

**Oral Torah**  
Home, Education and Family  
— Unit for *Olim*  
**Reform for Meaningful  
Learning Program**

**תורה שבעל פה**  
בית, חינוך ומשפחה — יחידה לעולים חדשים  
**על פי תכנית הרפורמה ללמידה  
משמעותית**

**Instructions for examinees**

**הוראות לנבחן**

- א. Duration of exam: One and a half hours
- ב. Exam structure and breakdown of points:  
This exam has three parts.  
Part One —  $(4 \times 16) = 64$  points  
Part Two }  
or : —  $(3 \times 12) = 36$  points  
Part Three }  
Total — 100 points
- ג. Material that may be used during the exam:  
Hebrew-other language / other language-  
Hebrew dictionary.
- ד. Special instructions: none

- א. משך הבחינה: שעה וחצי.
- ב. מבנה השאלון ומפתח ההערכה:  
בשאלון זה שלושה פרקים.  
פרק ראשון —  $(16 \times 4) = 64$  נקודות  
פרק שני }  
או: —  $(12 \times 3) = 36$  נקודות  
פרק שלישי }  
סה"כ — 100 נקודות
- ג. חומר עזר מותר בשימוש:  
מילון עברי-לועזי / לועזי-עברי.
- ד. הוראות מיוחדות: אין.

Write in the answer booklet only, on separate pages, everything you wish to write as a draft (outlines, calculations, etc). Write "טיוטה" at the head of each draft page. Use of draft paper other than the pages in the answer booklet may disqualify your exam!

כתוב במחברת הבחינה בלבד, בעמודים נפרדים, כל מה שברצונך לכתוב כטיוטה (ראשי פרקים, חישובים וכדומה). רשום "טיוטה" בראש כל עמוד טיוטה. רישום טיוטות כלשהן על דפים מחוץ למחברת הבחינה עלול לגרום לפסילת הבחינה!

**Good Luck!**

**בהצלחה!**

## Questions

### Part One (64 points)

Answer four of the questions 1-5 (each question – 16 points).

#### 1. Choosing a Partner and Marriage [מציאת בן זוג וחגיגות]

- א. Avraham's servant made a request of Rivka, in order to see if she was a suitable wife for Yitzhak.
- (1) List two good qualities that Rivka demonstrated in her response to the servant's request.
- (2) Explain how each of these qualities is expressed in Rivka's response.
- (8 points)
- ב. According to Rav Zvi Yehuda Kook, men and women share a common attribute, but there are also differences between men and women.
- (1) What attribute do men and women have in common?
- (2) Explain why there are differences between men and women.
- (8 points)

#### 2. The Prohibition of Physical Contact [איסור נגיעה]; Repentance [על התשובה]

- א. According to the Rambam, the prohibition of affectionate physical contact [איסור נגיעה של חיבה] between a man and a woman who are forbidden to one another is a Torah prohibition [איסור מן התורה], where as, according to the Ramban, this is a prohibition enacted by the Sages [מדברי חכמים].
- (1) Explain each of these positions.
- (2) According to Rav Avraham Yitzhak Hacoen Kook [הראי"ה קוק], in what case would the Ramban agree with the opinion of the Rambam?
- (9 points)
- ב. (1) "כי שבע יפול צדיק וקם" (משלי, כ"ד, ט"ז)  
According to Rav Hutner, this verse has two interpretations: a fool's interpretation and a wise man's interpretation.  
What is the wise man's interpretation of this verse?
- (2) According to Rav Hutner, how should one cope with a "fall" [נפילה]?
- (7 points)

3. When To Get Married [מתי להינשא]?

- א. "בן שמונה עשרה לחופה" (אבות, פרק ה', משנה כ"א)

Why is the situation nowadays different from the situation described in the Mishna? Give two reasons. (7 points)

- ב. (1) According to the Rambam, a person who is learning Torah is permitted to marry at a later age, because a person who is performing one mitzva is exempt from another mitzva [“העוסק במצווה פטור מן המצווה”].

Explain the Rambam's reasoning.

- (2) The Sages stated that a man must make sure he has a livelihood before he gets married. However, the verse

“אִישׁה תֹּאדָשׁ...בֵּית תִּבְנֶה...כֶּרֶם תִּטְעַן...” (דברים, כ"ח, ל')

[“you will betroth a woman...build a house...plant a vineyard...”] seems to contradict this statement of the Sages.

According to the Rambam, how is this contradiction resolved?

(9 points)

4. Kiddushin and Nissuin [קידושין ונישואין]

- א. (1) What are *Irusin* (engagement) [אירוסין] nowadays, and what were *Irusin* in biblical times?

- (2) If we change the order of the letters of the words “ארוס” and “ארוסה”, we get the words אסור and אסורה.

The word “אסור” has two contradictory meanings: bond [קֶשֶׁר] and distance [ריחוק].

Explain how each of these meanings is expressed in the life of a couple during the period of their *Irusin*.

(9 points)

- ב. Rabbinical opinion [הפוסקים] is divided on the question of whether a couple married in a civil marriage [נישואין אזרחיים] is considered to be really married.

- (1) What is civil marriage?

- (2) Give one argument in support of the rabbinical opinion that the couple is considered to be married or one argument in support of the rabbinical opinion that they are not considered to be married.

(7 points)

**5. Purity and Impurity – a couple's conduct during the separation period**

[טומאה וטהרה – הליכות בני זוג בימים שהם אסורים זה לזה]

- א. (1) The prohibition to have intimate relations [חיי אישות] with a woman who is *niddah* [נידה] appears in the Torah directly after the law prohibiting a man from marrying his sister.

What can we learn from the fact that these two prohibitions are mentioned together [סמיכות]?

