

Tanach For *Olim*

תנ"ך לעולים חדשים

Instructions

הוראות

א. Duration of exam: Two and a half hours

א. משך הבחינה: שעתיים וחצי.

ב. Exam structure and breakdown of points:

ב. מבנה השאלון ומפתח ההערכה:

This exam consists of three parts.

בשאלון זה שלושה פרקים.

Part One – (2×28) – 56 points

פרק ראשון – (28×2) – 56 נקודות

Part Two – (1×28) – 28 points

פרק שני – (28×1) – 28 נקודות

Part Two – (1×16) – 16 points

פרק שלישי – (16×1) – 16 נקודות

Total – 100 points

סך הכול – 100 נקודות

ג. Material that may be used during the exam:

ג. חומר עזר מותר בשימוש:

A full Hebrew Tanach, without any commentary or additions.

תנ"ך עברי שלם בלי פירושים ובלי תוספות.

You may use a translated Tanach.

מותר להשתמש בתנ"ך מתורגם.

You may use a Tanach with maps.

מותר להשתמש בתנ"ך שיש בו מפות.

You may use a Hebrew–other language /
other language–Hebrew dictionary.

מותר להשתמש במילון לועזי–עברי / עברי–לועזי.

ד. Special instructions:

ד. הוראות מיוחדות:

(1) Do not copy the question, but do write the number
of the question you are answering.

(1) אין להעתיק את השאלה; כתבו את מספרה בלבד.

(2) Stay on topic. Pay attention to your handwriting,
spelling and punctuation.

(2) יש להתרכז בנושא. שימו לב לכתב, לכתוב ולפיסוק.

Write only in the answer booklet. Write "טיוטה" at the top
of each draft page.

כתבו במחברת הבחינה בלבד. רשמו "טיוטה" בראש כל
עמוד המשמש טיוטה.

If you write draft material outside the answer booklet,
your exam may be disqualified.

כתיבת טיוטה בדפים שאינם במחברת הבחינה עלולה לגרום
לפסילת הבחינה.

Good Luck!

בהצלחה!

Questions

Part One – Bereishit (56 points)

Answer two of the questions 1–3 (each question – 28 points).

In each question you choose, answer all items (Item א – 8 points; Items ב–ג – 10 points).

1. Read בראשית, Chapter י"ח, verses י"ז–ל"ג.

א. Read verses י"ז–כ'.

- (1) Explain why God decides to involve Avraham in His fateful decision about Sodom [סדום], and how Avraham reacts to what God tells him. (4 points)
- (2) What is Avraham's destiny, according to God's words? Explain how Avraham will fulfill this destiny, according to these verses. (4 points)

ב. Read verses כ"ג–כ"ד.

- (1) Avraham declares God's righteousness in verses י"ז–כ"א, so what is Avraham concerned about when he says: "האף תספה צדיק עם רשע"? (4 points)
- (2) Some opinions argue that the principle of justice described in verse כ"ג contradicts the principle of justice described in verse כ"ד. Explain this argument. (6 points)

ג. Read verses כ"ג–ל"ב.

- (1) Give two examples of the ways in which Avraham tries to persuade God to change his decision, and explain how each way is supposed to help Avraham achieve his goal. (6 points)
- (2) Avraham presents his arguments to God courageously and fearlessly. Give two examples and explain your examples. (4 points)

2. Read בראשית, Chapter כ"א, verses ט"ז–כ"א.

- א. (1) Why does Sara demand to drive Yishmael away, and what is Avraham's reaction to this demand? (4 points)
- (2) Why does God consider Sara's demand to be justified, and how does He reassure Avraham? (4 points)
- ב. The terms [כינויים] used to refer to Yishmael in verses ט"ז–כ"א reveal the attitude of the characters toward him. List three such terms and explain the attitude toward Yishmael that they reveal. (10 points)
- ג. (1) Read verses ט"ז–י"ט. These verses describe the physical hardship and the emotional hardship Hagar suffered when she lost her way in the desert with her son. Give an example of each type of hardship and explain your examples. (6 points)
- (2) When God speaks to Hagar, He gives a solution to the physical hardship and a promise regarding her son's future. Give an example to support each part of this statement, and explain your examples. (4 points)

