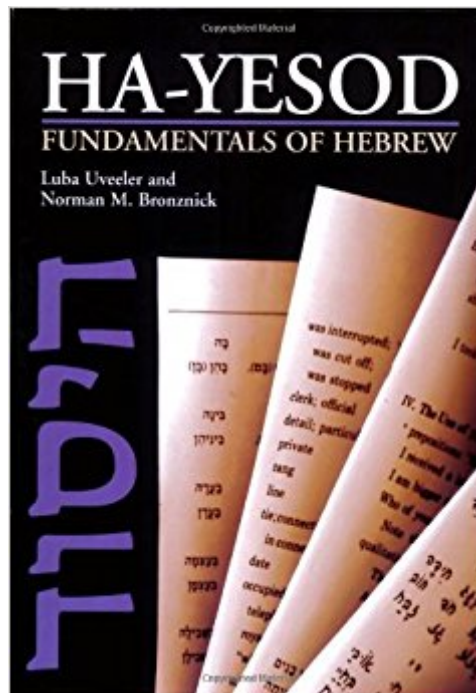


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Ha-yesod: Fundamentals Of Hebrew (English And Hebrew Edition)



Synopsis

A comprehensive, step-by-step textbook teaching modern Hebrew language and grammar, geared especially to the needs of the English speaking student. For use in the classroom as well as for anyone who wishes to teach himself. Newly revised and expanded.

Book Information

Paperback: 428 pages

Publisher: Feldheim; 8th edition (1991)

Language: English, Hebrew

ISBN-10: 0873062140

ISBN-13: 978-0873062145

Product Dimensions: 1 x 6.8 x 9.5 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.6 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.3 out of 5 starsÂ Â See all reviewsÂ (40 customer reviews)

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Customer Reviews

I've used "Ha-Yesod" at the University of California San Diego as part of our Judaic Studies first year course to learn modern Hebrew. Unfortunately, in contrast to other language textbooks, "Ha-Yesod" seems to be less professional and paradoxically awkward. For example, what native English speaker has ever heard of the word "copula," which appears and is defined in the first lesson? Or, why would the authors feel that the word "laboratory" is important enough to include in the fourth chapter? Although these examples seem trivial, I contend that they characterize the book. That is, the grammar sections are written in ways which do not facilitate language or grammar comprehension. The stories, which do only a mediocre job of expressing current Israeli culture (are there any stories or sections that include information about Israeli food, names, geography, history, or Judaism? this is a modern Hebrew textbook, isn't it?) require great patience to read given their lack of insight or relevant and significant information. Regarding the exercises, translating sentences from English to Hebrew is a great idea except that the content of these sentences seems to reflect the authors' cynical or pessimistic points of views. Many of the sentences are negative, insulting, or distasteful. I would never have expected sentences like, "She used to dream terrible dreams and

therefore she used to scream at night." (Chapter 17, #15) or "Is it possible to teach a stupid man to be wise?" (Chapter 34, #7) in a book whose purpose is to establish the foundations or fundamentals of modern day Hebrew.

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