- (2) Initially, women were forbidden to get dressed up [להתקשט] and wear makeup during their *niddah* period, but, later, this prohibition was lifted.

Explain why this prohibition was lifted.

(10 points)

- ב. Explain the expression "סוגה בשושנים" ["fenced in with lilies"] and explain its connection to the laws of separation between a man and woman. (6 points)

**Answer questions in Part Two or Part Three, according to the material you studied**

**Part Two** (36 points)

If you studied **Chapters 1-11 of the booklet**, answer three of the questions 6-9 (each question – 12 points).

**6. Family Customs and Maintaining Good Relations between Man and Wife**  
[מנהגי הבית והשכנת שלום בין בני זוג]

- א. (1) Yosi and Rina are soon to be married. The customs followed in Rina's parents' home are different from the customs in Yosi's parents' home.

What customs should Rina follow after her marriage to Yosi?

Give the opinions of two different rabbinical authorities [פוסקים].

- (2) What key consideration is shared by both rabbinical authorities?  
(7 points)

- ב. "אלו דברים שאדם אוכל פירותיהן בעולם הזה והקרן קיימת לו לעולם הבא... והבאת שלום"  
(פאה, פרק א', משנה א')

The Mishna uses the expression "הבאת שלום" ["bringing peace"] and not "עשיית שלום" ["making peace"].

According to the explanation of Rav Yisrael Lipschitz ("תפארת ישראל") that you learned, what lesson [ערך] can be learned from the use of the expression "הבאת שלום"?  
(5 points)

**7. Onah** [מצוות עונה]

- א. (1) What is the commandment of *onah*?  
(2) Explain the importance of this commandment.  
(8 points)

- ב. Give one essential difference between the male-female bond among animals and the bond between a man and his wife. (4 points)

**8. Divorce** [גירושין]

- א. What is the decree of Rabbenu Gershom [תקנת רבנו גרשום] regarding divorce and why did he issue this decree? (4 points)
- ב. (1) How can a Beit Din resolve the issue of extreme cases in which a woman refuses to accept a *get* [bill of divorce]?  
(2) According to Israeli law, name three sanctions that can be imposed on a husband who refuses to give his wife a *get*.  
(8 points)

## 9. Short Questions

Briefly answer three of the items א to ד (each item – 4 points).

- א. Why is a ring used to sanctify a woman in marriage [קידושי אישה]?  
Give two reasons.
- ב. Name two customs concerning the remembrance of Jerusalem that are performed at a *huppa*.
- ג. Give one reason for the obligation to perform ritual immersion [טבילת טהרה] in water.
- ד. According to the Sefer Hahinuch [ספר החינוך], what is the reason for the commandment to honor one's parents?

**Answer questions in Part Two or Part Three, according to the material you studied**

### **Part Three** (36 points)

If you studied **Chapters 1-6, 10-14 of the booklet**, answer three of the questions 10-13 (each question – 12 points).

**10. Family Customs and Maintaining Good Relations between Husband and Wife** [מנהגי הבית והשכנת שלום בין בני זוג]

- א. (1) Yosi and Rina are soon to be married. The customs followed in Rina's parents' home are different from the customs in Yosi's parents' home.

What customs should Rina follow after her marriage to Yosi?

Give the different opinions of two different rabbinical authorities [פוסקים].

- (2) What key consideration is shared by both rabbinical authorities? (7 points)

- ב. "אלו דברים שאדם אוכל פרותיהן בעולם הזה והקדן קיימת לו לעולם הבא... והבאת שלום" (פאה, פרק א', משנה א')

The Mishna uses the expression "הבאת שלום" ["bringing peace"] and not "עשיית שלום" ["making peace"].

According to the explanation of Rav Yisrael Lipschitz ("תפארת ישראל") that you learned, what lesson [ערך] can be learned from the use of the expression "הבאת שלום"? (5 points)

**11. Divorce** [גירושין]

- א. What is the decree of Rabbenu Gershom [תקנת רבנו גרשום] regarding divorce and why did he issue this decree? (4 points)

- ב. (1) How can a Beit Din resolve the issue of extreme cases in which a woman refuses to accept a *get* [bill of divorce]?

- (2) According to Israeli law, name three sanctions that can be imposed on a husband who refuses to give his wife a *get*.

(8 points)

## 12. Family Conduct: Closeness and Distance in Married Life

[התנהלותה של משפחה; קרבה וריחוק בחיי הזוגיות]

- א. (1) How did Rabbi Elazar ben Azariah [רבי אלעזר בן עזריה] reply to the Sages' request that he serve as *Nasi* [נשיא]?
- (2) According to Rav Avraham Yitzhak Hachohen Kook, explain the lesson to be learned from Rabbi Elazar ben Azariah's reply.  
(6 points)
- ב. A couple is commanded to observe laws of separation [דיני ההרחקה] during the *niddah* period [נידה] and during the 'seven clean days' ["שבעה נקיים"].  
How do the laws of separation contribute to the bond between husband and wife? List two points. (6 points)

## 13. Short Questions

Briefly answer three of the items א to ד (each item – 4 points).

- א. Why is a ring used to sanctify a woman in marriage [קידושי אישה]?  
Give two reasons.
- ב. Name two customs concerning the remembrance of Jerusalem that are performed at a *huppa*.
- ג. According to the Sefer Hachinuch [ספר החינוך], what is the reason for the commandment to honor one's parents?
- ד. "לעולם ירחוק אדם עצמו ויתגלגל בצער... ואל ישליך עצמו על הציבור" (רמב"ם ושו"ע)  
Explain this statement in your own words.

**Good Luck!**

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**בהצלחה!**

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