

# Jewish Literacy Programme

## Year 6 ~ Week 20

This week's סדרה:

English Translation	חומש Words	English Translation	חומש Words
empty	ריקם	snake	נחש
the children	הטף	both of them	שניהם
vineyard	כרם	I	אנכי
English Translation / Explanation		G.K. Words	

### The ל"ט מלאכות (5)

(The 39 creative activities forbidden on Shabbos)

#### Tying

1 קושר \

#### Untying

2 מתיר

- 1) It is forbidden to make a tight double knot even if you intend to leave it tied only for a few minutes.
- 2) It is permitted to make a single bow-knot, but not if it is intended to stay that way for more than 24 hours.
- 3) It is forbidden to tie a single knot at the end of a bag, for example, a food bag or a rubbish bag.
- 4) The general rule is: any knot that it is forbidden to tie, it is forbidden to untie (even if it was made before Shabbos).\*

#### Sewing or uniting two things into one

3 תופר \

#### Tearing for a constructive purpose

4 קורע

- 1) It is forbidden to sew two pieces of material or two parts of one piece of material together with two stitches, i.e. passing a thread back and forth, and it is likewise forbidden to tear them apart.
- 2) It is forbidden to pull a thread to tighten a stitch or a loose button.

#### Writing

5 כותב \

#### Erasing

6 מוחק

- 1) It is forbidden to make any letter, picture or meaningful symbol whether on a permanent surface [like paper] or on a temporary surface [like in the fog on a window].
- 2) One may not write letters or make meaningful shapes with icing or whipped cream.
- 3) Anything that is forbidden to write on Shabbos, is forbidden to erase on Shabbos. Therefore, just as it is forbidden to make even temporary writing on Shabbos, like writing in the fog on a window, so too, it is forbidden to erase this writing from the window.

#### Building

7 בונה \

#### Destroying

8 סותר

- 1) One may not attach anything to a wall, whether with a nail or adhesive or suction cup; nor may one knock a nail into the wall, whether to secure something or to hang something on it. Likewise, it is forbidden to take a nail out of a wall or remove a hook attached to the wall even by suction or adhesive.
- 2) One may not reattach or reinstall a door, window or screen that came off its hinge or out of its track, nor may one remove it.

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### Chumash Words with Pesukim

<p><b>empty</b> / It will be that, when you go, you will not go <b>empty-handed</b></p>	<p><b>ריקם</b> \ וְהָיָה כִּי תֵלְכוּן לא תלכו <b>ריקם</b>: (שמות ג': כ"א) (מגילת אסתר ג': י"ג)</p>
<p><b>the children</b> / ..from young to old, <b>children</b> and women, in a single day</p>	<p><b>הטף</b> \ מִנַּעַר וְעַד־זָקֵן טף וְנָשִׁים בְּיוֹם אֶחָד (מגילת אסתר ג': י"ג)</p>
<p><b>vineyard</b> / And who is the man who has planted <b>a vineyard</b> and not redeemed it? (..in the fourth year, when the fruit must be taken to Jerusalem, or redeemed, and may be eaten for the first time. [see Vayikro 19:24] )</p>	<p><b>פרם</b> \ וּמִי־הָאִישׁ אֲשֶׁר נָטַע <b>פרם</b> וְלֹא חָלְלוֹ. . . (דברים כ': ו')</p>
<p><b>snake</b> / <b>The snake</b> said to the woman: "You will surely not die."</p>	<p><b>נחש</b> \ וַיֹּאמֶר הַנָּחָשׁ אֶל־הָאִשָּׁה לֹא־מוֹת תָּמָתוֹן (בראשית ג': ד')</p>
<p><b>both of them</b> / He took in his hand the fire and the knife, and <b>the two of them</b> went together</p>	<p><b>שניהם</b> \ וַיִּקַּח בְּיָדוֹ אֶת־הָאֵשׁ וְאֶת־הַמַּאֲכָלֶת וַיֵּלְכוּ <b>שניהם</b> יחדו (בראשית כ"ב: ו')</p>
<p><b>I</b> / Moshe said to Hashem: "Who am <b>I</b>, that I should go to Paroh and that I should take the Children of Israel out of Egypt?"</p>	<p><b>אנכי</b> \ וַיֹּאמֶר מֹשֶׁה אֶל־הָאֱלֹקִים מִי <b>אנכי</b> כִּי אֵלֶךְ אֶל־פַּרְעֹה וְכִי אוֹצִיא אֶת־בְּנֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל מִמִּצְרָיִם (שמות ג': י"א)</p>

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### Notes

#### **קושר \ מתיר**

\* There are two exceptions that we will mention:

- a) if the forbidden knot (for example, a double knot) happened accidentally (as often happens with shoe laces) then it can be untied;
- b) if one's shoes are tied with a Rabbinically forbidden knot (like a double knot that was not meant to be permanent) and he can't take off his shoes without undoing the knot, if the shoes are causing him pain, he may undo the knot.

Any knot that one may not tie, he may not tighten. Therefore, it is forbidden to tighten the knot of one's tzitzit.

#### **תופר \ קורע**

1. It is forbidden to paste or staple two items or papers together. So too, one is not allowed to detach two papers that were pasted together (like a sealed envelope) or stapled together. Likewise, one may not remove the staple that attaches the cleaning tag to a garment.
2. It is also forbidden to tape two things together. However, concerning tape there is a leniency: if the taping is done temporarily, then it is permitted.
3. It is permissible to fasten garments using a zipper even if it will be permanent (for example, zipping a lining into a raincoat). Also, it is permissible to fasten two items using Velcro. Likewise, one may pull such strips apart.
4. If pages of a book were never fully detached, it is forbidden to separate them. However, if the pages were at one time fully detached but accidentally became glued together (as sometimes occurs during binding), then it is permitted to separate them. However, if the glue fell on the actual writing on the page then it is not permitted to separate them.
5. It is preferable to open all food packages before Shabbos.

The general rule regarding packaged food is that one may tear open a container of food in a destructive (not the usual) way, provided he doesn't tear any words or pictures.

#### **כותב \ מוחק**

1. One may not put together a jigsaw puzzle on Shabbos since the pieces form a picture.
2. One may put cards with letters or numbers on them next to each other to form a word or a three-digit number; however, if they are attached to a surface (like magnetic letters to a refrigerator) it is forbidden.
3. One may not play any game on Shabbos whose score is usually written down when playing it during the week, like Scrabble.
4. One must be careful when cutting an orange, or the like, that he doesn't cut through the numbers or stickers put on the peel to identify it.
5. Letters, meaningful shapes or pictures written on a cake with icing may not be cut through on Shabbos. However, one may cut between the letters of a word even if the word will be erased

#### **בונה \ סותר**

1. If a doorknob came out of the door, it is forbidden to put it back (even loosely).
2. One who is Bar or Bas Mitzvah should not build with Lego bricks, or anything similar, on Shabbos.
3. One may not build furniture by assembling parts, but one may set up a table if no assembly is required.

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