

JCP Chumash Curriculum Framework

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OUTLINE OF THE MAIN ASPECTS FOR PUPILS AGED 5 TO 11 TO ATTAIN

KNOWLEDGE OF TORAH CONTENT AND VOCABULARY	
K1	I KNOW FACTS ABOUT THE TORAH
K2	I KNOW EVENTS, PEOPLE AND PLACES IN TORAH
K3	I KNOW THE LOCATION OF PLACES MENTIONED IN THE TORAH
K4A	I KNOW KEY WORDS IN THE TORAH
K4B	I KNOW KEY PHRASES IN THE TORAH
K5	I KNOW SOME HALACHIC SECTIONS OF THE TORAH
K6	I KNOW SELECTIONS OF A RANGE OF PERUSHIM AND MIDRASHIM
K7	I KNOW SOME MAIN PARALLEL EVENTS, LIFESTYLE AND CULTURE IN GENERAL HISTORY THAT ARE RELATED TO EVENTS, PEOPLE AND PLACES IN TORAH
SKILLS: LITERAL COMPREHENSION OF TORAH AND SOME RELATED COMMENTARIES IN HEBREW AND ENGLISH	
S1	I CAN LOCATE TEXT IN A CHUMASH (INCLUDING PESUKIM AND PERUSHIM)
S2	I CAN USE REFERENCE TOOLS THAT HELP IN COMPREHENDING TEXT
S3	I CAN READ TORAH TEXT IN A PRINTED CHUMASH
S4	I CAN COMPREHEND THE PLAIN MEANING OF TORAH TEXT (IN HEBREW)
S5	I CAN APPLY KNOWLEDGE OF HEBREW GRAMMAR TO HELP ME COMPREHEND TEXT
S6	I CAN READ VOWELLED PERUSHIM IN HEBREW
S7	I CAN COMPREHEND THE PLAIN MEANING OF A MEFARESH
UNDERSTANDING: INTERPRETING TEXTS IN HEBREW AND ENGLISH TO ELICIT DEEPER MEANING & IMPLICATIONS	
U1	I CAN REFLECT ON EVENTS, CHARACTERS AND MITZVOT DESCRIBED IN THE TORAH TEXT AND ELICIT DEEPER MEANING AND IMPLICATIONS FROM THEM
U2	I UNDERSTAND HOW PARTICULAR PHRASING AND GRAMMAR AFFECT MEANING IN TORAH TEXT
U3	I CAN ANALYSE AND INTERPRET TORAH PASSAGES BY COMPARING VARIOUS TEXTS
U4	I UNDERSTAND THE MEANING OF PERUSHIM

KNOWLEDGE

KNOWLEDGE OF TORAH CONTENT AND VOCABULARY

K1: I KNOW FACTS ABOUT THE TORAH

Level 1: I know that the Torah was given by Hashem (Torah min Hashamayim) and that Moshe received the Torah at Sinai.

Level 2: I know the names of the five sefarim of the Torah.

Level 3: I know the names of the parasha and sefer being studied.

Level 4: I know that the Torah consists of the Written Law and the Oral Law.

K2: I KNOW EVENTS, PEOPLE AND PLACES IN TORAH

Level 1: I can accurately retell most of what happens in the Torah narrative of this unit.

Level 2: I can name most of the characters and places connected to the events in the Torah narrative of this unit.

Level 3: I can accurately retell most of what happens in the Torah narrative of this unit and the previous unit(s).

Level 4: I can place in chronological order events occurring in the Torah narrative of most of the units.

Level 5: I know associations between people, places and events mentioned in most of my units.¹

K3: I KNOW THE LOCATION OF PLACES MENTIONED IN THE TORAH

Level 1: I can identify the location of most of the important places and areas that are named in this unit on an outline map of the ancient Middle East with some features/places filled in.

Level 2: I can identify the location of almost all of the important places and significant geographical features that are named in this unit on an empty outline map of the ancient Middle East².

K4A: I KNOW KEY WORDS IN THE TORAH

Level 1: I recognise and know the meaning of most of the key words in this unit as they appear in a printed Chumash.

Level 2: I recognise word families³ of key words in this unit.

Level 3: I recognise and know the meaning of most of the key words in this and in the previous unit(s), as they appear in a printed Chumash text.