3. Read בראשית, Chapter ל"ח, verses כ"א–כ"ו.

- א. (1) Yehuda treats Tamar unfairly after the death of his two sons, although his motives are understandable. Bring support for, and explain, both parts of this statement. (4 points)
- (2) What does Tamar do to have a child bearing her deceased husband's name [להקים זרע לבעלה]? Give an example/examples and explain your answer. (4 points)
- ב. (1) According to these verses, Tamar is subject to the norms of the society in which she lives on the one hand, but, on the other hand, she violates these norms. Bring support from the text for both parts of this statement, and explain your answer. (6 points)
- (2) Now read רות, Chapter ג', verses ז'–י"ד and Chapter ד', verse י"ג. The two women – Ruth and Tamar – share the same goal. In your opinion, which of these two women – Ruth or Tamar – is more daring in the way she acted to achieve her goal? Explain your answer and bring support for your answer from the text. (4 points)
- ג. (1) Read verses כ"א–כ"ד. In your opinion, why does Tamar not reveal to Yehuda that she is pregnant by him? Explain your answer. (4 points)
- (2) In verses כ"ה–כ"ו Yehuda acts fairly and honestly toward Tamar. Bring support for this statement from the text, and explain your answer. (6 points)

Part Two – Shemot (28 points)

Answer one of the questions 4–5.

Answer all items of the question you chose (Item א – 8 points; Items ב–ג – 10 points).

4. Read שמות, Chapter ב', verses י"א–י"ז.

- א. Describe the three conflicts in which Moshe intervened and also describe his reaction and the consequences in each of these conflicts. Explain your answer and base it on the text. (8 points)
- ב. (1) In the three conflicts in which Moshe intervened in verses י"א, י"ג, and י"ז, he showed courage and determination to pursue justice. Give examples to show how these two qualities are evident in two of these verses, and explain your answer. (6 points)
- (2) Some opinions hold that these qualities of courage and determination to pursue justice that characterized Moshe prove that Moshe was worthy of being the leader of the people. Explain how this is so, in your opinion. (4 points)
- ג. (1) While Moshe was growing up in Paro's palace, he identified and felt close to his fellow Israelites and at the same time, felt foreign and alienated from his surroundings. Give two examples and explain them. (6 points)
- (2) Explain how, in your opinion, the fact that Moshe grew up in Paro's palace [בית פרעה] prepared him for his role as leader of the people. (4 points)

5. Read שמות, Chapter ל"ג, verses א'-ט"ז.

א. Read verses א'-ט'.

- (1) God's anger with the people for the Sin of the Golden Calf leads to two decisions. What are these decisions? Explain how they symbolize the distancing between God and the people. (4 points)
- (2) How do the people interpret God's decisions, and how do they react? (4 points)

ב. Read verses י'-א"א.

- (1) What is the new means of communication between God and the people, and how is it carried out? (6 points)
- (2) "ודבר ה' אל משה פנים אל פנים כאשר ידבר איש אל רעהו..." (verse י"א). Explain what characterizes the communication between God and Moshe in the two parts of the verse and how it reflects Moshe's special status. (4 points)

ג. Read verses ב"ב-ט"ז.

- (1) Moshe is aware of the special status God has given him, and he asks God to act favorably toward the people. What does Moshe request in verse י"ג, and how can this request help to renew the relationship between God and the people? (6 points)
- (2) In verses ט"ז-י"ז, Moshe explains his request that God accompany the people. What reason does he give for his request, and how can this help to renew the covenant [ברית] between God and His people? (4 points)

Part Three – Chosen Topics (16 points)

Answer one of the questions 6–10 (each question – 16 points).

In the question you chose, answer Item א **required** (8 points) and one of the items ב–ג (8 points).

The Return to Zion (שיבת ציון)

6. Read יחזקאל, Chapter ל"ז, verses כ"ח–ט"ו.

Answer Item א (required).

- א. In the future, the condition of the people will change in the following spheres: politically, socially, religiously, and morally. Choose two of these spheres and for each one you choose bring evidence from the text and explain this evidence. (8 points)

Answer one of the items ב–ג.

ב. Read verses ט"ו and כ"ד.

- (1) The word root ט-ח-א appears with several meanings. List two expressions in which the root ט-ח-א appears, and explain the meaning in each of them. (4 points)
- (2) What message is conveyed by the use of this root? (4 points)
- ג. (1) In many prophecies the prophet is instructed to perform a symbolic act, which serves as an allegory [משל], and then to proclaim the prophecy, which explains the meaning of the symbolic act [הנמשל]. Explain what symbolic act the prophet is instructed to perform and what is the meaning of this act [הנמשל]. (4 points)
- (2) What message is conveyed through this allegory? (4 points)

Prophet and Prophecy

7. Read ירמיה Chapter 'א, verses ד'-ט.

Answer Item א (required).

