

--And some Hebrew words have the same radicals! In BDB when the words have the same radicals it will be indicated by a Roman numeral (I, II, III, etc) following the word. Students sometimes miss this and the first word given may be very different from what the text needs. Remember never to stretch the word to fit the situation...there will be a word and it will be right for your use. The assignment of order is generally in terms of the frequency of use.

--Within the listing of words, words are identified by stem and form.

VERBS are listed by the stem of occurrence (Qal, Piel, etc.). Following the listing of the stem will be an example of every way in which the word is used in the O.T. The sequence of citation for the verb is Perfect, Imperfect, Imperative, Infinitive, Participle. You must use extreme care with the lexicon as there are many submarkings as are explained in the prefator material.

NOUNS, much less complicated than verbs, are shown with example of case, number, gender, and pronoun usage.

--After BDB has shown the stem and the occurring forms, it will give copious examples of usage and suggested translations. When an obelisk sign occurs with the listing you know that every occurrence is indicated. At times, however, BDB will show a form, mention one place of its usage, and indicate "19 t" after it, meaning the identical form occurs 19 other times in the O.T. Now you will need your concordance to find out where all of them are.

--If you avail yourself of all the tools suggested, you will have no trouble. But if you cannot find a word to not panic and go dashing madly through the lexicon. Look at the form and make sure you understand all the data..then go back to the reference books.