



# Hebrew Podcasts

## Lesson 10 – Ulpan

### Intermediate Level

Hello, and welcome to Hebrew Podcasts.

In today's lesson we'll hear from Noa about her job teaching Hebrew at the ulpan. An ulpan is a school for the intensive study of Hebrew that is designed for adult new immigrants to Israel. Noa will tell us about her students and the program.

Let's start by listening to the entire dialog. We'll then go back and examine it piece by piece.

Noa, I heard that you teach	<b>נועה, שמעתי שאת מלמדת</b> No-à, shà-mà-ti shé-àt mé-là-mé-dét
Hebrew at an ulpan.	<b>עברית באולפן.</b> iv-rit bé-ool-pàn.
Yes, I teach in the ulpan of the kibbutz.	<b>כן, אני מלמדת באולפן של הקיבוץ.</b> Kén, à-ni mé-là-mé-dét bà-ool-pàn shél hà-ki-butz.
We have eight adults.	<b>יש לנו שמונה מבוגרים.</b> Yésh là-noo shmo-nà mé-voo-gà-rim.
Six new immigrants and two tourists.	<b>שישה עולים חדשים ושני תיירים.</b> Shi-shà o-lim hà-dà-shim ve-shnéy tà-yà-rim.
They learn Hebrew	<b>הם לומדים עברית</b> Hém lom-dim iv-rit
five days a week.	<b>חמישה ימים בשבוע.</b> hà-mi-shà yà-mim bé-shà-voo-à.
From Sunday to Thursday.	<b>מיום ראשון עד חמישי.</b> Mi-yom ri-shon àd hà-mi-shi.
From eight to two.	<b>משמונה עד שתיים.</b> Mi-shmo-né àd shtà-yim.
It's quite intensive.	<b>זה די אינטנסיבי.</b> Zé déy in-tén-si-vi.
I also teach them	<b>אני גם מלמדת אותם</b> À-ni gàm mé-là-mé-dét o-tàm
about the Israeli culture	<b>על התרבות הישראלית</b> àl hà-tàr-boot hà-yis-rà-é-lit
and a little history.	<b>וקצת היסטוריה.</b> oo-ktsàt his-tor-yà.
The studying lasts five months.	<b>הלימוד נמשך חמישה חודשים.</b> Hà-li-mood nim-shàh hà-mi-shà hō-dà-shim.
How is their Hebrew	<b>איך העברית שלהם</b> Éyh hà-iv-rit shé-là-hém
after five months?	<b>אחרי חמישה חודשים?</b> àh-réy hà-mi-shà hō-dà-shim?
The ulpan is only a start.	<b>האולפן זה רק התחלה.</b> Hà-ool-pàn zé ràk hàt-hà-là.
They need to continue to study,	<b>הם צריכים להמשיך ללמוד,</b> Hém tsrí-him lé-hàm-shih lil-mod,
to read, and to speak.	<b>לקרוא, ולדבר.</b> lik-ro, oo-lé-dà-bér.

### Ulpan

### אולפן Ool-pàn

An ulpan is a study center for Hebrew. It's designed to teach the language and the culture to adult new immigrants and to build a shared identity so they can be integrated quickly and successfully into the society.

The ulpan was created in 1948 when a great number of new immigrants arrived to Israel from all over the world. These immigrants brought different cultures, languages and economic status and needed to be assimilated quickly into the Israeli state.

The modern ulpan uses advanced methods and audio-visual aids. The ulpan serves new immigrants for about five months to prepare them for employment.

The Kibbutz Ulpan is a program in 15 Kibbutzim combining Hebrew language study with living and working in the Kibbutz. The program is tailored for young adults of 18-28 years.

### Kibbutz

### קיבוץ Ki-boots



A Kibbutz is an Israeli collective community that combines socialism and Zionism in a form of practical Labor.

The main values are of shared and equal value between all members. All members work according to their capabilities and get services according to their needs.



