The first conversational Hebrew course by Podcasts Learn to speak Hebrew as it is spoken in Israel

lesson 18 A The Coffee Shop

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Jonathan: shalom Eran, shalom Liat, you look very happy today!

Liat: ken Yonatan, Eran and I met an hour ago to discuss today's lesson.

Eran: We had a great time together. We went to the coffee shop across the street - me-ever la-rechov.

Liat: ha-i-ta sham Yonatan? - Have you been there Jonathan?

Jonathan: Oh...I have heard about this coffee shop, I know they serve great coffee...

Liat: Not to mention the cakes. Hmmm...that was **kol kach ta-im - so delicious**, nachon Eran?

Eran: ken. They have **very tasty cakes!** - **ugot me-od te-imot!** Do you know, Jonathan, there are a lot of wonderful **batey kafe** - **coffee shops** in many cities throughout Israel.

Liat: nachon! Be-Yerushalaim, be-Cheifa, be-Tel-Aviv. Actually, in almost **every city in Israel – be-chol ir be-Israel**. Anyway, as I was talking to **the waiter** - **ha-melzzar**, Eran took some notes and wrote...

Eran: the conversation between Liat ve ha-melzzar. So it would be a great idea to read it together – be-yachad.

Jonathan: nehedar, achla! I would love to hear it!

Liat: mezzu-yan, I will be myself...

Eran: And I will be the waiter - ani e-he-ye ha-melzzar.

| :ערן | בבקשה גבירתי, | be-va-ka-sha gvir-ti, | Eran: |
|-------|-------------------|--------------------------|-------|
| | זה הקפה שלך, | ze ha-ka-fe she-lach | |
| | וזאת הלימונדה | ve-zot ha-li-mo-na-da | |
| | שלך, אדוני. | shel-cha, a-do-ni. | |
| | | | |
| :ליאת | תודה! יש לכם | to-da! yesh la-chem | Liat: |
| | עוגת שוקולד? | u-gat sho-ko-lad? | |
| | | | |
| :ערן | כן, יש לנו עוגת | ken, yesh la-nu u-gat | Eran: |
| | שוקולד מצויינת | sho-ko-lad me-zzu-ye-net | |
| | עם גלידה,וגם עוגת | im gli-da, ve-gam u-gat | |
| | גבינה נהדרת. | gvi-na ne-he-de-ret. | |



| :ליאת | !נשמע טוב | nish-ma tov! | :Liat |
|-------|----------------------|-----------------------------|-------|
| | אנחנו נקח פרוסה | a-nach-nu ni-kach pru-sa | |
| | אחת מכל סוג | a-chat mi-kol sug | |
| | בבקשה, וגם | be-va-ka-sha, ve-gam shtey | |
| | שתי כוסות מים. | ko-sot ma-im. | |
| | | | |
| :ערן | מים מינרלים? | ma-im mi-ne-ra-lim? | Eran: |
| | | | |
| :ליאת | כן, תודה! | ken, to-da! | Liat: |
| | כמה זה בבקשה? | ka-ma ze be-va-ka-sha? | |
| :ערן | שבעים ושמונה | shiv-im ve-shmo-na | Eran: |
| | שקלים. | shka-lim. | |
| | | | |
| :ליאת | בבקשה. | be-va-ka-sha. | Liat: |
| | שמור את העודף. | shmor et ha-o-def. | |
| :ערן | תודה גבירתי, | to-da gvir-ti, | Eran: |
| | תודה אדוני, בתיאבון! | to-da a-do-ni. be-te-a-von! | |
| | | | |

Jonathan: toda Eran ve toda Liat! Let's listen to the conversation once more, while I give the English translation. Today, we will start with the English sentences, followed by the Hebrew:

| :ערן | בבקשה גבירתי, | Here you are Miss. | be-va-ka-sha gvir-ti. | Eran: |
|-------|---------------|---------------------|-----------------------|-------|
| | זה הקפה שלך, | Here is your coffee | ze ha-ka-fe she-lach | |
| | וזאת הלימונדה | and here is your | ve-zot ha-li-mo-na-da | |
| | שלך אדוני. | lemonade, Sir. | shel-cha, a-do-ni. | |
| | | | | |
| :ליאת | תודה! יש לכם | Thanks! Do you have | to-da! yesh la-chem | Liat: |
| | עוגת שוקולד? | chocolate cake? | u-gat sho-ko-lad? | |



