

Jewish Literacy Programme
Year 5 ~ Week 19

~ Part One: Vocabulary Study

English Translation	חומש Words
generation	דור
object, container	כֶּלִי
tribe, stick	מִטָּה
bread	לֶחֶם
kindness	חֶסֶד
thousand	אַלֶּף

Explanation	Our Great Leaders (4)	G.K. Words
<p>Rabbi S. R. Hirsch strengthened Torah Judaism and Jewish life in Germany in the 19th century. He was the rabbi of Frankfurt-on-Main, which became famous for its Jewish schools and kindergartens. He wrote commentaries on the Chumash, the Siddur and on Tehillim (the Psalms). He is also famous for ‘Horeb’ (a detailed study of the mitzvot) and the ‘Nineteen Letters.’ Rabbi Hirsch particularly loved the Tehillim, and said that it made him very happy to spend time wondering what inspired David Hamelech (King David) to write his beautiful Psalms.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Rabbi Samson Raphael Hirsch (1808-1888)</p> <p style="font-size: small;">adapted from biographical notes in Net hama Leibowitz, studies in Chumash: WZO, and ‘Rabbi Samson Raphael Hirsch,’ Klugman: Artscroll</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Rabbi Samson Raphael Hirsch (1808-1888)</p>
<p>Rabbi Yisrael Ben Ze’ev Wolf Lipkin (of Salant) was the founder and spiritual father of the Mussar movement. The movement taught techniques for spiritual and character growth. He held positions as the “mashgiach” (spiritual guide) in a yeshiva, and as the head of a Yeshiva in Vilna. He went on to establish his own Yeshiva. Rabbi Salanter used to say: “One doesn't learn mussar to be a tzaddik, but to become a tzaddik.”</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Rabbi Yisrael Salanter (1810-1883)</p> <p style="font-size: small;">adapted from http://www.ou.org/about/judaism/rabbis/salanter.htm and http://www.tzemachdavid.org/gedolim/jo/tpofile/rsalanter.html</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Rabbi Yisrael Salanter (1810-1883)</p>
<p>Rabbi Yosef Ber Soloveitchik was the great grandson of Rabbi Chaim Volozhin (top student of the Vilna Gaon and founder of Yeshivat Volozhin) and the great grandfather of Rabbi Joseph Ber Soloveitchik (1903-1993). Rabbi Soloveitchik had one of the greatest minds of his time and also taught Torah to some of the great minds of the generation. It was said of the Beit HaLevi that his fear of sin was comparable to an ordinary person’s fear when his life is in danger.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Rabbi Yosef Ber Soloveitchik The Beit HaLevi (1820-1892)</p> <p style="font-size: small;">adapted from http://www.ou.org/about/judaism/rabbis/bsolove.htm</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Rabbi Yosef Ber Soloveitchik The Beit HaLevi (1820-1892)</p>
<p>Chacham (Sephardic equivalent of “Rabbi”) Yosef Chaim, known as the “Ben Ish Chai,” became the Rav of Baghdad at the age of twenty-five. He became one of the greatest of the modern-day Sephardic “poskim” (individuals who answer questions regarding Jewish Law). The “Ben Ish Chai” delivered a three-hour sermon every Shabbat, for fifty years. He was a very holy person; some said that he had “ruach ha-kodesh” (Divine inspiration) though he himself denied it. The Chacham’s Shabbat sermons became the basis for his most famous work, the “Ben Ish Chai.” He was known for his love of Eretz Yisrael, and supported messengers who came to collect money for the poor there.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">The “Ben Ish Chai” Chacham Yosef Chaim (1834 – 1909)</p> <p style="font-size: small;">http://www.ou.org/at/out/judaism/rabbis/benishchai.htm</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">The “Ben Ish Chai” Chacham Yosef Chaim (1834 – 1909)</p>