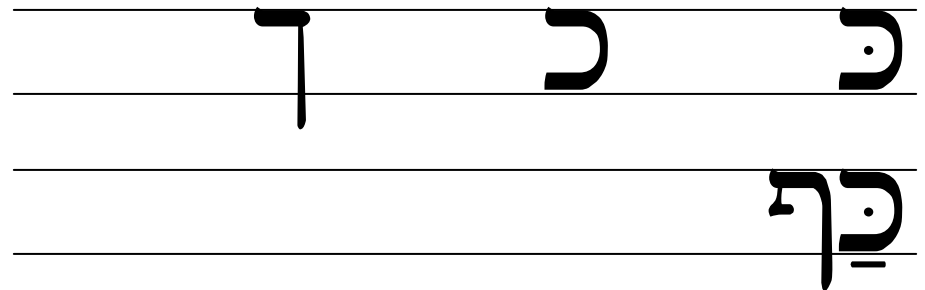


כּ  
palm, sole of foot, bent

crown, like,  
possession,  
accomplishment



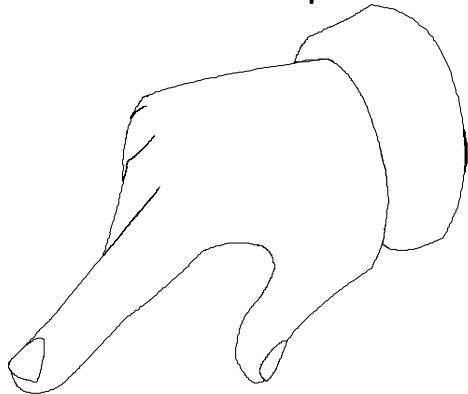
כּ sounds like 'K'.  
כּ and ךּ sound like the  
'Ch' in Bach.



Yod - יוד  
10

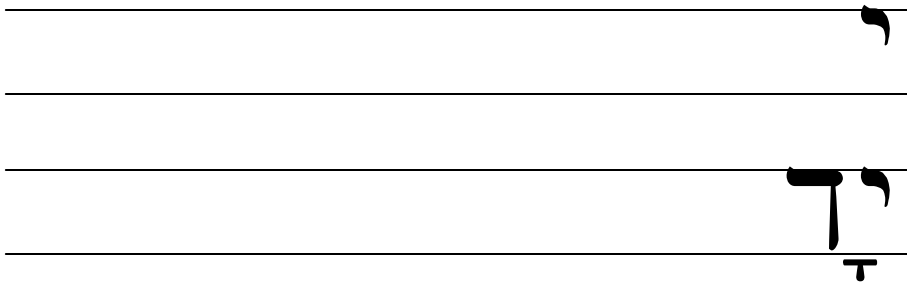


hand - יד



the spiritual realm,  
power, humility,  
Torah

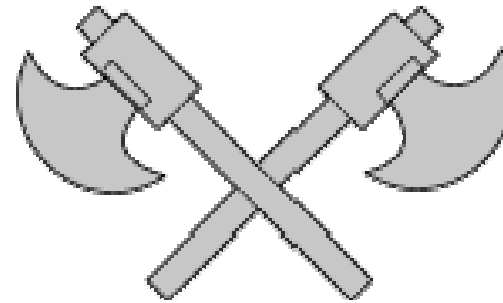
י sounds like 'Y'.



Zayin - זיין  
7



weapon - זיין



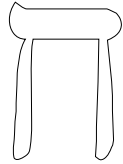
spiritual perfection,  
sustenance, war,  
Shabbat, constancy

ז sounds like 'Z'.



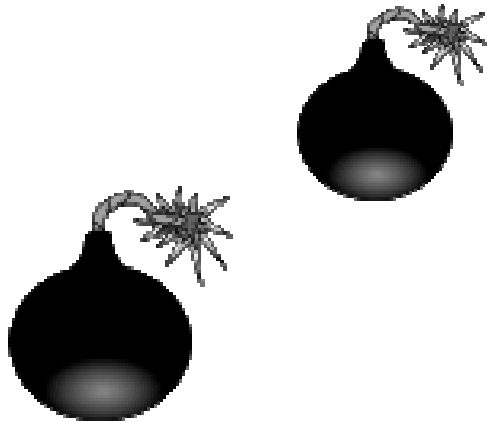
Chet - חֵת

8



fear, terror - חַת

newness, grace,  
life, sin, barrier,  
inner room



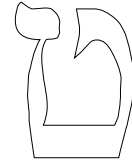
ח sounds like  
the 'Ch' in Bach.

ח

חַת

Tet - טֵת

9



טֵת  
surround, snake, shield

good, humility  
strength, repentance



ט sounds like 'T'.

ט

טֵת