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Part I: Reference Grammar. Languages of the Ancient Near East, 1/1. Eisenbrauns  
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57506-119-1. Part II: Tutorial. Languages of the Ancient Near East, 1/2. Eisenbrauns  

This book has probably been the most awaited work in Hittitology of the last decade.  
Ever since the word came out that the two eminent Hittite scholars Harry A.  
Hoffner Jr. (a great philologist especially known as the former executive editor of the  
Chicago Hittite Dictionary) and H. Craig Melchert (a great historical linguist especially  
owned for his influential Anatolian Historical Phonology [1994]) had joined  
forces to write a new reference grammar of Hittite, the whole Hittitological scholarly  
community had high hopes for it. In many respects the work that is now available  
certainly meets our expectations. It consists of two volumes, Part 1: Reference Gram- 
mar (xxii + 468 pages) and Part 2: Tutorial (vi + 75 pages). In the following I will  
describe the contents of this book especially from an Indo-Europeanist's point of  
view.  

The main text of Part 1: Reference Grammar is divided into chapters, which are  
sub-divided into numbered paragraphs. In this review, I will therefore mostly refer  
to paragraph numbers instead of page numbers. After the obligatory Contents (i-xiv),  
Preface (xv-xvi), and Abbreviations and Conventional Markings (xvii-xxii), the book  
starts with an Introduction (1–8), in which a very brief account of the rediscovery  
of the Hittites, the decipherment of their language and the nature of the Hittite text  
corpus is given, as well as a convenient overview of “Modern Resources for Study”  
(§§0.9-23).  

Note that the series Keilschrifttexte aus Boghazkøi (§0.9) in the meantime contains 57  
volumes. Recent grammatical overviews of Hittite were also written by Watkins (2004) and Van- 
severen (2006) and must be added to §0.13. Moreover, in the meantime my Etymological Dic- 
tionary of the Hittite Inherited Lexicon (Kloekhorst 2008) has appeared, which must be added  
to §0.16.  