Level 4: I recognise shoshonim forms of most of the verb keywords and word families of most of the

¹ E.g. Basic level- associate places like Hevron and Beer Sheva to Avraham; higher level- associate different references to a 'Be'er' (well) to various characters across stories e.g. Avraham, Yitzchak and Yaakov

² rivers, deserts, mountains and directions (NSEW)

³ By word family we mean, for example, for pupils to recognise that ויקח and קח and לקחת are all part of the same word family. They do not yet need to know that the shoshonim is לקח

nouns in this and in the previous unit(s).
K4B: I KNOW KEY PHRASES IN THE TORAH
Level 1: I recognise and know the meaning of the selected key phrase(s) in this unit as it (they) appear in a printed Chumash.
Level 2: I remember the selected key phrase(s) in this unit by heart and can explain its (their) meaning.
Level 3: I recognise and know the meaning of the selected key phrase(s) in this and in the previous unit(s) as they appear in a printed Chumash.
Level 4: I remember selected key phrases from this and the previous unit(s) by heart and can explain their meaning.
K5: I KNOW SOME HALACHIC SECTIONS OF THE TORAH
Level 1: I can name the mitzvah being commanded in a text.
Level 2: I can explain the details specified for a mitzvah mentioned in the unit studied.
Level 3: I can explain which mitzvot in all the units studied apply nowadays.
Level 4: I can explain examples of how the Oral Law helps us to practice mitzvot.
K6: I KNOW SELECTIONS OF A RANGE OF PERUSHIM AND MIDRASHIM
Level 1: I know that a perush or midrash explains the meaning of a Torah text but is not part of the Torah text.
Level 2: I know the names of some mefarshim and some of their background details.
Level 3: I can retell in my own words, the commentary of a mefaresh(im) on a text in this unit.
Level 4: I know that there can be several different opinions regarding the meaning of a particular text. (shiv'im panim laTorah).
Level 5: I can retell in my own words, the commentary of mefarshim on a text in this unit and in previous unit(s).
K7: I KNOW SOME MAIN PARALLEL EVENTS, LIFESTYLE AND CULTURE IN GENERAL HISTORY THAT ARE RELATED TO EVENTS, PEOPLE AND PLACES IN THE TORAH
Level 1: I know about some aspects of events, lifestyles and practices in the ancient world that are related to events studied in the Torah. ⁴

⁴ E.g. that the story of Yetziat Mizrayim happened at the time of ancient Egypt; the Nile floods every year so there is always food in Egypt; some aspects of slavery, idolatry, taxation and rights of priests and codes of behaviour.

SKILLS

LITERAL COMPREHENSION OF TORAH AND SOME RELATED COMMENTARIES IN HEBREW AND ENGLISH

S1: I CAN LOCATE TEXT IN A CHUMASH (INCLUDING PESUKIM AND PERUSHIM)

Level 1: In a printed Chumash, I can recognise the beginnings and ends of pesukim and perakim.

Level 2: I am able to find Torah text in Bereishit when given its perek, pasuk and Chumash reference.

Level 3: I am able to find Torah text in any sefer of the Chumash when given its perek, pasuk and Chumash reference.

S2: I CAN USE REFERENCE TOOLS THAT HELP IN COMPREHENDING TEXT

Level 1: I can look up words in a wordlist.

Level 2: I can look up words in a dictionary, identifying their roots and forms correctly.

Level 3: I can search Torah text online/electronically to locate occurrences of a particular word, root or form.

S3: I CAN READ TORAH TEXT IN A PRINTED CHUMASH

Level 1: I can read most words in this unit accurately, accentuating syllables correctly.

Level 2: I can read most pesukim in this unit accurately, accentuating syllables correctly.

Level 3: I can read all pesukim in this unit accurately and fluently, using etnachta.

Level 4: I can read short, uncomplicated unseen pesukim containing some familiar words accurately and fluently, using etnachta and sof pasuk.

Level 5: I can read most new/unseen pesukim accurately and fluently, using etnachta and sof pasuk.

S4: I CAN COMPREHEND THE PLAIN MEANING OF TORAH TEXT (IN HEBREW)

Level 1: I can comprehend, with support, using Hebrew words in the text, most pesukim in this unit and gain information from them.

Level 2: I can comprehend, with little support, using Hebrew words in the text, most pesukim in this unit and gain information from them.

Level 3: I can summarise, using Hebrew words in the text, the main messages of a portion of Torah text in this unit.

Level 4: I can comprehend new/unseen pesukim in the Torah and gain information from them, with support, about people, places or events.

S5: I CAN APPLY KNOWLEDGE OF HEBREW GRAMMAR TO HELP ME COMPREHEND TEXT

Level 1: I can identify word families in both the nouns and verbs of the unit.

Level 2: I can identify ⁵common prefixes and suffixes ('stick-ons') from the unit.