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Noa, I started by saying “I heard that you teach...” How did I say that?



Shà-mà-ti shé-àt mé-là-mé-dét

▶ the clock indicates that we pause here for you to repeat

שמעתי שאת מלמדת

שמעתי שאת מלמדת

שמעתי means that I heard. It’s short for אני שמעתי. We saw this before—the form of the verb already indicates the first person so there’s no need to say אני.

Next, שאת combines ש and את—“that” and “you” respectively.

Finally מלמדת is the feminine form of the verb to teach in the present. You should not confuse מלמדת with לומדת. The former means teaching while the latter is learning. The two verbs share a common root. As we’ll come to appreciate in future lessons, the concept of word roots is fundamental to Hebrew.

Noa, you told us about your class. You said “we have eight adults”. How did you say “we have?”



Yésh là-noo

יש לנו

יש לנו

יש means “there is”, and לנו means “to us”, however together it means “we have”. Let’s practice some variations. Noa, how would we say “I have?”



Yésh li

יש לי

יש לי

And “you have”, speaking to a female person?



Yésh làh

יש לך

יש לך

And “you have”, speaking to a group of males or a mixed group of males and females or to a group of people of unspecified gender?



Yésh là-hém

יש לכם

יש לכם

So remember that whenever we talk about people without specifying gender we’ll default to the masculine form.

On the other hand, if the group is all female, we say



Yésh là-hén

יש לכן

יש לכן

Note the “n” sound at the end.

Finally, to say “he has”

### Past Tense

to hear לשמוע

to listen

Lish-mo-à

I heard אני שמעתי

À-ni shà-mà-ti

You heard (m. sg.) אתה שמעת

À-tà shà-mà-tà

You heard (f. sg.) את שמעת

Àt shà-màt

He heard (m. sg.) הוא שמע

Hoo shà-mà

She heard (f. sg.) היא שמעה

Hee shàm-à

We heard אנחנו שמענו

À-nàh-noo shà-mà-noo

You heard (m. pl.) אתם שמעתם

À-tém shà-mà-tém

You heard (f. pl.) אתן שמעתן

À-tén shà-mà-tén

They heard הם/הן שמעו

Hém/hén shà-moo

אני שמעתי שאת מלמדת

À-ni shà-mà-ti shé-àt mé-là-mé-dét

I heard that you teach

אנחנו שמענו שאתם באים

À-nàh-noo shà-mà-noo shé-à-tém bà-im

We heard that you are coming

A note about pronunciation: The word שמעתי is normally pronounced shà-mà-ti. The more correct but less often used pronunciation is shà-mà-à-ti.



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Yésh lo

יש לו

יש לו

Going back to the dialog, you said “we have eight adults”



Yésh là-noo shmo-nà mé-voo-gà-rim

יש לנו שמונה מבוגרים

יש לנו שמונה מבוגרים

**מבוגרים** is adults. Noa wasn't specific about the gender of those adults, so she just used the masculine plural form. The number has to agree with the gender. Therefore Noa used the masculine form of the number—**שמונה**.

Noa, we also heard that six of your students are new immigrants. Let's hear that part.



Shi-shà o-lim hà-dà-shim

שישה עולים חדשים

שישה עולים חדשים

The word for immigrants is **עולים**. This is the plural form. And the word for new is **חדשים**. So new immigrants are **עולים חדשים**.

Noa, how do you say it in singular? A new immigrant



O-lé hà-dàsh

עולה חדש

עולה חדש

And for a female new immigrant



O-là hà-dà-shà

עולה חדשה

עולה חדשה

The other two students are tourists.



Tà-yà-rim

תיירים

תיירים

And in singular, how do you say a male tourist and a female tourist



Tà-yàr vé-tà-yé-rét

תייר ותיירת

תייר ותיירת

Next we heard that you teach five days a week, from Sunday to Thursday. In Israel, the work week begins in Sunday, and the weekend is Friday and Saturday.

