

SIMILARITIES BETWEEN ENGLISH AND HEBREW LANGUAGES Page 1 of 4

stABRACADABRA = אברא כדברא (Aramaic for "I will create as spoken")
(noted by LorenNaomiGoldbergMitchell in Cleveland)

ADoRn = אדיר

ADORn = הדור

AncIENT = איתן (meaning "ancient" as in:

2:14:27 גוי איתן הוא גוי מעולם הוא) וישב הים לפניו בקר לאיתנו and Yirmiah 5:15

agony = יגון

Aha = אהה (MalachimB perek 5)

aint, un = אין

air = איר

albino, albumen (egg white) = לבן

ALong with = על

AMI (friend in French) = עמית (11 times in Vayikra)

ANswer, ANnounce = ען

antiCiPate = צפה

antique = עתיק

aCQuiRe (as in buy) = כרה (buy, as in Dvarim 2:6 מים תכרו מאתם)

ArM = אמה

ashamed = אשם (guilty in Hebrew)

ARoz/cookARUZa (corn in Spanish/Russian) = אורז (corn in Hebrew)

ARRANGe = ארכ

ASSemBle = אסף

au (about in Russian) = א (about in Aramaic)

AWesome = אים

AURa = אור, אורה

bain (French for bath) = bania (Russian for schvitz)= בי בני

(MesechesMegila 6b 2 lines above the Mishna)

ballistic = בליסטראות (in Gemara)

BaLsaM = בסם

BaSHful = בוש

BeTon = בית

biZaRRe = זר

bizarre = זר or מוזר

BOOR = בער

booty = בוז

bore (dig a pit) = בור (pit)

BReaK = פרק

BUBBle, BULBOUs = in Hebrew אבעבעת (2/9/10)

BUBO, BUBONic(gland swelling) = אבעבעת (2/9/10)

BALL, BULBOUs = in Aramaic בולבוס בול (per Jastrow dictionary)

BUCKle = בקע (something straight becoming creased by compression,

e.g., MlachimA 1:40) (noticed by my son Eli Rose in Cleveland)

BuRn, FURNace = בער, פורני (Pesachim 31b; Kedushin 32a, Baitza 34a)

cameo = קמיע

CABAL = קבל (Mlachim B 15:10)

CasTeGateR = קטגור (in Pirkai Avos)

CaNoPy = כנף

CaPe = כף (Aramaic in Unklus)

CaPTure = כבש

CARD = כרטיא קורטא (MesechesGittin69a 19th line, YerushKsubos57a-b)

CarToN קיתון (Meseches Baitza 22a, line 5)

CAVe CAVity CAVern = כ (Baitza 36a last line, exit-cavity of beehive)

CiNaMMiN = קנמן (2:30:23)

CIrCle = כרכב (per Rashi: an encircling structure)

CLOaK = חלוק

CoLLect = לקט, קולט

como ("like" in Spanish) = כמו

cover (Spanish cobrir; Latin cooprire) = כפרת, כפר

cover up (as to be forgiven) = כפר

CONtainer = קבון (Meseches Baitzah 13b)

CoPT (ancient Egypt)= כפתור

CORe = מקור

CoRNer = קרן

CoTToN, shirt כתנת

CouPLe (as in double) = כפול

CRAB = עקרב

CRACK = חרק

CREvice (CREuser is French for dig) = נקרת הצור" כרה

CRyo = קר

czar, sire, sir = שר

DaDya & TyoTya (uncle & aunt in Russian) = דוד

DangLe = דלדל

DaRoGa (way in Russian) = דרך

de (French for "of") = ד (Aramaic for "of")

DiReCtion = דרך (in Ezekiel "צפון דרך" "צפון קדים")

deem in English = dum (Russian) = דמ (as in דמיתי)

dePaRT = פטר

dice CUBes = קביה (Aramaic)

doctrine, dotrinna (Italian) = דת

DoNate, donner (give in French) = תן

DOOM = תהום

DoRM = DReam = נרדם

DraGoN = דגון (per Rashi which describes it as a fish-like idol)

DRIP, DRoP(of liquid) = טיפה

DuMb (quiet) = דם

DENGY (money in Russian) = דנקי (money in Aramaic, in Meseches RoshHashah 26b, 5th line from bottom)