| :ערן | כן, יש לנו | Yes, we have an | ken, yesh la-nu | Eran: |
|-------|-----------------|----------------------|----------------------|-------|
| | עוגת שוקולד | excellent chocolate | u-gat sho-ko-lad | |
| | מצויינת עם | cake with ice cream | me-zzu-ye-net im | |
| | גלידה,וגם עוגת | and also a wonderful | gli-da, ve-gam u-gat | |
| | גבינה נהדרת. | cheesecake. | gvi-na ne-he-de-ret. | |
| :ליאת | נשמע טוב! | Sounds good! | nish-ma tov! | Liat: |
| | אנחנו נקח | We will take | a-nach-nu ni-kach | |
| | פרוסה אחת מכל | one slice of each | pru-sa a-chat mi-kol | |
| | סוג בבקשה, | please, | sug be-va-ka-sha, | |
| | וגם שתי כוסות | and also two glasses | ve-gam shtey ko-sot | |
| | מים. | of water. | ma-im. | |
| :ערן | מים מינרלים? | Mineral water? | ma-im mi-ne-ra-lim? | Eran: |
| | | | | |
| :ליאת | כן תודה! כמה זה | Yes thank you! How | ken to-da! ka-ma ze | Liat: |
| | בבקשה? | much is it please? | be-va-ka-sha? | |
| :ערן | שבעים ושמונה | Seventy-eight | shiv-im ve-shmo-na | Eran: |
| | שקלים. | shekels. | shka-lim. | |
| | | | | |
| :ליאת | בבקשה. | Here you go. | be-va-ka-sha. | Liat: |
| | שמור את העודף. | Keep the change. | shmor et ha-o-def. | |
| :ערן | תודה גבירתי, | Thank you Miss, | to-da gvir-ti, | Eran: |
| | תודה אדוני, | Thank you Sir. | to-da a-do-ni. | |
| | בתיאבון! | Bon appetite! | be-te-a-von! | |

Jonathan: Okay, let's split the dialogue into two halves, which we will review in both the A and the B Lessons. Eran and Liat, would you please read the first half of the dialogue, at a slower pace - be-kezzev i-ti?



| :ערן | בבקשה גבירתי, | Here you are Miss. | bevakasha gvirti. | Eran: |
|-------|----------------|----------------------|---------------------|-------|
| | זה הקפה שלך, | Here is your coffee, | ze ha-kafe shelach, | |
| | וזאת הלימונדה | and here is your | ve-zot ha-limonada | |
| | שלך, אדוני. | lemonade, Sir. | shelcha, adoni. | |
| | | | | |
| :ליאת | תודה! יש לכם | Thanks! Do you have | toda! yesh lachem | Liat: |
| | עוגת שוקולד? | chocolate cake? | ugat shokolad? | |
| | | | | |
| :ערן | כן, יש לנו | Yes, we have an | ken, yesh lanu | Eran: |
| | עוגת שוקולד | excellent chocolate | ugat shokolad | |
| | מצויינת עם | cake with ice cream | mezzu-yenet im | |
| | גלידה,וגם עוגת | and also a wonderful | glida, ve-gam ugat | |
| | גבינה נהדרת. | cheesecake. | gvina ne-hederet. | |
| | | | | |
| :ליאת | נשמע טוב! | Sounds good! | nishma tov! | Liat: |
| | אנחנו נקח | We will take | anachnu nikach | |
| | פרוסה אחת מכל | one slice of each | prusa achat mikol | |
| | סוג בבקשה, | please, | sug beva-kasha, | |
| | וגם שתי כוסות | and also two glasses | ve-gam shtey kosot | |
| | מים. | of water. | ma-im. | |
| | | | | |

