

LESSON XV

I. Syllables

A. Beginning of Syllables

Every syllable begins with a consonant except the conjunction }  
when it changes to ם (e.g. םױם cf. ף?ױם).

B. Kinds of Syllables

1. Closed Syllable

A closed syllable consists of a consonant, a full vowel, and another consonant (e.g. םױם).

NOTE: There are two special kinds of closed syllables:

a. Sharpened Closed Syllable

A sharpened closed syllable consists of a consonant, a full vowel, and another consonant with the last consonant being the first of a doubled letter (e.g.

sharpened closed syllable  
ף?ױפ).

closed syllable

b. Doubly Closed Syllable

A doubly closed syllable consists of a consonant, a full vowel, and two successive consonants with the last of the two consonants having a vocal shewa under it (e.g. ף?ױׁפ).

NOTE: A doubly closed syllable only appears at the end of a word (e.g. ף?ױׁפ).

doubly closed syllable

2. Open Syllable

An open syllable consists of a consonant and a full vowel (e.g. ף) or a consonant, a full vowel, and a vowel letter (e.g. ףױ).

3. Half Open Syllable

A half open syllable consists of a consonant, a short, unaccented vowel, and another consonant with a half vowel under it (e.g.

ףׁױׁפ).  
half open syllable