

Celebrating 26 Years

... here ... there ... truly everywhere		222	
		I'm here	
			FIVE + FIVE = X
משה רבינו		Rambam's first LAV	
8th		Father and husband can, but each with different guidelines	78.8 • -3½ 66.04 • 10.236 11.79 • 57.32
Rhymes with or and leads	Happy BirthDay EIGHTEEN YEA or NAY		
			

1	2	3	4	
5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14
16	17	18	19	20
22	23	24	25	26

Following our tradition for anniversary issues, we presented the grid to the right on the front page of TT1278, Parshat Sh'lach. Part of that tradition is not to announce or describe the challenge to explain the 26 twenty-sixes contained in the grid, nor to mention that there are prizes for the best solution sets. As of this writing, we have received several solution sets - most very good; one eerily perfect. Like there is a mind- reader among us. Or a Yeerk. Here's our solution set...

1 Uncle Moishy and the Mitzva Men present the song, HaShem is Everywhere, with the following lyrics:

*Hashem is here, Hashem is there
Hashem is truly everywhere [twice]
Up, up, down, down
Right, left, and all around
Here, there, and everywhere
That's where he can be found [twice]*

The gimatriya of G-d's four-letter name is 26, as in 10+5+6+5 = 26.

A few weeks ago, we wrote about MISPAR SIDURI, as a different type of gimatriya, numeric value. Each letter is assigned the value of its position in the ALEF BET. ALEF thru YUD stays 1-10. But KAF is 11 (rather than 20), LAMED is 12, and so on. If we apply MISPAR SIDURI to the English alphabet (A=1 to Z=26) then we have an interesting find: G=7, O=15, D=4, adds up to 26.

- 2 An iron is named for the metal iron, Fe, whose atomic number is 26.
- 3 222 on a tripod means (here) 222 base 3. Which means 2 groups of nine, 2 groups of three, and 2 units = 26.
- 4 In the past, these might have been separate items. So look at them as a 4-parter, all related to US states. Top left, Kentucky, with almost 4½ million people, ranks 26th by population. Top right, Iowa, slightly smaller than illinois and slightly bigger than New York, ranks 26th in area. Bottom right, Michigan, which became a state on January 26th, 1837, is the 26th state to join the Union. Bottom left is Montana, very large state, very small population,



entered the Union way down the list - but in alphabetical order, it's 26th.

⑤ Teddy Bear, named after Teddy Roosevelt, the 26th president of the United States.

⑥ Full-size (adult) bicycles have 26" wheels.

⑦ Between a square and a cube. There is only one number than is directly between a square (25, which is 5^2) and a cube (27, which is 3^3) is 26!

⑧ Map of Switzerland's 26 cantons.

⑨ Netanel ben Tzu'ar was the nasi of Yissachar, who brought his gifts to the dedication of the Mishkan (Mizbei'ach) on the second day (12), as we read in Bamidbar 7, in Parshat Naso. His portion is the Torah reading of the 2nd day of Chanuka, which is Kislev 26.

⑩ Two corners worth of Tzitzit. Each one has 5 double knots and 8 strings (which came from folding over four strings). $5+8=13$. Twice that is 26.

Alternatively, when using T'cheilet (as in the picture), there are 13 chulyot for each set. Chulyot are the windings of white or blue. Each chulya is three winds.

⑪ Moshe Rabeinu was the 26th generation from Creation.

⑫ Medalion with William Howard Taft. He was the 26th person to serve as POTUS. Grover Cleveland with his two non-consecutive terms as president, messes up the numbering. Donald Trump, for example, is the 45th POTUS, but the 44th person to be president.

⑬ There are 22 letters in the ALEF-BET. If we were to count the 'final' letters separately and add them to the end of the ALEF-BET, then there would be 27 letters, with FEI-SOFIT as the 26th letter. FYI: In the field of SOFRUT, these letters are not referred to a SOFIT. For KAF, NUN, PEI, and TZADI, the two forms of each letter are called KAFUF (bent) and YASHAR (straight). With MEM, the terms are PATUCH (open) & SATUM (closed). FY further I: In addition to regular gimatriya - in which both forms of these letters are the same (FEI SOFIT = 80 = PEI), there is a Mispar Gadol Sofit gimatriya which assigns the values of 500, 600, 700, 800, 900 to פ, ק, ר, ש, ט, respectively. In which case, FEI SOFIT is definitely letter number 26.

⑭ As a true mathematical statement, that $5+5=10$ (Roman numeral), this has nothing to do with 26. But if you count the line segments (or matchsticks) necessary to write the statement, you need 26.

So far, with several very good solution sets, this one was gotten by only one solver.

⑮ Flag of Ethiopia. Country #26 in size, with just over a million square kilometers (or just under half a million square miles, if you prefer).

⑯ 8th is SH'MINI. SH'MINI is the 26th sedra of the Torah.

⑰ Flag of Myanmar. Formerly known as Burma, Myanmar is the 26th most populous country in the world (latest 2018 numbers).

⑱ Wording refers to HAFARAT



NEDARIM, nullification of a NAARA's vows by her father and a wife's vow by her husband. One of the topics in Mishna Masechet N'DARIM, the 26th (of 63) masechtot in Shisha Sidrei Mishna.

19 Rambam counts the 248 positive mitzvot (ASEI) and the 365 prohibitions (LAV) separately. The first ASEI on his list is BELIEF IN G-D. The first LAV is not to believe in any other gods. This first prohibition of idolatry is mitzva 26 in the Sefer HaChinuch.

20 Remember Mishpar Sidui of the English alphabet? O is the 15th letter, K is the 11th. The value of OK is 26.

21 This one has 6 different 26s in three categories. Temperature: 26°C is the same as 78.8°F. 26°F is minus three and a third degrees Celsius (formerly known as Centigrade). Weight: 26 kilo is the same as 66.04 lbs. 26 lbs = 10.236 kilo. Length: 26cm = 11.79" & 26"=57.32cm.

22 Z, the last letter of the alphabet rhymes with bee, for some people and with bed for others. ZEE or ZED. Either way, Z leads off the word Zebra. Z is the 26th letter of the alphabet.

23 For a long time, the minimum age for voting was 21 years old, in most countries. During the 1970s, many countries lowered their voting age to 18. In 1971, the US ratified the 26th amendment to the constitution, setting the minimum age for voting at 18. Several countries have lowered the voting age to 16.

24 The object that takes up most of this rectangle is a liver. Liver in Hebrew is KAVEID, gimatriya is 20+2+4 = 26. The

two fish with a hook was a later addition, to use the space left empty by the shape of the liver. FISH is DAG = 4+3 = 7. Two of them is 14. Hook is a VAV, 6+6 = 12. Together, 26.

25 Grid of four 4-letter words. From upper-right to lower left the letters are XXVI, which is 26 in Roman numerals.

26 A regular deck of cards has four suits with thirteen cards in each suit. Ace, 2-10, Jack, Queen, and King. Heart and Spade represent 26 cards, half of the deck.

26th Anniversary 26 26s Challenge Winners

Runners up

Gold Family, Nof Ayalon

Pinchas & Naama Orbach

Yechiel Jonathan Jonny Stein

Roy Hoffman

Shmuel, Elyashiv, Akiva, Netanel and
Judah Golberg, Alon Shvut

Simcha Tropp

And the Winner is...

SHIMON LERNER

Details about prizes to follow