DwinDLе = דלדל (Meseches Sota 49a bottom)

endives = הינדבי (Pesachim 39a)

entombed = תמון

ePiPHaNy = פענח

ETerNal = יתני

ellBOGEN (German for elbow, Russians replacing G with H) = ביה

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EVIL = עַוֵּל לַ
 eye = עַיִן
 fall = נִפֵּל (נפול)
 FiNiCKy = מִפְּנִיָּק
 FOR (VOOR in Dutch) = עִבּוּר
 FRuit = פֵּרִי
 FURNace = פּוּרְנֵי (Pesachim 31b; Kedushin 32a, Baitza 34a)
 GardeN = גַּן
 GASa (thief in Italian) = גֹּזֵל (thief in Hebrew)
 GeoMeTrY = גֵּמְטְרִיָּא (in Pirkai Avos)
 GleBellar = גַּבֵּחַ
 GOBlet (GOBeL in old French) = גְּבִיעַ
 GRADe (scrape off top layer) GRATE= גָּרֵד
 GRaIN = גֹּרֵן (grainery) גֵּרְעִין (seed)
 GRiSt = שֶׁרֶץ (as in 3:2:14)
 similarly: CouRSe KeRNeL = שֶׁרֶץ שֶׁפְּרָמֵל (as in 3:2:14)
 guZZLe (definition: to drink greedily & frequently) = זֹלֵל
 GyPSum = גַּפְסִיטִים
 horn, cuerno (horn in Spanish), corn (horn in Latin as in “unicorn”) = קָרְן
 HOLLow = חִלּוּל
 HURRy = מְהֵרִי
 HUSH = הֶסֶם
 HuSH = הַחֲשׂוּ (what Alisha said in MalachimB perek 2)
 iMMEDiate = מִיָּד
 i (prefix “not”) = אֵי (not, as in אֵי נֶקֶד in Joeb)
 in PaRTticular= בִּפְרָט
 in-BeTweeN= בֵּתוּבִים
 iNCITe = מְסִית
 interPREt = פִּתְרָה
 isle = אֵי
 ITI (Russian go) = אֵתָה, אֵתָא (go in Hebrew & Aramaic)
 KaK (Russian for “as” = כּ (Hebrew prefix for “as”)
 kadka (pitcher in Russian)= כֵּד
 khan, kahoona = כַּהֵן
 kid = גִּבְרִי
 krošni (red in Russian) = שֶׁרֶק (red in Aramaic)
 LaD = לֵד
 LAP (to wrap) = לִפְיָ (Aramaic for “wrap”)
 LeG= רֵגֵל
 LiCK = לִחֵךְ = lakak (lick in Russian)
 LITRE = לִיטְרָא (Meseches Ta’anis; MesechesBaitsah 3b)
 MaSTIC = מוֹסְתִיקָה (coated with mastic tree shellac; Baitza 33b)
 MATRON (woman heading an institution) = מַטְרוֹנִיתָא (in MesechesRoshHashana 19a)
 Mayhem = מַהוּמָה
 METE (old English for measure), METric = מֵדָה
 META = MEZZO(middle in Italian) = מְצִיעָא (Aramaic)

TARSal (foot’s tread bone) = דָּרַס (tread)
 METATARSal (middle bone in foot) = מְצִיעָא דָּרַס
 MIRRor pronounced “MIRAH” by Brooklyners
 = מִרְאָה (mirrors in the Mishkan’s kior)
 (noted by LorenNaomiGoldbergMitchell in Cleveland)
 mort (dead in both English, French & Russian) = מוֹת
 mort = מוֹת
 mush = מֵשׁ
 myrrh = מוֹר
 NeFT (Russian for “petroleum”) = נֶפֶט
 no = לֹא
 NOD = מַנְדֵּב
 NOMAD = נֶעֻנָד (which Sfarim pronounce “nowunad”)
 now = נָא
 NO & ON are oppositely-spelled
 = לֹא & אֵל (meaning no & on) are oppositely-spelled
 (noticed by my son Eli Rose in Cleveland)
 ootra (morning in Russian) = אֹוֶרְתָא
 over = עֵבֵר
 oCCuR = (Hebrew) קָרָה, (Aramaic) אִיקְרִי
 ORGAnize = אֵרַכּ
 PACify, PEACe = פִּיֵּס (pacify in Aramaic)
 PaRaGraph, break = פִּרְקָה
 PaRSe = פֵּרַס
 PaCe = פֵּרְסָה (foot & hoof in Hebrew as in Torah 2:10:26)
 PaRT = פֵּרַט
 PARTicular = פֵּרַט
 PASHA = פַּחַזָּה
 Peel = פִּיצֵל
 PePPER = פִּלְפֵּל (Meseches Baitza, 23a)
 PiCKeD= פִּקֵּד
 PoL (Russian for half) = פִּלְגָא (Aramaic for half)
 PoLUTe POLLUTion = פּוֹלֵט פִּסּוּלָת
 POMP, PUBLic = פּוֹמְבִי
 PorTiCo = פֶּתַח
 POT = פִּתְיָא
 POUR= בַּעֲבוּר
 PRIZE = פֵּרַס
 pSoRiaSiS = צִרְעָת
 PYRe, PYRo = בַּעַר
 PyTHoN = פִּתְוּן
 QuaRRy = קְרָה (excavate rock, as in Braishit 29:25 “dug a well”)
 QUIL = קוּלְמוֹס (quill for writing)
 RAM = רָאם
 RaVen = עֵרַב
 RaveNous = רַעֵב
 REGULAr = רֵגִיל