As is well known, Hittite is written in the cuneiform script, which is not always  
easy to interpret linguistically. It is therefore very welcome that Chapter 1, Orthography  
and Phonology (9-50), provides an extensive introduction into this difficult  
writing system. Its peculiarities (e.g. the mixture between phonetic and logographic  
writing) and the assyriological background of the method of transcription are well  
explained. Slightly less favorable, however, is the choice to treat the synchronic  
phonology of Hittite as a direct continuation of the part dealing with orthography. The  
result is a discussion in which the borders between phonology, phonetics, morphology  
and orthographical issues are not always clearly drawn.
Apart from a few instances where some cuneiform signs are given as such (e.g. in §1.26 and §1.28), no systematic overview of the Hittite cuneiform signs is presented. Although understandable (readers with a background in Indo-European linguistics might not be interested in the cuneiform signs, readers with a background in Assyriology are already familiar with the script), it is a remarkable omission. To the examples of hyper-plene spelling that are given in §1.8, the interesting case of me-e-eniti ‘to the extent’ (KUB 42.105 ii 6) could be added, which must stand for /mē_e-ni/, a variant of me-e-ja-ni with e-grade of the suffix syllable. The form mi-li-id-du does not represent /ml-/ (pace §1.11) but instead reflects the full grade *melii- vis-av vis the zero-grade *ml-li- that is spelled ma-li-id-du. The absence of -n in 3sg.pret.act. li-li-zi and 3sg.pret.act. li-li-ta from lln(0n)- ‘to swear’ is not due to being “graphically unexpressed” (§1.11). Instead, we are dealing with a real sound law: *YnkC- > Hitt. -VkkC-. The alternative value of the sign MES is eši₄ (and not eši₃ as stated in §1.15). The “rare and important variant” 3pl.pret.act. form -ar (§1.20, note 22) must be of a secondary origin (cf. also the comments on §11.6, below). Hittite has a phoneme /l/ (pace §1.48), spelled with the sign U, whereas the sign ū spells the phoneme /u/, cf. Kloeckhorst 2008: 35-60. In the paragraphs dealing with “Words with Fluctuation between e and i” (§§1.57-65), cases that are due to diachronic developments (either through phonetic change, e.g. OH īš(a)- > NH ēš(a)- ‘to perform’ or through morphological change, e.g. OH īšē > younger īšī ‘to him/her/it’ in analogy to the dat.-loc.sg. ending -i, are put on the same level as singular spellings like pi-rra- for normal pé(e)-ra-an ‘before’ (§1.60) (the hapax “pi-rra-an” [KBO 25.25 obv. 7 [OS]] rather forms the latter part of a longer word [...x-v-pi-rra-an], or i-ša-ri for normal e-ša-ri ‘sits down’ (§1.59) (the hapax i-ša-ri [KBO 25.25 obv. 30] [has] ī̄šur ‘fire’ as its subject and is commonly translated ‘idles down’, but this is semantically rather removed from the normal meaning of īš- and a sequence ḫuşḫur elari is unattested elsewhere; I would therefore rather interpret it as a separate verb, īši₃). The “problematic examples of etymologically well-founded e rarely written ai or ae” (§1.66) are all explicable as either scribal errors (a-e-ta – ē-te-ta; ma-eq-qa-us (in fact ku-eq-qa-us = me-eq-qa-us), morphological reshappings ([ap-p]-a-ez-zi- and [ap-p]-a-ez-zuš-a are variants of appeezi- in which the stem ap-pa-was restored), or as phonologically more archaic forms (the OH spellings ās-in-k and ās-ik- represent the original stem that later on was monophthongized to be(n)-a), cf. Kloeckhorst 2008: 269-70. The local particle -an does show elision of the -a in e.g. n-e-e-n = mu + we + an (KBO 17.1 + 25.3 i 20 [OS]) (pace §1.74). Pace §1.76, syncope is not a normal phenomenon in Hittite. Only the examples ti-in-ti-eš (Baltes 1.36 ii 48) for tītānt- and šu-u-an-ta-an (ibid. ii 41) for šuqant- are real. The example “hu-u-la-li-ta-ta-ta” should be read ḫu-u-la-li-ta-ta, a variant in -e—to ḫu-u-la-li-ja-at-at-at; appeezi is a younger i-stem adaptation of older appeeziapain, dapi in just an acc.sg.n. to the derived stem dapiant-, the interpretation of teriš besides tērīšan is unclear (cf. §9.50); šuqant- is not necessarily nom.acc.sg.n., but can be acc.sg.c. as well (Kloeckhorst 2008: 776); ḫuitti does not derive from ḫuittia, but instead regularly reflects *C-jēc etc. The “diphthongization” as described in §1.79 is questionable. The form kuaštēa-it is older than karaštēa- and therefore cannot have developed out of it. The historical explanation of tumēni ‘we take’ and tumum(m)anzi ‘to release’ in §1.82 is incorrect. We are not dealing with an “anaphyxis” of a u between stem and ending, after which the -ur- of the ending became -mr-, but rather with a regular development *ČHU- > Hitt. -ČHU₂, spelled ČumV, so *dhu₂-yēni > tumēni, tumēni and *tr(ē)ku₂-ya₂n > tummāntāi, tumum(m)anzi (cf. Kloeckhorst 2008: 94). The spelling distinction between e-ku ‘drink!’ with single -k- and ikk-ku ‘it’ with geminate -kk- shows that there was a distinction between /k/ and /kk/ in word-final position (pace §1.88), namely /kʰi/ vs. /kkʰ/. If we must assume a distinction between word-final fortis and lenis labiovelars, we might wonder to what extent such a distinction may have been present with the other types of stops as well (although I know of no evidence that could support this). Pace §1.90, there is a phonemic contrast between a and a that represents /t-/s/ and a that goes back to /ti/. When enclitic -t(ja) ‘and, also’ is attached to a that represents /t-/s/, the result is spelled ʾz-za-aš-šar; when it is attached to z < *ti, the result is spelled ʾz-zi-ja. This shows that in the former case we are dealing with biphonemic /ts/ (of which the second consonant is geminated due to the attachment of -t(ja): ʾz-za-aš-šar = ʾts-ša-aš), but in the latter a monophthongic affricate /ts/ with ʾz-zi-ja = /tsiya/, the regular outcome of *ti = /ti/. The imperfective tāšēke/-, tāšēke/a- from tārn(a)- ‘to let’ does not show an assimilation nš > š š (§1.120), but is rather derived directly from the verbal root, *tr(ē)ku₂-ya₂n, instead of from the nasal-infix present tārn(a)- < *tr(ē)ku₂-ya₂n. The form šu-su-ma-ah is not a good example of simplified spelling of *mn- < *mn- as -mn- (§1.122) (cf. Kloeckhorst 2008: 784-5 for criticism on the interpretation of šumunāqš as coming from *šum-um-āqš). The form šuqant- instead of “regular” šuqandḫa₂ ‘I lifted’ is not an example of “deletion of h next to stop” (§1.131), but rather a younger form in which the mi-ending -un has ousted the hi-ending -ḫun (cf. also my comments on §§11.10-16 below). The question whether or not the glides j and ỹ were “pronounced” (§1.143) is less interesting than the question whether or not they were separate phonemes that must be distinguished from the vowels /i/ and /u/ (cf. Kloeckhorst 2008: 29-31 for a discussion).