א. Read verses ד'-ט.

In these verses the prophet is trying to evade the mission that God has given him, whereas God is encouraging him to accept it. List and explain two arguments [טיענים] that the prophet uses, and two responses that God gives to these arguments.

(8 points)

Answer one of the items ב-ג.

ב. Read verses י"א-י"ט.

- (1) Give one example of an image, explain this image, and explain, too, how it helps to convey the message. (4 points)
- (2) Give one example of a symbolic vision, explain this vision, and explain, too, how it helps to convey the message. (4 points)

ג. The prophet's mission is both national and universal.

- (1) Give and explain one example of a prophesy directed at Yehuda and one example of a prophesy directed at other nations. (4 points)
- (2) What theological (religious) approach is suggested in the prophesies that also relate to other nations? (4 points)

Law and Society

8. Read במדבר, Chapter ל"ה, verses ט"ז-כ"ד.

Answer Item א (required).

א. Read verses ט"ז-כ"ג.

- (1) The text distinguishes between a person who kills someone by accident [בשגגה] and a person who kills someone deliberately [במזיד], according to two criteria: the relationship between the killer and the person killed, and the way in which the killing took place. Give one proof from the text for each criterion and explain each proof. (4 points)
- (2) What role does the congregation [עדה] play according to verse כ"ד, and what is its role according to verse כ"ה? (4 points)

Answer one of the items ב-ג.

ב. Read verses ט"ט-ל"ד.

- (1) Read verses י"ט-כ"ה. Explain the role of the blood avenger [גואל הדם] in a murder case, and how society restricts him in the case of an accidental killing. (4 points)
- (2) According to verses ל"א-ל"ד, does human life have supreme value, above any other considerations? Give an example/examples and explain your answer. (4 points)

ג. Read verses י"א-י"ב and כ"ד-ל"ד.

- (1) Read verses י"א-י"ב and כ"ד-כ"ח. According to these verses, is the function of the city of refuge [עיר מקלט] to protect the accidental killer or to punish him? Explain and give support for your answer. (4 points)
- (2) Read verses ט"ט-ל"ד. How does the law deal with the contradiction between permitting blood vengeance [נקמת הדם] and the supreme value of human life? Give an example/examples and explain your answer. (4 points)

Tehillim

9. Read תהלים, Psalm 'ח.

Answer Item א (required).

א. Psalm 'ח is considered a song of praise to God's greatness.

Give three examples from the psalm of God's greatness, and explain how God's greatness is expressed in each of these examples. (8 points)

Answer one of the items ב-ג.

ב. The psalm uses contrasting descriptions to describe man.

(1) Give two contrasting descriptions of man from the psalm and explain them.

(4 points)

(2) Now read בראשית, Chapter 'א, verses כ"ו-כ"ח. Explain which of the descriptions in Psalm 'ח is expressed in בראשית, Chapter 'א, verses כ"ו-כ"ח. Bring support for, and explain, your answer. (4 points)

ג. How does the glory of man's mastery over creation add to God's greatness? Give two examples of this from the psalm, and explain them. (8 points)

Books of Wisdom – Reflections on Life

10. Read קהלת, Chapter א'.

Answer Item א (required).

א. Read verses א'-ז'.

- (1) The claim made by Kohelet in verses ז'-ג' raises difficulties regarding the inclusion of Kohelet in the Tanach. Give an example/examples and explain. (4 points)
- (2) Explain how Kohelet uses natural phenomena to support the claim he makes in verses ז'-ג'. (4 points)

Answer one of the items ג-ב.

ב. Read verses ח'-ט"א.

- (1) Explain how Kohelet's claim in verse ט"א is further proof for his statement in verses ז'-ג'. (4 points)
- (2) Explain how the Book of Kohelet itself is proof that his claim in verse ט"א is not always true. (4 points)

ג. Read verses י"ב-י"ח.

- (1) Give two proofs from the text to show that Kohelet thought that wisdom is not good for man, and explain these proofs. (4 points)
- (2) Explain the reasoning [נימוק] that Kohelet presents to support his claim that wisdom is not good for man. (4 points)

Good Luck!

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בהצלחה!

זכות היוצרים שמורה למדינת ישראל
אין להעתיק או לפרסם אלא ברשות משרד החינוך