

Level 1

On the first level, teachers give simple commands consisting of one verb per action.

	Verbs	Nouns	Adjectives	Adverbs	Misc.
1 st segment	לָקוּם לְשֵׁבֶת				
2 nd segment	לְלַכֵּת לְעֲצוֹר לְרוּץ				
3 rd segment	לְקַפּוֹץ לְהִסְתוֹבֵב				

Note that all vocabulary in the Foundational and Holiday units are pronounced and translated online. As an example, for Level 1 click the video on the left side of this page:
<http://www.hebrewthroughmovement.org/level-1.html>
 In addition, on the right side of the same webpage there is a video explaining grammatical issues that confuse some teachers.

While the HTM model calls for three new words to be introduced at a time, the small number of words in this first level will make that impossible. In this first teaching session, you might have time to introduce all five words from both the 1st and 2nd segments (one right after the other). Or, you could include לְלַכֵּת and לְעֲצוֹר with the 1st segment, meaning that four words are taught together. Then, לְרוּץ may be taught along with לְקַפּוֹץ and לְהִסְתוֹבֵב the next time students meet, so three words are introduced. These kinds of teaching decisions are up to you.

Sample scripts for Level 1:

1st Segment

(there is no review)

Invite two students to sit on either side of you. Show them that you want them to listen (point to your ears) and watch (point to your eyes).

Say לָקוּם and stand up.

Say לְשֵׁבֶת and sit down.

Repeat each of these commands two times, while modeling/demonstrating.



Repeat the words while pointing to the children so they know to do the actions with you.

Repeat these words without demonstrating the action; wait to see if the children follow the actions, independently.

Offer these commands to the entire group and gesture (point) to everyone so they know to do the actions.

2nd Segment

Invite two different students to sit on either side of you.

Say לקום and get up.

Say ללכת and begin to walk. Repeat ללכת a few times as you walk.

Some of the earlier HTM videos show teachers repeating commands over and over and over again. This is not necessary. The first time, say the word three times. After that, when a command is given, one or two repeats is usually enough.

Say לעצור and stop walking.

Repeat ללכת and לעצור as you model the actions two times.

Gesture to the two children sitting by your side and say לקום → ללכת → לעצור. Do the actions with the students.

After doing this twice, give the command but wait to see if the students begin to move before you do.

Select 1-2 different groups of children to follow these commands. Then, have the entire group follow the commands.

Indicate with gestures that you are going to do something new. Point to your ears (signaling “listen”) and point to your eyes (signaling “watch”).

Say לקום and get up.

Say לרוץ and begin to run.

Say לעצור and stop running.

Say לקום → לרוץ → לעצור and do the actions with the students.

Repeat these words without modeling and wait to see if the children do the actions without you. When they do well, offer a word of praise like טוב.

Select 1-2 different groups of children to follow these commands. Then, have the entire class follow the commands.

When most children are following the commands without modeling by you, call on children in groups of two or three to follow the commands. Have the children return to their seats by way of commands. For example: “Annie, Michael, and Jane: לקום → ללכת → (point to their seats) לשבת.”

End by saying טוב and doing a thumbs-up gesture and/or clap.

3rd Segment

By now, you should have an idea of how to introduce new commands.

For this session, begin with a review/warm-up.

Then, introduce ¹לקפוץ and להסתובב based on the teaching sample in the first two segments.

Finally, integrate the new words with the ones your learners already know. Remember to work with the vocabulary in many different combinations so that they are internalized by the students – this is a key to success in Hebrew Through Movement.



Don't forget to end the session by saying טוב and doing a thumbs-up gesture. Feel free to clap, as well

LEVEL 1 MODEL LESSON, WITH FEEDBACK

For a video of a novice teacher introducing Level 1 (with supervisor feedback), see: <http://www.hebrewthroughmovement.org/level-1.html>

Pacing of lessons is always a challenge. Remember to add more vocabulary after 2/3 (two-thirds) of the students demonstrate understanding of words they are learning. It will generally take two to four sessions to move through each level.

- Don't expect perfection from your students.
- Don't rush, but also don't stay stuck "forever."

If you feel students are not catching a particular level or learning segment for a couple of weeks, move on by introducing new vocabulary. Later, re-introduce the words students didn't learn OR just keep reviewing them. Hebrew Through Movement is supposed to be fun and energizing – keep it so!

¹ Among HTM users there is an eternal debate about this word being pronounced לקפוץ or לקפוץ. An explanation is provided in this video: <http://tinyurl.com/krnaw69> (also found on the Teacher Video Tips page of the HTM website). The JEC has chosen to pronounce the word with a Pay, but teachers may make their own decision as long as there is consistency in an educational program.