



Jewish Literacy Programme
Year 6 ~ Week 20

English Translation	חומש Words	English Translation	חומש Words
empty	ריקם	snake	נחש
the children	הטף	both of them	שניהם
vineyard	כרם	I	אנכי

English Translation / Explanation

G.K. Words

ל"ט מלאכות (5)

(The 39 creative activities forbidden on Shabbat)

Tying

קושר 1

Untying

מתיר 2

- 1) It is forbidden to make a tight double knot on Shabbat even if you intend to leave it tied only for a few minutes.
- 2) It is permitted to make a single bow-knot, but not if it is intended to stay that way for more than 24 hours.
- 3) It is forbidden to tie a single knot at the end of a bag, for example, a food bag or a rubbish bag.
- 4) The general rule is: any knot that it is forbidden to tie, it is forbidden to untie (even if it was made before Shabbat).*

Sewing or uniting two things into one

תופר 3

Tearing for a constructive purpose

קורע 4

- 1) It is forbidden to sew two pieces of material or two parts of one piece of material together with two stitches, i.e. passing a thread back and forth, and it is likewise forbidden to tear them apart.
- 2) It is forbidden to pull a thread to tighten a stitch or a loose button.

Writing

כותב 5

Erasing

מוחק 6

- 1) It is forbidden to make any letter, picture or meaningful symbol whether on a permanent surface [like paper] or on a temporary surface [like in the fog on a window].
- 2) One may not write letters or make meaningful shapes with icing or whipped cream.
- 3) Anything that is forbidden to write on Shabbat, is forbidden to erase on Shabbat. Therefore, just as it is forbidden to make even temporary writing on Shabbat, like writing in the fog on a window, so too, it is forbidden to erase this writing from the window.

Building

בונה 7

Destroying

סותר 8

- 1) One may not attach anything to a wall, whether with a nail or adhesive or suction cup; nor may one knock a nail into the wall, whether to secure something or to hang something on it. Likewise, it is forbidden to take a nail out of a wall or remove a hook attached to the wall even by suction or adhesive.
- 2) One may not reattach or reinstall a door, window or screen that came off its hinge or out of its track, nor may one remove it.

Adapted from "Practical Halachos of Shabbos: The 39 Melachos and More" Rabbi Mayer Birnbaum

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Notes

קושר \ מתיר

* There are two exceptions that we will mention:

- a) if the forbidden knot (for example, a double knot) happened accidentally (as often happens with shoe laces) then it can be untied;
- b) if one's shoes are tied with a Rabbinically forbidden knot (like a double knot that was not meant to be permanent) and he can't take off his shoes without undoing the knot, if the shoes are causing him pain, he may undo the knot.

Any knot that one may not tie, he may not tighten. Therefore, it is forbidden to tighten the knot of one's tzitzit.

תופר \ קורע

1. It is forbidden to paste or staple two items or papers together. So too, one is not allowed to detach two papers that were pasted together (like a sealed envelope) or stapled together. Likewise, one may not remove the staple that attaches the cleaning tag to a garment.
2. It is also forbidden to tape two things together. However, concerning tape there is a leniency: if the taping is done temporarily, then it is permitted.
3. It is permissible to fasten garments using a zipper even if it will be permanent (for example, zipping a lining into a raincoat). Also, it is permissible to fasten two items using Velcro. Likewise, one may pull such strips apart.
4. If pages of a book were never fully detached, it is forbidden to separate them. However, if the pages were at one time fully detached but accidentally became glued together (as sometimes occurs during binding), then it is permitted to separate them. However, if the glue fell on the actual writing on the page then it is not permitted to separate them.
5. It is preferable to open **all** food packages before Shabbat.

The general rule regarding packaged food is that one may tear open a container of food in a destructive (not the usual) way, provided he doesn't tear any words or pictures.

כותב \ מוחק

1. One may not put together a jigsaw puzzle on Shabbat since the pieces form a picture.
2. One may put cards with letters or numbers on them next to each other to form a word or a three-digit number; however, if they are attached to a surface (like magnetic letters to a refrigerator) it is forbidden.
3. One may not play any game on Shabbat whose score is usually written down when playing it during the week, like Scrabble.
4. One must be careful when cutting an orange, or the like, that he doesn't cut through the numbers or stickers put on the peel to identify it.
5. Letters, meaningful shapes or pictures written on a cake with icing may not be cut through on Shabbat. However, one may cut between the letters of a word even if the word will be erased

בונה \ סותר

1. If a doorknob came out of the door, it is forbidden to put it back (even loosely).
2. One who is Bar or Bat Mitzvah should not build with Lego bricks, or anything similar, on Shabbat.
3. One may not build furniture by assembling parts, but one may set up a table if no assembly is required.

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Chumash Words with Phrases and Pesukim

<p>empty / It will be that, when you go, you will not go empty-handed</p>	<p>רִיקָם \ וְהָיָה כִּי תֵלְכוּן לֹא תֵלְכוּ רִיקָם: (שְׁמוֹת ג': כ"א)</p>
<p>the children / ..from young to old, children and women, in a single day</p>	<p>הַטָּף \ מִנְעַר וְעַד־זָקֵן טַף וְנָשִׁים בְּיוֹם אֶחָד (מִגִּילַת אֶסְתֵּר ג': י"ג)</p>
<p>vineyard / And who is the man who has planted a vineyard and not redeemed it? (...in the fourth year, when the fruit must be taken to Jerusalem, or redeemed, and may be eaten for the first time. [see Vayikra 19:24])</p>	<p>כָּרֵם \ וּמִי־הָאִישׁ אֲשֶׁר נָטַע כָּרֵם וְלֹא חָלְלוּ... (דְּבָרִים כ': ו')</p>
<p>snake / The snake said to the woman: "You will surely not die."</p>	<p>נָחָשׁ \ וַיֹּאמֶר הַנָּחָשׁ אֶל־הָאִשָּׁה לֹא־מוֹת תָּמָתוֹן (בְּרֵאשִׁית ג': ד')</p>
<p>both of them / He took in his hand the fire and the knife, and the two of them went together</p>	<p>שְׁנֵיהֶם \ וַיִּקַּח בְּיָדוֹ אֶת־הָאֵשׁ וְאֶת־הַמַּאֲכָלִת וַיֵּלְכוּ שְׁנֵיהֶם יַחְדָּו (בְּרֵאשִׁית כ"ב: ו')</p>
<p>I / Moshe said to Hashem: "Who am I, that I should go to Paroh and that I should take the Children of Israel out of Egypt?"</p>	<p>אֲנֹכִי \ וַיֹּאמֶר מֹשֶׁה אֶל־הָאֱלֹקִים מִי אֲנֹכִי כִּי אֵלֶךְ אֶל־פַּרְעֹה וְכִי אוֹצִיא אֶת־בְּנֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל מִמִּצְרָיִם (שְׁמוֹת ג': י"א)</p>