⁵ Examples of common prefixes and suffixes include ב, מ, ך, ם, ן

Level 3: I can apply my knowledge of word families (nouns and verbs), pre- and suffixes ('stick-ons') and syntax to new words in order to learn more about a pasuk being studied.
Level 4: I can differentiate between verbs and nouns and apply my knowledge of word families (nouns) and shorashim (verbs) and pre- and suffixes ('stick-ons') to new words in order to learn more about a pasuk being studied.
Level 5: I can apply my knowledge of the following common grammatical structures of familiar words: masculine and feminine, singular and plural, verb tenses, common conjunctions including Vav Hahipuch ⁶ and a Vav Hachibur and use them to help me comprehend the text being studied.
Level 6: I can apply my knowledge of common grammatical structures, common conjunctions, conjugations and syntax to help me comprehend new pesukim.
S6: I CAN READ VOWELLED PERUSHIM IN HEBREW
Level 1: I can say the correct sound of letters written in Rashi script.
Level 2: I can read vowelled words written in Rashi script accurately.
Level 3: I can read a whole vowelled Rashi comment in Rashi script accurately.
S7: I CAN COMPREHEND THE PLAIN MEANING OF A MEFARESH (in HEBREW or ENGLISH)
Level 1: I can comprehend the plain meaning of a simple mefaresh(im) with support.
Level 2: I can comprehend the plain meaning of a more difficult mefaresh(im) with support.
Level 3: I can comprehend the plain meaning of a simple mefaresh(im) independently.
Level 3: I can apply my knowledge of word families (nouns and verbs), pre- and suffixes ('stick-ons') and syntax to new words in order to learn more about a pasuk being studied.
Level 4: I can differentiate between verbs and nouns and apply my knowledge of word families (nouns) and shorashim (verbs) and pre- and suffixes ('stick-ons') to new words in order to learn more about a pasuk being studied.
Level 5: I can apply my knowledge of the following common grammatical structures of familiar words: masculine and feminine, singular and plural, verb tenses, common conjunctions including Vav Hahipuch ⁷ and a Vav Hachibur and use them to help me comprehend the text being studied.
Level 6: I can apply my knowledge of common grammatical structures, common conjunctions, conjugations and syntax to help me comprehend new pesukim.

⁶ Examples include ויאמר, ותאמר

⁷ Examples include ויאמר, ותאמר

UNDERSTANDING

INTERPRETING TEXTS IN HEBREW AND ENGLISH TO ELICIT DEEPER MEANING & IMPLICATIONS FOR US

U1: I CAN REFLECT ON EVENTS, CHARACTERS AND MITZVOT DESCRIBED IN THE TORAH TEXT AND ELICIT DEEPER MEANING AND IMPLICATIONS FROM THEM

Level 1: I can reflect, with support, on an event in the unit studied, and describe the likely feelings of some characters involved in it.

Level 2: I can relate, with support, an event or mitzvah in the unit studied to everyday life and can apply the value or mitzvah to my own life.

Level 3: I can reflect, independently, on an event in the unit studied, and describe the likely feelings of some characters involved in it.

Level 4: I can relate, independently, an event or mitzvah in the unit studied to everyday life and can apply the value or mitzvah to my own life.

Level 5: I can relate, independently, events or mitzvot in the units studied to everyday life and can apply the values or mitzvot to my own life.

U2: I UNDERSTAND HOW PARTICULAR PHRASING AND GRAMMAR AFFECT DEEPER MEANING IN TORAH TEXT

Level 1: I can identify, with support, words or roots in a text that provide keys or clues to its overall themes or messages.

Level 2: I can identify, with support, particular phrasing in the text I've studied that might affect the meaning of the text.

Level 3: I can independently identify particular phrasing in the text that I've studied and explain, with support, how the phrasing affects the meaning of the text.

Level 4: I can independently identify particular phrasing in the text that I've studied and independently derive meaning from it.

Level 5: I can suggest, unaided, how to interpret particular phrasing or style in a Torah text to clarify meaning.

U3: I CAN ANALYSE AND INTERPRET TORAH PASSAGES BY COMPARING VARIOUS TEXTS

Level 1: I can compare and contrast, with support, two or more Torah texts and identify similarities or inconsistencies.

Level 2: I can independently compare and contrast two or more Torah texts and infer meaning, with support, from similarities and inconsistencies.

Level 3: I can independently compare and contrast two or more Torah texts and identify similarities or inconsistencies.

Level 4: I can independently compare and contrast two or more Torah texts and infer meaning, independently, from similarities and inconsistencies.

U4: I UNDERSTAND THE MEANING OF PERUSHIM

Level 1: I can explain, with support, the reason why a perush in the unit comments on a word or a phrase.

Level 2: I can explain, with support, how the mefaresh in the unit has derived his perush from the Torah text.

Level 3: I can explain how the perush derived by a mefaresh in the unit studied fills a gap, answers a question, or explains an anomaly in the Torah text and I can discuss whether this is convincing.

Level 4: I can explain how two perushim derived by one or more mefarshim, interpret a word or phrase in a text, and, explain, with support, why they do.