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reGRET = **חרט**
 ReGuLar = **רגיל**
 ReVerBeRation = **הברה**
 RiCe = **ערדזא** (Aramaic)
 RIO (river in Spanish) = **יאַר** (river in Hebrew)
 salamander in Gemarah = **סלמדרא**
 sapphire = **ספיר**
 SATRAP = **אחשדרפאניא**
 sCaLD = **חלט**
 ScALD = **סולד**
 SCoPe = **שקף**
 sePaRaTe = **פרד**
 PaRT (verb) = **פרד**
 SEA = **צײ** (Aramaic for sailboat)
 SeVeN = **שבע**
 SiDe = **צד**
 SigN = **נס**
 six = **שש**
 SlauGHTEr = **שחט** (from my son Yosi Rose)
 SLip = **של**
 SLiP oFF = **שלף**
 ShMATU (rag in Polish & Ukrainian) = **סמרטוט**
 TUSS (sneeze as in RobiTUSSIN) = **עטש** (Yerushalmi Yuma 18b)
 SOLace, SOLEmn, console = **שלוה, שלום**
 SOURCe = **שורש** (meaning "source" or "root")
 SPIT (bar for barbequing) = **שפוד**
 SPonGe = **שפג** (in Pirkai Avos)
 sPReaD = **פרד**
 StReaM = **זרם**
 stomach CaVity, CuBicle (both in Pinchas story) = **קבה** (stomach or room)
 SUFFix = **סוף**
 sultan = **שליט שלטון**
 SUM = **סכום**
 sode (German for turf), sod = **שודה**
 sous (French for under) = **תות** (Aramaic for under)
 te (Russian & French) = **את**
 TABLEt, TABLE = **טבלא**
 TACTic = **טקסיס** (Aramaic)
 tam (Russian for "there") = **תם** or **התם** (Aramaic for "there")
 TAMBOURINE = **תנבורא** (Meseches Sota 49b)
 TAP = **תפוח** (Meseches Megila 14a "אביה ותפוח על ראשה")
 TAU (dew in German) = **טל**
 tax = **טקסא** (Baba Kama 73b; Gittin 58b)
 TeaR = **בתר**
 TeaR, RiP = **טרף** (from my son Yosi Rose)
 TieR, sToRy = **טור**
 TENEr, TENeO ("hold" in Spanish, French, Latin) = **אָ טַ גַּ אַ** (conTAINEr, holder)
 YEst (Russian for "there is") = **שׁ יַ** (Hebrew for "there is")

