

Interrogatives

Interrogatives

- Interrogative pronouns and adverbs are words that are used to introduce questions.
- They are not inflected for gender or number.

Interrogatives

- As a result of their nature, interrogatives indicate direct speech.
- Because of this, they are often preceded by a form of אָמַר (said) which indicates an upcoming quotation.

Interrogatives

Interrogative Pronouns

What?

מַה , מַּה , מֵה

Who?

מִי

Interrogatives

Interrogative Adverbs

Why?	לָמָּהּ , לָמָּהּ , מִדּוּעַ
How?	אֵיכָּה , אֵיךְ
Where?	אֵיפֹה , אֵי , אֵיפֹה
To where?	אֵן , אֵנָּה
From where?	מֵאֵינן

Interrogatives

- օ is an interrogative particle that signals a question.
- օ may be translated:
 - If?
 - Whether?
 - Am? Is? Was? Were?
 - Have?
 - Sometimes, context may require a flexibly translated question word.

Interrogatives

- The interrogative particle may also be spelled:
 - וְ when prefixed to most consonants
 - וּ when prefixed to a guttural or any consonant with a sheva;
 - וֹ when prefixed to a guttural with a qamets
- The interrogative particle is attached to the first word of the interrogative clause.

Interrogatives

- 1 Samuel 3:17
- מָה הַדָּבָר אֲשֶׁר דִּבֶּר אֵלַיךְ
- What is the word that he spoke to you?

Interrogatives

- Genesis 29:25
- מַה-זֹּאת עָשִׂיתָ לִּי
- What is this you have done to me?

- הֲלֹא בְרַחֵל עָבַדְתִּי עִמָּךְ
- Was it not for Rachel (that) I served (with) you?

- וְלָמָּה רָמִיתָנִי׃
- Why then have you deceived me?

Interrogatives

- Genesis 3:11
- וַיֹּאמֶר מִי הַגִּיד לְךָ כִּי עֵירָם אָתָּה
- And he said, “Who told you that you were naked?”

- הַמֵּן הָעֵץ אֲשֶׁר צִוִּיתִיךָ לִבְלֹתִי אֲכָל-מִמֶּנּוּ אָכַלְתָּ:
- Have (you eaten) from the tree which I commanded you not to eat from it?

Interrogatives

- Genesis 48:8
- וַיֵּרָא יִשְׂרָאֵל אֶת בְּנֵי יוֹסֵף
- Then Israel saw Joseph's sons

- וַיֹּאמֶר מִי-אֵלֶּהּ:
- And said, “Who are these?”

Interrogatives

- 1 Samuel 4:8
- אֹרִי לָנוּ מִי יַצִּילָנוּ מִיַּד הָאֱלֹהִים הָאֲדִירִים הָאֵלֶּה
- Woe to us! Who will deliver us from the hand of these mighty gods?

Interrogatives

- Exodus 32:21
- וַיֹּאמֶר מֹשֶׁה אֶל-אַהֲרֹן
- And Moses said to Aaron,
- מַה-עָשָׂה לָךְ הָעָם הַזֶּה?
- "What did this people do to you
- כִּי-הֵבֵאתָ עֲלֵיהֶם הַטָּאָה גְדוֹלָה:
- That you have brought great sin upon them?"

Interrogatives

- Genesis 4:6
- לָמָּה חָתַרָה לָךְ וְלָמָּה נִפְּלוּ פְּנֵיךָ : ...
- Why are you angry? And why has your countenance fallen?

Interrogatives

- Genesis 44:4
- לָמָּה נְשַׁלְמְתֶם רָעָה תַּחַת טוֹבָה :
• Why have you repaid (rewarded) evil for (instead of) good?

Interrogatives

- Ruth 2:10
- וַתֹּאמֶר אֵלָיו
- And she said to him,
- מִדּוּעַ מָצָאתִי חֵן בְּעֵינֶיךָ
- “Why have I found favor in your eyes,
- לְהַכִּירָנִי וְאֲנֹכִי נֹכְרִיָּה׃
- To recognize me, since I am a foreigner.

Interrogatives

- 1 Chronicles 21:17
- הֲלֹא אֲנִי אֲמַרְתִּי לְמִנּוֹת בְּעָם
- Was it not I who commanded the people to be numbered?

Interrogatives

- Deuteronomy 12:30
- ... אֵיכָּה יַעֲבֹדוּ הַגּוֹיִם הָאֵלֶּה אֶת אֱלֹהֵיהֶם...
- How did these nations serve their gods?

- 1 Samuel 16:2
- ... אֵיךְ אֵלֶּךְ...
- How can I go?

Interrogatives

- 2 Samuel 1:5
- אֵיךְ יָדַעְתָּ כִּי־מֵת שָׁאֹל וַיְהוֹנָתָן בְּנוֹ׃
- How do you know that Saul and his son Jonathan are dead?

Interrogatives

- Ruth 2:19
- וַתֹּאמֶר לָהּ חַמוּתָהּ
- And her mother-in-law said to her,
- אֵיפֹה לִקְטַתְּ הַיּוֹם וְאַנֶּה עָשִׂית
- "Where did you glean today and where did you work?"

Interrogatives

- Genesis 4:9
- וַיֹּאמֶר יְהוָה אֶל קַיִן אַי תְּבֵל אֶחָיֶךָ
- Yehovah said to Cain, “Where is Abel your brother?”

Interrogatives

- Genesis 38:21
- וַיִּשְׁאַל מִקְּמָה לֵאמֹר
- Then he asked the men of (that) place, saying,
- אַיִה הַקַּדְשָׁה הוּא בְּעֵינַיִם עַל-הַדֶּרֶךְ
- “Where is the harlot who was by the road at Eynayim?”

Interrogatives

- Psalm 79:10
- לָמָּהּ | יֹאמְרוּ הַגּוֹיִם אַיֵּה אֱלֹהֵיהֶם
- Why should the nations say, “Where is their God?”

Interrogatives

- Judges 17:9

- וַיֹּאמֶר-לוֹ מִיָּכָה מֵאַיִן תָּבוֹא

- And Micah said to him, “Where do you come from?”

- Judges 19:17

- וַיֹּאמֶר הָאִישׁ הַזֶּקֶן אָנָּה תֵּלֵךְ וּמֵאַיִן תָּבוֹא׃


- And the old man said, “To where are you going, and where do you come from?”

Interrogatives

- 1 Samuel 10:14
- וַיֹּאמֶר דָּוִד שְׂאֵוֹל אֵלָיו וְאֶל-נְעָרוֹ
- Then Saul's uncle said to him and his servant,
- אֵן הֲלִכְתֶּם
- “Where did you go?”

Interrogatives

- *Biblical Hebrew A Compact Guide*, Miles Van Pelt, Zondervan, Grand Rapids, Michigan, copyright 2012.
- *Biblical Hebrew An Introductory Grammar*, Page H. Kelly, William B. Eerdmans Publishing Company, Grand Rapids, Michigan, copyright 1992.



Hebrew lessons compiled by: Beth C. Mehaffey
<https://holyhiway.wordpress.com>
Contact: betmeh2 at gmail.com