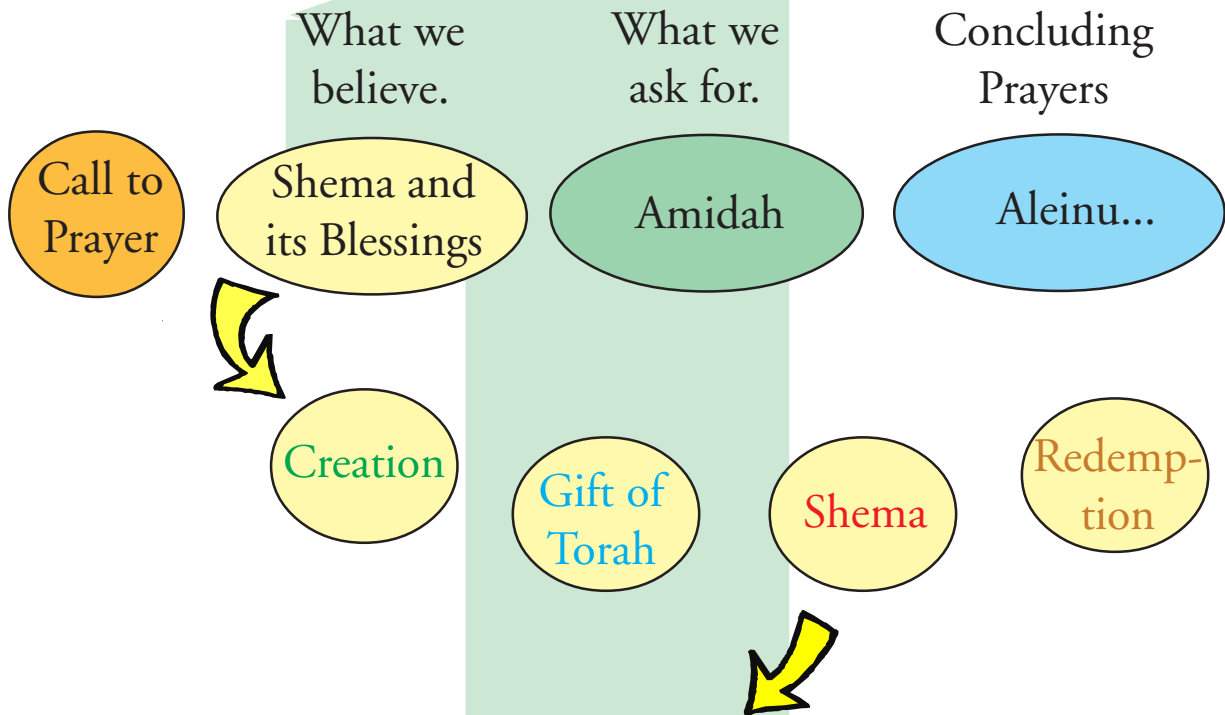


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שְׁמַע



Taken from the fifth book of the Torah, דְּבָרִים (Deuteronomy), the **שְׁמַע** is the most basic of all our prayers. In the **שְׁמַע** we declare our faith in the oneness of all things. וְיְיָ אֶחָד. God is One.

Since the **שְׁמַע** is found in the Torah, the **שְׁמַע** is recited after a blessing for the gift of Torah.

The **שְׁמַע** includes several other Torah paragraphs, starting with וְאָהַבְתָּ, which teach us how to lead our lives

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שְׁמַע

אֶחָד
is one

אֶחָד
is one

יְיָ
The Eternal

יְיָ
The Eternal

אֱלֹהֵינוּ
is our God

אֱלֹהֵינוּ
is our God

יְיָ
Adonai

יְיָ
Adonai

יִשְׂרָאֵל
Israel

שְׁמַע
Listen

שְׁמַע
Listen

יִשְׂרָאֵל
Israel

שְׁמַע יִשְׂרָאֵל: יְיָ
אֱלֹהֵינוּ, יְיָ אֶחָד
Listen, Israel:
Adonai is our God,
Adonai is one.

The last letters of the first and last words of the **שְׁמַע** are written large, spelling the word **עֵד** - witness. (They are written like this in the **תּוֹרָה**, too).

By listening to and reciting the **שְׁמַע**, we are agreeing to be an **עֵד**, a witness, for the message. We do this by demonstrating with our words and our actions the idea of **אֶחָד** - oneness - all people and all things being connected to God.



שְׁמַע יִשְׂרָאֵל: יְיָ אֱלֹהֵינוּ, יְיָ אֶחָד.

Listen, Israel: Adonai is our God, Adonai is one.

The sentence that follows the **שְׁמַע** is not found in the **תּוֹרָה**. When the high priests would recite the **שְׁמַע** 2,000 years ago in the Temple, the people would answer:

בְּרוּךְ שֵׁם כְּבוֹד מַלְכוּתוֹ לְעוֹלָם וָעֶד.