TOLL (take) = **טול**
 TOM = (Meseches Shabas 115b **טומס**
 torus ("bull" in Greek), toro ('bull "in Spanish) = **טור** ("bull" in Aramaic)
 ToweR (of a castle) - **טיר**
 TOUR = **טור**
 TURtleDove = **טור**
 TURn = **טור** (Purim Megila 2:12: "each girl's **טור** arrived to go the the king")
 "twisted" means perverted = **פתלתל** (Hebrew for "twisted" means perverted (in parsha Ha'azinu)
 TETRAGON & TRIGON = **טריגון & טטרגון** (Nazir 8b, BabaBasra 164b)
 trimeter verse = **טרימטרא** (BabaBasra 164b)
 TZVet ("color" in Russian) = **צבע**
 Und = **ו**
 URb = **עיר**
 WAIL = **ייליל**
 waLK = **לך**
 wine = **יין**
 using heart=**לב** to mean center, as in "heart of the matter and **לב השמים**
 Hebrew uses the word for count (**ספר**) for account (**ספר**)
 a- (prefix for "not") = **א** (Aramaic for "not") = **אין** (Hebrew for "not")
 a (Russian prefix for "about") = **א** (Aramaic prefix for about)
 suffix "-i" ("of" in Russian) = suffix **י** ("of" in Hebrew) as in **אבי** (father of)
 suffix "-i" (plural in Russian) = suffix **ים** & **ים** ("plural in Aramaic & Hebrew)
 suffix "en" (plural in children, oxen) = suffix **ין** ("plural in Aramaic)
 suffix "-a" in Russian meaning "to" = suffix **ה** in Hebrew meaning "to" (ex: בית/הבית = dom/doma)
ברית ברית as in English to "**cut** a deal"
 כלה "totalled" (destroyed) is from כלה "all", as in Russian "vsyo" "totalled" is from "vsyo" "all"
נא is from **הנאה** in Hebrew, as "please" is from "pleasure" in English
 "על יד" to mean near in Hebrew, as "on hand" to mean near in English
 Using "לב" heart (as in **לב השמים**) to mean the center of the matter
 "עקב" to mean "because" in Hebrew, as "on the heel of" to mean "because" in English
 on = **על** The same word is used for both "ontop" and "in addition to"
 hard = **קשה** The same word is used for both "difficult" and "rigid"
 call = **קרא**
 Just like English uses the same word ("call") to mean
 (1) get someone's attention ("call out to")
 (2) assign a name to someone ("called their new baby Joe")
 (3) visit ("please call again")
 So too Hebrew uses the same word ("**קרא**") to mean
 (1) get someone's attention ("**ויקרא פרעה לאברם**")
 (2) assign a name to someone ("**ולחשך קרא לילה**")

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(3) visit ("ויירץ העבד לקראתה" ויצא מלך סדם ויקראתו")

שמן = fat The same word is used as a noun to indicate body fat and an adjective to indicate overweight.

ידן על העליונה in Gemarah, as "upper hand" in English

Use the word dish קדירה to mean food type (Meseches Baitzah 14a)

עד אשר יצא מאכסם "until it comes out you nose", as in English expression "till it comes out of your ears"

"להזיר" is derived from "זר", as in English "estranged" is derived from "stranger"

In both English & Hebrew the same term "on top of" על is used to mean both "above" and "in addition to"

In both English and Hebrew, the word for "toward" ("ל" / "to") is also used to convert a verb to an infinitive, which, by the way, is not case in Russian or French.

In both English and Hebrew, the word "there" is added to "there is" / "שם יש"

In Hebrew, the word ש.ק.ץ (meaning disgusting) is derived from the root שקצ (meaning creep), just as in English "creepy" (meaning disgusting) is derived from the root "creep"

The phrase עד ה.נ.ה (meaning "till now") is derived from ה.נ.ה (meaning "here"). Similarly, the English idioms for "now see here" is derived from "here".

Using the same word (קוטר) for a knot in a rope as a knot in a tree trunk

Gemara uses the word "raise" (רמי) for both raise (elevate) an object and raise a question

Both English and Meseches Baitza 32b use the phrase "has no life" ("אין להם חיים") to describe a person who has a miserable life.

Both English and Meseches Pesachim 112a use the phrase "on his head" ("דמו בראשו") to mean "is his own fault"

דמו בנפשו is like the modern phrase "his blood is on your hands" to mean guilty for harming, except that the Hebrew phrase refers to the person being guilty for causing his own harm.

In English, the verb "recount" (meaning "tell a story") is derived from the verb "count", just as in Hebrew the verb ספר (meaning "telling a story") is derived from the verb ספר (meaning "count").

ויתן אותנו כמרגלים (1:42:30) Like the English phrase "he took us for a spy", this passage uses "took" to mean "mistook us as" or "assumed we were".

מתנה <<תן Just like the English word "gift" is derived from "give", the Hebrew word for "gift" מתנה is derived from the Hebrew word for "give" תן

Using the word "take" to mean "think of someone as" (as in "What kind of fool do you take me for?") mentioned in Torah "ויתן אותנו כמרגלים את הארץ"

using the phrase "as day" to mean clearly ("clear as day") as Yakov said "השבעה לי כיום"

Idiom that the company would be better off if he stayed home sick for a year – Meseches RoshHashana 25a, 10 lines from bottom

English idiom "on hand" meaning "close by" similar to Hebrew idiom "על יד" (literally "on hand") meaning "close by"

Torah (5:21:12 ועשתה את צפרניה), as in colloquial English, refers to a woman MANACURING her fingernails as "DOING her nails":