

~ Part One:
Vocabulary
Study

English Translation	חומש Words	English Translation	חומש Words
to you (masc. sing.)	אֵלֶיךָ	to you (masc. pl.)	אֵלֵיכֶם
to him	אֵלָיו	to them (masc.)	אֵלֵיהֶם
to her	אֵלֶיהָ	from me	מִמֶּנִּי

Explanation	סופרות	G.K. Words
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A סופר is a man who has studied all the many laws of writing holy texts: Sifrei Torah, Tefillin, Mezuzot and Megilat Esther. He has to know many laws for every letter of the א-ב in order to write them according to הַלְכָה. **Not only must he be knowledgeable, he must also be a יָרֵא שָׁמַיִם - a person who fears Heaven.** This is because there are many ways in which Tefillin can be made פְּסוּל (unfit) and still appear to be Kosher.

סופר

For example, the פְּרָשִׁיּוֹת in תְּפִילִין must be written in the order in which they appear in the Torah. Even the letters must be written in the correct order. Therefore, if the סופר noticed a mistake in a letter he wrote earlier in the parchment he may not go back and correct it. The whole parchment is now פְּסוּל. A dishonest סופר might be tempted to correct the earlier mistake. If he did so and then sold this parchment the buyer would be wasting his money and also saying wasted Berachot every time he put on his Tefillin.

(Adapted from
The World of
Tefillin & Mezuzos -
Rabbi Zeev Rothschild
- C.I.S. publ.)

The Sefer Torah - a Torah Scroll, contains The Five Books of Moshe Rabeinu (Moses our teacher), hand written on parchment (animal skin). It is the holiest of all books of Tanach.

**ספר
תורה**

A Sefer Torah is kept in the Aron Kodesh in the Shul, and portions are read from it publicly on Mondays and Thursdays, Shabbat, Rosh Chodesh, Yom Tov, Chol Hamo'ed, Fast Days, Chanuka and only in the presence of a minyan (at least ten Jewish males above the age of thirteen). On these different days we call up different numbers of men, from three on regular Mondays and Thursdays to seven on Shabbat. Being called up is called an 'Aliyah.'

- **A Sefer Torah must be written by a Sofer** (a specially trained scribe). All materials used for the Sefer Torah must be Kosher.
- **There are over 4000 laws a Sofer must know** before he starts writing the Sefer Torah!
- **There are 304,805 letters in a Sefer Torah.** If only one letter is missing the whole Torah is Pasul (not Kosher).

(Adapted from
www.torahlots.com/
torah/sefer Torah.htm)

Producing תְּפִילִין involves a number of skilled craftsmen who are experts in different areas of הַלְכָה (Torah law). **A pair of Tefillin consists of two units, the שֵׁל ראש ("for the head") and the שֵׁל יָד ("for the hand").** The שֵׁל יָד has one compartment containing one scroll of parchment with four פְּרָשִׁיּוֹת written on it. The שֵׁל ראש has four separate compartments (all made out of one piece of leather). It contains four separate פְּרָשִׁיּוֹת, one in each compartment.

תְּפִילִין
(Adapted from
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A Mezuzah consists of the two Parashiot of שְׁמַע and שְׁמַע אִם וְהָיָה אִם שְׁמַע written on one piece of parchment. The same laws that apply to the writing of Tefillin also apply to the writing of a Mezuzah. The Mezuzah is rolled up, usually placed in a decorative case, and fixed on most doors in the house. It is placed 2/3 of the way up, it's top leaning towards the doorway.

מְזוּזָה
(Adapted from
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- C.I.S. publ.)