

There is only one silluq in a sentence, and it indicates a pause that is similar to the pause indicated by the English period.

B. Secondary Accent

1. Name of the Secondary Accent

The secondary accent of a word is called "the secondary tone," or "the countertone."

2. Sign Used to Mark the Secondary Accent

The sign used to mark the secondary accent of a word is the metheg ($\lambda \text{ } \overline{\text{מ}} \text{ } \overline{\text{ב}}$ - "bridle").

a. Identification of the Metheg

The metheg is a small perpendicular stroke that is placed under the first consonant of the syllable that bears the secondary accent of the word to which it is attached (e.g.

$\overline{\text{ק}} \text{ } \overline{\text{ו}} \text{ } \overline{\text{צ}}$ from the verb קוץ meaning "to cry, cry out," or "to call"). If that consonant has a vowel under it, the metheg is placed to the left of the vowel (e.g.

$\overline{\text{ק}} \text{ } \overline{\text{ו}} \text{ } \overline{\text{צ}}$).

b. Function of the Metheg

- (1) It marks the secondary accent of the word to which it is attached.
- (2) It indicates that the vowel beside which it is placed is not to be slurred, but is to be given its full pronunciation.

c. Position of the Metheg

- (1) It goes on an open syllable when the open syllable is followed by a consonant with a half vowel under it and then the tone syllable (e.g. $\overline{\text{ק}} \text{ } \overline{\text{ו}} \text{ } \overline{\text{צ}}$).
- (2) It goes on an open syllable when the open syllable is two syllables before the tone syllable (e.g. $\overline{\text{ק}} \text{ } \overline{\text{ו}} \text{ } \overline{\text{צ}}$).

NOTE: The metheg can be distinguished from the silluq by virtue of the fact that the silluq marks the principal accent of the word to which it is attached whereas the metheg marks the secondary accent of the word to which it is attached (e.g. $\overline{\text{ק}} \text{ } \overline{\text{ו}} \text{ } \overline{\text{צ}}$ cf. $\overline{\text{ק}} \text{ } \overline{\text{ו}} \text{ } \overline{\text{צ}}$).

d. Number of Methes in a Sentence

There can be as many methes in a sentence as are necessary.