remember such words as מַעֲשֶׂה (a work) and   מִזְבֵּחַ (altar) as
good examples of this. In some later lesson we will tell you that
these are <u>concrete</u> nouns as are other nouns derived from the participle
base.

4. <u>Time Sense in Participles</u>

The <u>time sense </u>in participles is that of the verb-subject relationship
governing the action in the passage. The form in itself has no
real time-set. Temporal qualities are derived from the context
and particularly the leading verb. That is why two translations
may take a participial phrase and render it in different ways.
The citation on page 35 regarding Sihon finds the participle
translated "was dwelling" because obviously he is no longer there
at the time of the writing.

When there is no leading verb the participle is translated as a
present form. In much of modern Hebrew the participle is the mode
for expressing the present, the imperfect only rarely used in this
manner.

C. <u>THE INFINITIVE</u>

Much more complicated than the participle, we think, the infinitive
needs a more elaborate explanation...and maybe it will get it, who knows?

1. <u>The Infinitive Absolute</u>

Be sure to check the inflexion of this form in either Harris or
Dunzweiler "Verb Charts", or something similar. Following are
the ways in which the <u>Infinitive absolute</u> is most commonly used.
You will find a general misunderstanding of the form through the
over-simplification of earlier courses...but you can overcome
that almost any time.

a. As a <u>substantive</u>...in lieu of a noun

(1) It will not use prepositions that have a genitive
function and will not be found with the inseparable
prepositions.

(2) It will not be used to show direct action through the
attachments of personal pronominal sufformatives. If
such is needed, infinitive construct will most likely
be used.

In such cases as these, the absolute infinitive will
be translated precisely as a noun would be translated.

b. Given an <u>adverbial cast.</u>

Some infinitive absolutes give rise to adverbs much the way
participles develop into nouns. Most of these will come from