



Genesis / *B'reishit* 1:1 - 6:8

In the beginning - ב'ראשית

Three words in one. Hebrew is a very compact and clear language.

דיקדוק - *Dikduk* - Grammar

Learn and practice the *Aleph-Bet* א-ב Both letters are in our word today.

Bet - ב

In the text it has a **dagesh** (dot in letter) indicating it is a hard 'bet' and not a soft 'vet'. It also has a **sh'va** (two vertical dots below) indicating a stop in sound and that here the *bet* is serving as a preposition - "in" E.g., *b'baiyt* - in the house - ב'בית

Reish - ר

The *reish* here has the vowel sound **tsere** (two dots below) - pronounced 'ay' as in rain.

Aleph - א

The *aleph* here is helping the *reish* 'carry' the vowel sound. *Aleph* has no sound of its own. The other letters that carry vowel sounds are **yod** - י , **hey** - ה , and **vav** - ו

Shin - ש

Note the dot above the right hand arm of the *shin*. This tells us it is a *shin* (has a "sh" sound). If it was above the left arm the letter would be a *sin* and have an "s" sound.

The one dot below, combined with the **yod** - י , tells us that the vowel sound is a *chirik*, pronounced "i" as in machine.

Tav - ת

The letter tav concludes the word, with its “t” sound.

Put them all together and you have : B' - ray - shee - t ***B'reishit !*** בראשית

VOCABULARY - MILIM - מילים

Transliteration	Words	Hebrew
av	father	אב
rosh	head	ראש
bayit	house	בית
Beit El	House of G-d	בית אל
Har Ha'Bayit	Mount of the House / Temple Mount	הר הבית
brit	covenant	ברית
emunah	faith / faithfulness	אמונה
chessed	lovingkindness	חסד
emet	truth	אמת
parasha	torah portion	פרשה
sof	end	סוף