(2) <u>Nouns</u>

> What is true of verbs is likewise true of nouns...except
> there is no Qal, etc., just the listing of gender, number,
> and the occurrence of the noun with afformatives.

3. <u>Methodology</u>

Rather than grabbing the book and thumbing through in the hopes of
picking up an incidental reference, we suggest a careful method for
finding word meanings in the lexicon.

a. <u>Verbs</u>

Form a careful analysis of the word, including the parsing and
possible root. Whatever you deduce the root to be, go to the lexicon
and look under that root for the parsing you have decided upon. Look
for the specific notation (remember: there may be duplicate roots)
and if you do not find what you need, make another hypothesis and
research that. If you cannot find what you need in this manner...for
class assignments, bring the problem to class. If you are working alone
for a sermon, etc., if all else fails use an English concordance and
work backwards! (Works well with KJV, RSV, NASB)- But don't admit
to anyone that you learned to do that here!

Your initial analysis may not be correct, of course. It is possible
to confuse Ayin-ayin, ayin waw, and even lamedh he verbs...among
others. But this is the correct procedure and anything else is
potentially mayhem.

b. <u>Nouns</u>

Strip the noun of all affixation and try to restore the root,
theoretically in the absolute singular. The inflexional variety of
nouns is less than that of verbs but due to the masculine/feminine
confusions and interchangeable endings, they are sometimes harder to
pinpoint for specific meaning.

4. <u>Problem areas</u>

The following are items that cause problems in word identifications.
To be aware of them is the purpose of this paragraph...and to try to
avoid the pitfalls.

a. failure to remove inseparable prepositions before identifying the
   stem.

b. confusing the definite article with the preformative of verbs.

c. failing to distinguish the variant vowel forms...such as remembering
   that holem is equally holem whether plene or not in form...and that
   sere will often change to seghol before resh, etc., and that final
   vocalic sounds will sometimes be apocopated, etc.

d. mistaking infinitive construct endings for feminine plural noun
   afformatives.