Chapter 2, Noun and Adjectival Formation (§1-63) discusses the morphology of nouns and adjectives, giving an overview of underived stems and derived stems, which are conveniently arranged according to the suffix they are formed with.

The nouns huštana- ‘head’, šuštana- ‘ear’, keššara- ‘hand’, patu- ‘foot’ (§2.5) and iyha- ‘border, boundary’ (§2.6) are inner-Hittite adaptations of older consonant stems or root nouns (ḫarsar₂ / ḫaršan, šuštana, keššara / šīš, patu / pat- and erū₂ / erū₂, respectively) that only within Hittite times were transferred to the a-stem inflection. In that sense they are derived stems, albeit that their suffix had become semantically neutral. The suffix “-umun” (§2.45) would better be cited -umun- / -umun-. The noun ištīṣu₂- ‘belt, sash’ (§2.49) is not derived from the verb ištīṣu₂- ‘to bind’ with deletion of “[t]e of the verbal stem -īṣu₂-”, but rather directly from the verbal root ištī- < šišt- (the verb ištīṣu₂- ishī- (and not “ištīṣu₂”) being a derivative in -išt- / -iy-, reflecting *sh₂-šat-* inš₂-išt-).
Chapter 3, Noun and Adjective Inflection (64-78) discusses the inflection categories, gender, case and number and gives a formal discussion of the nominal endings.

The nom.plc. form 
\[\text{ha-an-te-e}\] 
\[\text{zi-as}\] “first, older” in KBO 22.2 obv. 18 is cited as a possible example of an archaic nom.plc. ending -as as opposed to normal -e (§3.16, note 31), but since KBO 22.2 is in Hethkon dated as “mh.,” it cannot be fully excluded that this form is rather innovative. A better case would rather be 
\[\text{mu-ri-ja-la-as}\] 
\[\text{ya-\-\-an-ga-an-te-e\-\-s}\] “marijela-breads are hung” (KBO 17.3 + KBO 20.16 + KUB 43.32 iii 27 [OS]), which duplicates 
\[\text{mu-ri-ja-le-e\-s}\] 
\[\text{ga-\-\-an-ga-an-te-e}\] (KBO 17.1 iii 27 [OS]), in which marijela must represent a genuine OS example of a nom.plc. form in -as (pace ChD L-N: 333, which calls this form a “collective”).

The reconstruction of the infinitive suffix -æwiz/i as *-we-zaon-ti (§3.25) is phonologically irregular: the *-i should have been lost in the assimilation process (*-it > Hitt. -z), which leaves Hitt. -z unexplained. For none of the endings is the ‘long’ variant either mentioned or explained (e.g. gen.sg. *Ça-a-as Beside normal *Ça-as, dat.loc.sg. *Çi-i Beside normal *Çi, all.sg. *Ça-a as Beside normal *Ça, abl. *Ça-a-as Beside normal *Ça-as, and dat.loc.pl. *Ça-a-as Beside normal *Ça-as).