Sunday is **יום ראשון**, and Thursday is **יום חמישי**. You can find all the days of the week in the lesson guide.

In the dialog we heard “from Sunday to Thursday”



Mi-yom ri-shon àd hà-mi-shi

מיום ראשון עד חמישי

מיום ראשון עד חמישי

### Days of the week

Sunday	<b>יום ראשון</b> Yom ri-shon
Monday	<b>יום שני</b> Yom shé-ni
Tuesday	<b>יום שלישי</b> Yom shli-shi
Wednesday	<b>יום רביעי</b> Yom ré-vi-ee
Thursday	<b>יום חמישי</b> Yom hà-mi-shi
Friday	<b>יום שישי</b> Yom shi-shi
Saturday	<b>שבת, יום שבת</b> Yom shà-bàt

Note that the days of the week are named using ordinal numbers, except for Saturday. For more information on ordinal numbers please see lesson 3.

#### השבוע מתחיל ביום ראשון

Hà-shà-voo-à màt-hil bé-yom ri-shon

The week begins on **Sunday**

#### השבוע נגמר בשבת

Hà-shà-voo-à nig-màr bé-shà-bàt

The week end on **Saturday**

Till, until, up to, to

**עד**  
**Àd**

**עד מתי?**

Àd mà-tày?

Until when?

**עד סוף היום**

Àd sof hà-yom

Until the end of the day

**לך עד הגשר**

Léh àd hà-gé-shér

Go **up** to the bridge



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From...to is **עד...מ**. We heard another use of this when you said “from eight to two”



Mi-shmo-né àd shtà-yim

משמונה עד שתיים

משמונה עד שתיים

Studying Hebrew five days a week from eight to two is quite intensive. Let’s hear how you said “it’s quite intensive”. The word for “it’s” is



Zé

זה

זה

And the word for quite is



Déy

די

די

Don’t confuse it with the word **די** which means enough. **די** means quite. Finally the word for intensive is



In-tén-si-vi

אינטנסיבי

אינטנסיבי

So the entire sentence “it’s quite intensive” was



Zé déy in-tén-si-vi

זה די אינטנסיבי

זה די אינטנסיבי

The ulpan is an immersive program. Noa explained that she also teaches her student about the Israeli culture and a little history. Let’s hear that in two parts. “About the Israeli culture”



Àl hà-tàr-boot hà-yis-rà-é-lit

על התרבות הישראלית

על התרבות הישראלית

“And a little history”



Vé-ktsàt his-tor-yà

וקצת היסטוריה

וקצת היסטוריה

“ו” is “and”. **קצת** means “a little”.

The ulpan program is of 500 hours. It lasts five months. I was wondering how well the students did after five months of ulpan. I asked “how is their Hebrew”



Éyh hà-iv-rit shé-là-hém

איך העברית שלהם

איך העברית שלהם

The word for their or theirs is **שלהם**. Let’s see some variations. To ask about myself “how is my Hebrew”

On, about

על  
Àl

אני לומד על ישראל

À-ni lo-méd àl yis-rà-él

I learn about Israel

טליה מלמדת על התרבות הישראלית

Tàl-yà mé-là-mé-dét àl hà-tàr-boot  
hà-yis-rà-é-lit

Talia teaches about the Israeli culture

הספר על השולחן

Hà-sé-fér àl hà-shool-hàn

The book is on the table

A bit, a little,  
some

קצת

Ktsàt

אני לומד קצת היסטוריה

À-ni lo-méd ktsàt his-tor-yà

I learn a little history

נועה שמה קצת מלח במרק

No-à sà-mà ktsàt mé-làh bà-mà-ràk

Noa puts a bit of salt in the soup

יש לי קצת שיעורים

Yésh li ktsàt shi-oo-rim

I have some homework

It  
This (masculine)

זה

Zé

זה די אינטנסיבי

Zé déy in-tén-si-vi

It’s quite intensive

זה טוב ללמוד עברית

Zé tov lil-mod iv-rit

It’s good to study Hebrew

אני צריך את זה

À-ni tsà-rih ét zé

I need it (or I need that)



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Éyh hà-iv-rit shé-li?

