

43. The Perfect of כָּתַב *kātab*.

There are two full verbal inflections for person, number, and gender for each Hebrew verb. The first, called the perfect, is formed by adding subject suffixes to a relatively fixed stem, as illustrated by

כָּתַב *kātab* he wrote
כָּתַבְתִּי *kātabtî* I wrote.

The second, called the imperfect, uses a different stem and has person, number, and gender marked by both prefixes and suffixes, as in

יִכְתֹּב *yiktōb* he will write
תִּכְתֹּבְנָה *tiktōbnāh* they (fem. pl.) will write.

We shall begin our study of the verb with the perfect, the full inflection of which is as follows:

כָּתַב <i>kātab</i>	he wrote	כָּתְבוּ <i>kātəbû</i>	they wrote
כָּתְבָה <i>kātəbāh</i>	she wrote		
כָּתַבְתָּ <i>kātabtā</i>	you (m. s.) wrote	כָּתַבְתֶּם <i>kātabtem</i>	you (m. pl.) wrote
כָּתַבְתְּ <i>kātabt</i>	you (f. s.) wrote	כָּתַבְתֶּן <i>kātabten</i>	you (f. pl.) wrote
כָּתַבְתִּי <i>kātabtî</i>	I wrote	כָּתַבְנוּ <i>kātabnû</i>	we wrote