Chapter 4, Noun and Adjective Declension (79-131) gives per noun class an overview of paradigms of selected examples with an extensive discussion in footnotes. Forms in bold printing are from OS texts, which makes it easy to immediately see the Old Hittite situation.

It is puzzling, however, why Hoffner & McIndoe (H&M) in their discussion of common-gender a-stem nouns (§4.2) have chosen the noun 
\[\text{antumawha},\ \text{antau\-a}\] “human being” as their first example, as this noun is originally an ablauting st-nom. (nom. antuqawha < *-d-aw-\-h-\-w, gen.sg. antuqawha < *-d-aw-\-w, c.f. Eichner 1979: 77), that only within the Hittite period is transferred to the a-stem declension. The same goes for istamina, istamana- “ear”, which originally is an ablauting n-stem istamna/ istamnin. The treatment of the Luwan i-mutation and its consequences for Hittite (§4.17) is interesting. The non-ablauting l-stem paradigms are not separately treated (§4.38) although the inflection of e.g. nakki- “important”, with its almost consistent plene spelling of the suffix -i, is rather interesting from an historical point of view. It is unclear to me why H&M cite k-stems (§4.60, to which only mekk- “much, many” belongs), b-stems (§4.62, only ışgarçih, a vessel), l-stems (§4.63-67) and r-stems (§4.94-95) as separate types, whereas these show no distinct stem or declension alternations. It would have been easier to treat them as consonant-stems (which also goes for most r-stems (§4.80-86, except ablauting keskar / kisser / kisser- “hand”), most s-stems (§4.87-89, except ablauting ışiś / iśkiś- “mouth”) and the n-stems (§4.96-98)). To the paradigm of “oil” (§4.70) a non-nom.acc.sg. form ışa- ă-āna (KBO 40.69 r.col. 5 [NS]) should be added. An acc.sg. form [iš-iš-še-ra-an] is attested in the OS text KBO 17.45, 5 and within the paradigm of “hand” (§4.82, esp. note 180) the form kisseran should therefore have been given in bold. In the word ışājar / işan- “blood” the -h- is not “omissible” as H&M have it (§4.101, note 220). Instead, the forms nom.acc.sg. e-ēs-šar (KUB 41.8 iii 9 [MH/NS]) gen.sg. e-ēs-na-aś (ibid. ii 36 [MH/NS]) and abl. e-ēs-na-aś (BallesoT 1.33, 52 [NS]) for normal e-ēs-šar, e-ēs-ḥa-na-aś and e-ēs-ḥa-na-na-za, respectively, must be scribal errors (cf. HW² E 117; Kloekhorst 2008: 258). The gen.sg. form “periyâs” (§4.115) is too insecure to be cited in an overview of forms of the word peri / pani- “house”, even if it is accompanied by a footnote that makes clear that this reading is anything but certain.

Chapter 5, Personal Pronouns (132-6), Chapter 6, Possessive Pronouns (137-41), Chapter 7, Deixis: The Demonstratives (142-8) and Chapter 8, Relative and Indefinite Pronouns (149-52) are a series of short chapters that deal with the morphological and inflectional characteritics of the range of pronouns used in Hittite.

The correct forms of the enclitic personal and possessive pronouns are -ita, -adh- (to you), -naši (to us), -šer- šiši (to him/her/it) (§5.12), =mnaši/-my, =mnaši/-your and =šaši/-his, her, its (§6.4), with initial geminate consonants. It is nonsense that the form a-pë-e these (nom.plc., nom.-acc.pl.n.) would be spelled with a plene -e- only in order to avoid confusion with the Akkadogramm A-BI ‘my father’ or the noun a-a-ä-p ‘ritual pit’ (§7.6). Instead, the plene spelling of -e- indicates the presence of a long -ë-, which is the regular outcome of *-ëi.

Chapter 9, Numbers (153-72) represents a detailed treatment of the formal aspects and especially the syntactic use of numerals.