איך העברית שלי?

איך העברית שלי?

And if I wanted to ask you, Noa, how is your English, I would ask



Éyh hà-àn-glīt shé-làh?

איך האנגלית שלך?

איך האנגלית שלך?

Noa, you answered that studying in the ulpan is merely the beginning, it provides the basis, but the students need to continue to learn, read, and speak.

How did you say “they need”?



Hém tsri-him

הם צריכים

הם צריכים

**צריכים** is plural. In singular it's **צריך**. This is a very versatile word that could mean need, should, have to, or must. Next, we heard four verbs. Let's take them one at a time. To continue is



Lé-hàm-shih

להמשיך

להמשיך

To learn is



Lil-mod

ללמוד

ללמוד

To read is



Lik-ro

לקרוא

לקרוא

And “to speak” is



Lé-dà-bér

לדבר

לדבר

All four verbs are in their infinitive form. It means that they don't vary by time, gender or plurality. They simply describe the action of the verb.

So, to conclude Noa, let's hear how you said “they need to continue to study, to read, and to speak”



Hém tsri-him lé-hàm-shih lil-mod, lik-ro, oo-lé-dà-bér

הם צריכים להמשיך ללמוד, לקרוא, ולדבר

הם צריכים להמשיך ללמוד, לקרוא, ולדבר

For a complete transcript and explanation of today's dialog and for additional information please refer to the lesson guide downloadable from our website at <http://hebrewpodcasts.com>.

After

אחרי  
Àh-réy

איך העברית שלהם אחרי חמישה חודשים?

Éyh hà-iv-rit shé-là-hém àh-réy  
hà-mi-shà hù-dà-shim?

How is their Hebrew *after* five months?

אני אוכל את הסלט אחרי המרק

À-ni o-hél ét hà-sà-làt àh-réy hà-mà-ràk

I eat the salad *after* the soup

המשחק מתחיל אחרי חמש

Hà-mis-hàk màt-hil àh-réy hà-mésh

The game begins *after* five

Of, of the

של, של ה  
Shél, shél hà

ירושלים של זהב

Yé-roo-shà-là-yim shél zà-hàv

Jerusalem *of* gold

האוניברסיטה של פראג

Hà-o-ni-vér-si-tà shél pràg

The University *of* Prague

בית הספר של הקיבוץ

Béit hà-sé-fér shél hà-ki-boots

The school *of* the kibbutz

הסוף של היום

Hà-sof shél hà-yom

The end *of* the day



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Before we end our lesson, let's listen again to the entire dialog.  
We'll pause after each line for you to repeat it out loud.

נועה, שמעתי שאת מלמדת  
עברית באולפן.  
כן, אני מלמדת באולפן של הקבוצה.  
יש לנו שמונה מבגרים.  
ששה עולים חדשים ושני תורים.  
הם לומדים עברית  
חמשה ימים בשבוע.  
מיום ראשון עד המישי.  
משמונה עד שתים.  
זה די אינטנסיבי.  
אני גם מלמדת אותם  
על התרבות הישראלית  
וקצת היסטוריה.  
הלמוד נמשך חמשה חדשים.  
איה העברית שלהם  
אחרי חמשה חדשים?  
האולפן זה רק התחלה.  
הם צריכים להמשיך ללמוד,  
לקרא, ולדבר.

That's it for today! Until next time

שלום ולהתראות בפעם הבאה!

להתראות בפעם הבאה!

#### Present Tense

to last  
to go on

**להימשך**  
**Lé-hi-mà-shéh**

This verb is not used for speaking about people and therefore it is only used in the third person.