Jonathan: Now, let's listen to the new vocabulary taken from this part of the conversation. We will read the words in Hebrew, followed by the English translation and then the Hebrew word again:

| be-va-ka-sha | Here you go / are or Please | be-va-ka-sha |
|--------------|--|--------------|
| ze | This is (when referring to a masculine noun) | ze |
| zot | This is (when referring to a feminine noun) | zot |
| ka-fe | Coffee | ka-fe |
| li-mo-na-da | Lemonade | li-mo-na-da |



| yesh la-chem | Do you have? | yesh la-chem |
|--------------|--------------|--------------|
|--------------|--------------|--------------|

yesh la-nu We have yesh la-nu

u-gat sho-ko-lad Chocolate cake u-gat sho-ko-lad

me-zzu-ye-net Excellent (when referring to a me-zzu-ye-net

feminine noun)

gli-da Ice-cream gli-da

ne-he-de-ret Wonderful or Great (when ne-he-de-ret

referring to a feminine noun)

a-nach-nu ni-kach We will take a-nach-nu ni-kach

pru-sa A slice pru-sa

mi-kol Of each mi-kol

sug Kind sug

shtey ko-sot Two glasses of shtey ko-sot

ma-im Water ma-im

Jonathan: We have 'met' the word **bevakasha** several times in our program, and it has usually been translated as '**Please**', or when appears at the end of a conversation, as '**you're welcome**'. Let's give examples of these uses. The first meaning, 'please', is used in contexts such as the following:

Can you help me please? - ata yachol la-azor li bevakasha?

Or whenever we use the English word 'Please'.

An example of the second meaning, 'you're welcome' might be when thanking someone for helping us. We say toda or toda raba, and the helper answers, bevakasha, meaning, you're welcome.

As we can see, this Hebrew word already has two different English translations and two different conversational functions.

In today's conversation, we see another use of this word, right at the beginning of the dialogue. Remember, prior to this dialogue, Eran and Liat have asked for a coffee and lemonade, which are now being served to them at the beginning of the scene. The best way to translate 'bevakasha' as it appears here is by the expression 'here you go' or 'here you are', meaning "here is the thing you were asking for", in a polite way.

(ערן: Here you are Miss. **bevakasha gvirti.** Eran: Here is your coffee,. **ze ha-kafe shelach, .**

Jonathan: Let's listen to the way Liat uses bevakasha in the fourth sentence of the dialogue:



:Liat נשמע טוב! ליאת Sounds good! nishma tov!

אנחנו נקח פרוסה We will take one anachnu nikach prusa

אחת מכל סוג, slice of each, achat mikol sug,

בבקשה. bevakasha.

Jonathan: In this case, bevakasha is translated as 'please'.

As we very well know, every noun in Hebrew has a gender pertinence. When **the waiter-ha-melzzar** brings the coffee and the lemonade to the table he says:

Eran: ze ha-kafe - this is the coffee.

The word **kafe** - **coffee**, has masculine gender pertinence in Hebrew. We use the word **ze**, meaning **This is** (when referring to a masculine noun).

Jonathan: And for the lemonade he says:

Liat: **zot ha-limonada -This is the lemonade**. As we have learned in our previous lessons, the word limonada, since it ends with an 'a' sound, is very likely to have a feminine pertinence. We use the word **zot**, meaning **This is** (when referring to a feminine noun).

Jonathan: toda Liat. I have another question for you. How do you say cake in Hebrew?

Liat: Cake is uga.

Jonathan: But when you asked for chocolate cake, you said:

י**ש לכם** ליאת: Do you have **yesh lachem** Liat:

עוגת שוקולד? chocolate cake? ugat shokolad?

By saying **ugat shokolad**, I'm literally saying 'a **cake made of chocolate**' or 'a **cake of chocolate**'. As we learned in Lesson 17, Hebrew uses a special way of what we may refer to as 'contiguity'. Because, literally we are using the word 'of', we will treat this description of the cake as a kind of possession. As we have learned, the technique for doing that is by adding the 'at' suffix. So **uga - a cake becomes ugat - a cake of. Ugat.**

Eran: The same applies when saying **ugat gvina** 'cheese cake'. **uga** is **cake**, **gvina** is **cheese**. As we have the word 'cheese' here, this is a classic example of the 'cheese cream' rule. The literal translation is 'a cake of cheese', the word **cake** - **uga**, comes before the word cheese, and the 'a' of uga, changes to 'at' – ugat. ugat gvina.

Liat: To conclude this, we can review another example from the conversation. I ask the waiter to bring us "one slice of each". A slice is prusa. A slice of cake is prusat uga. We change the 'a' suffix to 'at' suffix. prusa becomes prusat - a slice of...



prusat uga – literally – a slice of cake. prusat – a slice of

Eran: BTW Jonathan, in Hebrew we don't have a 'perfect' equivalent for the English word "each". In our conversation, we literally say "of each kind" – "mikol sug".