The nom.acc.n. forms 2-e ‘two’ and 3-e ‘three’ are explained as ‘pronominal’ (§9.11, 9.13). I would rather regard these as the regular outcome of the preforms *tilik- and *trihi (for which cf. Gr. nom.acc.n. τιλικ-, Skt. nom.-acc.n. tri). The development *-ihis > Hitt. -e has been proposed in Kloekhorst 2008: 91; the fact that ‘two’ is an l-stem in Anatolian can be inferred from the instr. form 2-i-ta-an-ta and the evidence from the other Anatolian languages (Cluw. ošaanli- ‘second in rank’, Lyc. kîhi- ‘two’, and especially Lyc. kîhi, Mil. tĥisu ‘twice’ < *da-si-su). The verb summañh- can hardly be a ‘derivative from PIE *serm-’ (§9.62), cf. Kloekhorst 2008: 784-5.

Chapter 10, Verb Formation (173-9) is a small chapter that discusses the various ways in which Hittite can form derived verbal stems (reduplication, suffixes, rather: infixes).

Among the group of ablauting root stem verbs also the bi-verbs “akh-/e-ek-” ‘to die’ and “ar-/er-” ‘to arrive’ are cited (§10.2), although the e-grade in these verbs is due to a secondary inner-Hittite development. The real ablaut these verbs show is one between a strong stem with long å (åkk-), år-, and a weak stem with a short å (akk-, ar-), cf. also my criticism on §13.1. The verb “kikki-”, which is cited as a reduplicated form of ki- ‘to be placed’ (§10.3) does not exist, cf. HEG K: 569 (note that a reference to “Het K s.v.” is given, but there the verb “kikki-” is not mentioned). The verb fišel- ‘to prosper’ (§10.4) is not a reduplication of the root *sēl- to sit’ (cf. Kloekhorst 2008: 756-7). It is remarkable that in the overview of verbal suffixes the very common denominative suffix -je-a is not mentioned. The form hēyanešet (§10.7, also mentioned in §13.26, note 56 and §24.24) does not show a combination of the imperfective suffixes -anna- and -skē-a. Instead, it is the normal imperfective in -skē-a of the verb hēi(ya)mīti-a- ‘to rain’. The factitives in -aḥh- and the imperfectives in -ši(a)- are bi-
conjugated (pace §10.8). It is unfortunate that H&M have chosen to cite the suffix “-âi-” as such. This could cause confusion with the class of bi-verbs in -âi-. Instead, the descriptively more appropriate -ae/-âi- (or only -ae-) should have been used (cf. Oettinger 1979: 30-4).

Chapter 11, Verb Inflection (180-6) gives a short overview of the categories that can be distinguished within the Hittite verbal system and the verbal endings that are used.