**הלימוד נמשך חמישה חודשים.**  
Hà-li-mood nim-shàh hà-mi-shà  
hò-dà-shim.

The studying **lasts** five months.  
(The noun **לימוד** is masculine)

**החיים נמשכים**  
Hà-hà-yim nim-shà-him

Life **goes on**  
(The noun **חיים** is plural and masculine)

**החגיגה נמשכת**  
Hà-hà-gi-gà nim-shé-hét

The party **goes on**  
(The noun **חגיגה** is feminine)

#### Transcription

We'll use transcription in our lesson guides to help you read new Hebrew words. You should read the transcription as if it was English. We'll use hyphens to help the pronunciation. We'll use **é** and **à** to better approximate the Hebrew sounds. You should pronounce those as you would in French. Are you familiar with the expression **déjà vu**, or the word **résumé**? If so, then you should pronounce these two accents accordingly. Otherwise, pronounce **é** like the **e** in **let** and pronounce **à** like the **a** in **bark** or the **u** in **up**.

Finally we'll use **h** (the letter h with an underscore) to denote the sound of the letter Het (ח) or the loose version of the letter Kaf (כ). You should refer to lesson 2 to hear this sound.



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### This lesson's vocabulary

need (pl.)	צרכים	ulpan, studio	אולפן
kibbutz	קיבוץ	them	אותם
little	קצת	after	אחרי
Sunday, first	ראשון	how	איך
only	רק	intensive	אינטנסיבי
week	שבוע	I	אני
six	שישה	you (fem.)	את
theirs	שלהם	also	גם
eight	שמונה	quite	די
I heard	שמעתי	the	...ה
two	שני	history	היסטוריה
two	שתיים	they	הם
tourists	תיירים	start, beginning	התחלה
Israeli culture	תרבות ישראלית	and	...ו
		it, this, that	זה
		new (pl.)	חדשים
		months	חודשים
		five	חמישה
		Thursday, fifth	חמישי
		day	יום
		days	ימים
		yes	כן
		to speak	לדבר
		to continue	להמשיך
		learn (pl.)	לומדים
		studying	לימוד
		to study	ללמוד
		to read	לקרוא
		from	...מ
		adults	מבוגרים
		teach (fem.)	מלמדת
		Noa	נועה
		lasts	נמשך
		Hebrew	עברית
		to, until	עד
		new immigrants	עולים
		about, on	על



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### Lesson 10 – Exercises

Match each sentence with its Hebrew translation. Then draw a line to connect them.

Monday	יום ראשון Yom ri-shon
Tuesday	יום שני Yom shé-ni
Sunday	יום שלישי Yom shli-shi
Saturday	יום רביעי Yom ré-vi-ee
Wednesday	יום חמישי Yom h̄à-mi-shi
Thursday	יום שישי Yom shi-shi
Friday	יום שבת Yom shà-bàt

Put the correct word in each space. Pick from the list of words that's on the left.

חודשים	h̄o-dà-shim
אני	à-ni
יום ראשון	yom ri-shon
מלמדת	mé-là-mé-dét
ימים	yà-mim
צריכים	tsri-h̄im

- אני \_\_\_\_\_ באולפן.  
À-ni \_\_\_\_\_ bé-ool-pàn.  
I **teach** in an ulpan.
- חמישה \_\_\_\_\_ בשבוע.  
H̄à-mi-shà \_\_\_\_\_ bé-shà-voo-à.  
Five **days** a week.
- הלימוד נמשך חמישה \_\_\_\_\_.  
H̄à-li-mood nim-shàh̄ h̄à-mi-shà \_\_\_\_\_.  
The studying lasts five months **months**.
- הם \_\_\_\_\_ להמשיך ללמוד.  
Hém \_\_\_\_\_ lé-hàm-shih̄ lil-mod.  
They **need** to continue to study.
- צריך את זה. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ tsà-rih̄ ét zé.  
I **need** it.
- השבוע מתחיל ב \_\_\_\_\_.  
H̄à-shà-voo-à màt-h̄il bé \_\_\_\_\_.  
The week begins on **Sunday**.

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