Jonathan: Another note concerning the way we use the different gender pertinence in Hebrew is when attaching an adjective to a noun. Eran, when recommending the cakes you used two superlatives to describe them.

Eran: ken Yonatan, I referred to the chocolate cake as mezzu-yenet, **ugat shokolad mezzuyenet** - **an excellent chocolate cake** and as for the cheesecake, ne-hedere, ugat gvina ne-hederet. In this case, **nehederet** is **wonderful** or **great**, a wonderful cheesecake.

Liat: In both cases, since uga is of the feminine gender pertinence, the adjective following it uses the feminine form as well! **Coffee - kafe**, which is a masculine noun, is **kafe** mezzuyan – excellent coffee or kafe ne-hedar - wonderful coffee. We use the masculine form of the adjective, but uga, being a feminine noun is mezzu-yenet or ne-hederet. Here you go! - bevakasha! Another suffix, 'et'.

Eran: Exactly! - bediyuk!

mezzuyan - mezzuyenet

nehedar – nehederet

Jonathan: toda Eran ve toda Liat! **Now** - achshav, let's repeat the vocabulary list from the portion of the dialogue we have discussed today:

| be-va-ka-sha | Here you go / are or Please | be-va-ka-sha |
|------------------|---|------------------|
| ze | This is (when referring to a masculine noun) | ze |
| zot | This is (when referring to a feminine noun) | zot |
| ka-fe | Coffee | ka-fe |
| li-mo-na-da | Lemonade | li-mo-na-da |
| yesh la-chem | Do you have? | yesh la-chem |
| yesh la-nu | We have | yesh la-nu |
| u-gat sho-ko-lad | Chocolate cake | u-gat sho-ko-lad |
| me-zzu-ye-net | Excellent (when referring to a feminine noun) | me-zzu-ye-net |
| gli-da | Ice-cream | gli-da |



ne-he-de-ret Wonderful or Great (when ne-he-de-ret

referring to a feminine noun)

a-nach-nu ni-kach We will take a-nach-nu ni-kach

pru-sa A slice pru-sa

mi-kol Of each mi-kol

sug Kind sug

shtey ko-sot Two glasses of shtey ko-sot

ma-im Water ma-im

Jonathan: toda! Now that we have the vocabulary, let us return to the dialogue while again translating the sentences into English. We will again, start with the English sentence, followed by the Hebrew:

| :ערן | בבקשה גבירתי, | Here you are Miss, | bevakasha gvirti, | Eran: |
|-------|---------------|---------------------|---------------------|-------|
| | זה הקפה שלך, | Here is your coffee | ze ha-kafe shelach, | |
| | וזאת הלימונדה | and here is your | ve-zot ha-limonada | |
| | שלך, אדוני. | lemonade, Sir. | shelcha, adoni. | |
| | | | | |
| ליאת: | תודה! יש לכם | Thanks! Do you have | toda! yesh lachem | Liat: |
| | עוגת שוקולד? | chocolate cake? | ugat shokolad? | |

| :ערן | כן, יש לנו | Yes, we have an | ken, yesh lanu | Eran: |
|------|------------|-----------------|----------------|-------|

עוגת שוקולד excellent chocolate ugat shokolad

cake with ice cream mezzu-yenet im

and also a wonderful glida, ve-gam ugat

גבינה נהדרת. cheesecake. gvina ne-hederet.

נשמע טוב! ליאת: Sounds good! **nishma tov!** :Liat

אנחנו נקח We will take anachnu nikach

פרוסה אחת מכל one slice of each prusa achat mikol

סוג בבקשוי, sug bevakasha,

and also two glasses ve-gam shtey kosot

of water. ma-im.



Jonathan: This concludes podcast Lesson #18-A. Please use the 'pdf' files on our web site to review the word banks and dialogues. And please, do not forget to listen to Lessons #18-B & C, to review the second half of the dialogue, as well as "Be the Hebrew speakers yourselves" exercises. You are also welcome to check the "Deserts Presentation" in the "Expand Your Vocabulary" game, using the Play tab on our web site, as well as taking the Lesson's Quiz. All of this is available at www.learnhebrewpod.com. toda Eran ve Liat. See you soon on Lesson #18-B! ve toda lekulchem for being with us, le-hitra-ot!

Eran and Liat: toda lekulchem. le-hitra-ot!

Music.

'Desserts dialogue in Hebrew'