I am happy to see that H&M accept my view that the 2pl.act. ending -sten(i) originally belongs to the hi-conjugation (§11.5, although it is not only found in “hi-verbs with stems ending in -i” but also in au- au-to ‘to see’ and several tarn(a)-class verbs), but a reference to Kloekhorst 2007 would have been appropriate. The overview of the active endings (§11.6) contains several errors. For the mi-conjugation, only a 3sg.pres.act. ending -zi is mentioned, whereas -za occurs occasionally as well (especially in OH compositions), as is correctly remarked in §11.8. As the mi-conjugation 3sg.pres.act. ending, only -i is mentioned, which is indeed the postvocalic variant. Postconsonantally, we find -ta, however (of which the -a is indeed real, cf. Oettinger 1979: 9; Kloekhorst 2008: 800; pace note 10). The same goes for the mi-conjugation 2sg.pres.act. ending: although postvocalic -t occasionally occurs in NH texts (taken over from the 3sg.pres.act.), the usual postconsonantal ending is -ta (taken over from the hi-conjugation). Rarely do we find -tta in postvocalic position as well (e.g. in paitta ‘you went’). For the hi-conjugation, a 2sg.pres.act. ending -i is mentioned, which is exemplified by the forms zaid and hazi(aiz) (note 7). Both forms are attested directly before a break and should therefore rather be read za-a-i(z)-ta (KUB 33.106 iii 10) and hazi-a-i(z)-ta (KUB 30.10 obv. 9), respectively, showing the normal ending -ta. The ending -ta should therefore be removed. The 1pl.pres.act. ending -yan(i) is attested in OS texts as well, so should be given in bold print. The 1pl.act. ending -men(i) is not only “largely confined to the mi-causative verbs” and “uâmeni and umeni (from au- ‘to see’)” (note 14) but also occurs in umeni ‘we take’ (from dââ/d). The 3pl.pres.act. ending -ar rarely occurs in NH -je/a- verbs only and must be secondary (cf. Kloekhorst 2008: 244). The mi-conjugation 2sg.imp.act. ending -et also occurs in the form te- (e-jet ‘speak!’). The paragraphs that treat “Irregularities in the mi-Conjugation” (§§11.10-11) and “Irregularities in the hi-Conjugation” (§§11.12-16) are disappointing. In not more than one page only a few words are used to describe some “occasional” phenomena, which in fact are caused by the highly interesting diachronic developments taking place within the Hittite verbal system. For instance, the original distinction between the mi- and the hi-conjugation is disappearing in the course of time: for each ending either the mi- or the hi-conjugation variant becomes the productive one and ousted the other. Therewith, the Hittite verbal system gradually is developing into a system that knows only one conjugation. H&M do mention e.g. that “[t]here is a widespread intrusion of the ending -ni from the hi-conjugation during the NH period” (§11.10) but do not seem to recognize that this is part of a larger phenomenon. In the same vein, there seems to be a tendency for the 2sg. to take over the ending of the 3sg. The starting point of this development probably was the mi-conjugation where the postconsonantal 2sg.pres.act. ending -ta (which was taken over from the hi-conjugation), was identical with the postconsonantal 3sg.pres.act. ending -ta. That is why in NH “there is a marked tendency to replace the earlier pret. sg. 2 in -i with the ending of the sg. 3 -i” (§11.11). Similarly in some hi-verbs the 2sg.pres.act. ending -ta is replaced by -sta: the original 3sg.pres.act. ending -i was extended by the mi-ending -sta, yielding -sta (§11.16), which was then transferred to the 2sg.pres.act. Again, the larger dynamics are not recognized by H&M. An even more important point is that it can be shown that within the Hittite period certain verbal classes became very productive, e.g. the mi-conjugated hatras-class and -je/a-class, and the hi-conjugated tarn(a)-class (cf. Kloekhorst 2008: 117ff.). This is the reason why it seems that “[i]n the pres. sg. 3, an ending -əi occasionally appears where one expects -ı sipani and sipandai ‘he libates, offers’” (§11.13). What in fact happened, is that the root stem verb sipant- had secondarily been transferred to the productive tarn(a)-class, yielding a stem sipanda-, to which the 3sg.pres.act. ending -i is added (an ending “-əi” just does not exist!).

It is regrettable that H&M seem to be unaware of these inner-Hittite developments. The alleged OS infinitive form “pa-aw-a-an-zi” “to go” (KBO 20.8 obv. 9 [OS]), with a remarkable phrase spelling of -əi, (§11.20, note 36) does not exist. Instead, we should read pa-lu-ya-a-an-zı ‘they cheer’ (I will expand on this form on another occasion).

Chapter 12, Conjugation of mi-Verbs (187-213), Chapter 13, Conjugation of hi-Verbs (214-29) and Chapter 14, Medio-Passive Conjugation (230-4) all discuss formal aspects of the different verbal classes, which are exemplified by extensive overviews of paradigms.