Blessed is the name and Glory of God's realm forever.

שְׁמַע

Key Phrase

שְׁמַע יִשְׂרָאֵל: יְיָ אֱלֹהֵינוּ, יְיָ אֶחָד.

Listen, Israel: Adonai is our God, Adonai is one.

Key Words



נו... our

שמע hear (root)

שמע Listen

אלהינו our god

אחד one

ברוך praised

ישראל Israel

לעולם forever

שם name



שמע

The root **שמע**, "hear," appears in this prayer in command form:

שמע - Listen! Pay attention to what you are about to hear.

שמע - as your neighbor reads the key words to you in Hebrew and English. Then translate into English or Hebrew, below.

שמע

שמע ישראל שמע ישראל
נו אלהינו
שמע ישראל: יי אלהינו
אחד יי אחד
שמע ישראל: יי אלהינו יי אחד.



Listen _____
Israel _____
our God _____
One _____



The following words are found in the second line of the **שמע**:

ברוך שם לעולם
praised _____
name _____
forever _____

אֶחָד

Practice reading these lines until you can say them by heart.
 שְׁמַע as your classmates recite them without looking at the words.

- שְׁמַע יִשְׂרָאֵל: יְיָ אֱלֹהֵינוּ, יְיָ אֶחָד.
- בְּרוּךְ שֵׁם כְּבוֹד מְלִכּוּתוֹ לְעוֹלָם וָעֶד.

Each of the **English words** on the bottom of page 7 has a number next to it. Write these numbers in the blanks by the matching Hebrew words in the rectangles. **Do the math.**
 The words in each square should total **אֶחָד**.

בְּרוּךְ	_____
	+
אֶחָד	_____
	-
שְׁמַע	_____
	-
שְׁמַע	_____
	+
שֵׁם	_____
	-
לְעוֹלָם	_____

	אֶחָד

שְׁמַע	2

	÷
יִשְׂרָאֵל	_____
	×
ה'	_____
	×
אֱלֹהֵינוּ	_____
	×
ה'	_____
	×
אֶחָד	_____

	אֶחָד

שֵׁם	_____
	—
אֶחָד	_____
	+
עַד	_____
	—
אֶתָּה	_____

	אֶחָד

שָׁמַע	_____
	+
יִשְׂרָאֵל	_____
	+
שָׁמַע	_____
	—
בְּרוּךְ	_____

	אֶחָד

לְעוֹלָם	_____
	—
עַד	_____
	+
שָׁלוֹם	_____
	—
נִי	_____

	אֶחָד

נִי	_____
	÷
שָׁמַע	_____
	+
שָׁלוֹם	_____
	—
בֵּית	_____

	אֶחָד

Our God 1
forever 8
our (suffix) 10
you 7
witness 2
Israel 2
house 9

God 1
name 7
listen 2
praised 6
one 1
hear (root) 3
peace 5

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Reading Drill

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Key Root:

שמע

Read the following prayer lines out loud.
Circle all words built on the root for "hear."

1. וְהָיָה אִם שָׁמַעַתְּ תִשְׁמַעֵנוּ אֵל מִצֹּתֵי
2. שְׁמַע קוֹלֵנוּ, יְיָ אֱלֹהֵינוּ, חוּם וְרַחֵם עָלֵינוּ
3. יַעֲלֶה וַיָּבֵא, וַיְגַיַע, וַיִּרְאֶה, וַיִּרְצֶה, וַיִּשְׁמַע, וַיִּפְקֵד, וַיִּזְכֹּר
4. הַלְלוּהוּ בְּצִלְצְלֵי שְׁמַע, הַלְלוּהוּ בְּצִלְצְלֵי תְרוּעָה
5. וְתֵן בְּלִבֵּנוּ לְהַבִּין וּלְהַשְׁכִּיל, לְשָׁמַעַתְּ, לְלַמֵּד וּלְלַמֵּד
6. אֲשֶׁרֵי אִישׁ שִׁישְׁמַע לְמִצֹּתֶיךָ, וְתוֹרַתְךָ וּדְבָרְךָ יִשִּׁים עַל לְבוֹ
7. רְצוֹן יִרְאוּ יַעֲשֶׂה, וְאֵת שְׁוֹעֲתָם יִשְׁמַע וַיּוֹשִׁיעֵם
8. עָרַב וּבִקֵּר בְּכָל יוֹם תָּמִיד, פַּעַמִּים בְּאַהֲבָה שְׁמַע אוֹמְרִים
9. וְאִשְׁמַע אַחֲרֵי קוֹל רַעַשׁ גָּדוֹל, בְּרוּךְ כְּבוֹד יְיָ מִמְּקוֹמוֹ

When you have completed this review, and can say the two lines of the **שמע** by heart, your teacher will give you a sticker!

I have mastered the
שמע

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