Also in these chapters it is remarkable how often H&M ignore or misrepresent diachronic developments. For instance, in their treatment of e/a-ablauting mi-conjugated root stem verbs (§12.2) it is correctly mentioned that the stem with -e- occurs in the “present singular, pretense singular and plural, and imperative second- and third-person singular and second-person plural” and that the stem with -a- occurs in the other forms. They then also mention “exceptions to this pattern”, e.g. aponti ‘you seize’ besides regular aponti. It is not mentioned, however, that these “exceptions” can be found for nearly all e/a-ablauting verbs and regularly occur from NH times onwards, and are just due to the diachronic development that the strong stem with -e- is being generalized throughout the paradigm. In the scheme containing the paradigm of e/a/-əs ‘to be’ (§12.3) the 3sg.pres.act. form ezi should be given in bold as it is attested in OS texts. I do not understand why the verb nahi-nahi- ‘to fear’ is used as the first example of non-ablauting mi-conjugating root stem verbs (§12.8), while it is in fact hi-conjugated (as is acknowledged by H&M in note 29)! Apparently, it is not recognized that the NH verbs na-ah-mi and na-ah-zi are non-probable for establishing mi-conjugation for this verb since in the NH period, where the process of merger of the mi- and hi-conjugation was well on its way, the endings -mi and -zi were the productive ones vis-à-vis their hi-conjugation variants -bhi and -i, and were in the process of fully ousting them. The same goes for the verb mas- ‘to withstand’, which is cited as a mi-conjugated verb (§12.10), whereas it clearly is hi-conjugated originally,
cf. OH 3sg.pres.act. mazze, mazzi (this verb does not have an original root *mat- and does not show a "transfer to the bi-conjugation" that "began already in OH", pace note 36). The assumption that the verbs "tarh-" = "to be able" and "parh-" = "to rest" contain a sequence /hw/ and not /h/ ([12.16] is false, cf. Kloekhorst 2008: 835f.). The form "zin(e)zi" ([12.25] does not exist: it is always spelled zi-in-nil-(iz)-zi. i.e. with -i-. Note the important new insight that the 3sg.pres.act. form "mæ-o-ilja-æ-i" (KBo 15.35 + KBo 15.22 ii 11) does not exist, but should rather be read ù-[d]ja-æ-i ([12.27], note 99). In [12.35] the suffix "-di" (i.e. -ae/-ä:/; note that especially the form ëa-ra-ra-a-ë (you wrote), which is attested spelled thus up to the early NH period (the letter KBo 18.76) shows that the suffix was -i-æ/-i- throughout Hittite; perhaps only in the late NH period, where we find the spelling ëa-ra-ra-a-ë (in the letter KBo 18.27 [LNS]), the sequence i-æ/-i had changed to ëi-æ/-i-is, with reference to Oettinger 1979: 30-4, derived from "Pf: *-äye/-äyo-". Oettinger clearly spoke against derivation from "*-äye/-äyo-", i.e. *eh-je/o-, however, which in his view yielded Hitt. -i-je/o- (e.g. tâje/o-: 'to steal' < * teje/je/o-, o.c.: 393-7); instead, he derived -ae/-ä:/ from *-a-je/o- (o.c.: 357-60). It is remarkable that in the treatment of bi-conjugated root stem verbs ([13.1]) no mention at all is made from the fact that these show an original ablaut between a strong stem in -ä: and a weak stem in -a (e.g. air-ær-ā, akk-ær-/a-ærk- , ḥāš-är-/a-ärk- , ḥād-ňād- , etc.). Moreover, it is misleading to present the verbs "akk-/e:" and "a-er-er-" as fully a-æ-ablauting. As said already, these verbs create a secondary stem with -ë: within the Hittite period only. The 2sg.pres.act. form of dā-ë/-ë: 'to take' is dāta, datta, and not dādā, as given in [13.11]. The verb "sarra-" to divide' is given as an "unde- rived stem in -a:" ([13.13], but the MH form ëa-ar-ri shows that this originally was a root stem verb šarr-šarr-, that only secondarily was transferred to the tarn(a)-class inflection. The forms 1pl.pres.act. la-hu-æ-er, 1sg.pres.act. la-hu-æ-an and 2sg.imperf.act. la-æ-er are not derived from a stem la-h-, which would then be a variant of ḥāru- ([13.17], note 39), but rather show that la-hu- is to be interpreted as la-hu-ær- in which the labial element of /h/ did not count as a vowel (so therefore not *la-hur-ær- or *la-hun-ur; the form la-a-er could perhaps be read la-æ-er = la-hu-ær-). The treatment of "bi-verbs in -äi:" ([13.20] is unsatisfactory. It is not enough to say that "[t]he paradigms [of these verbs] actually show a complicated alternation of stems in -ae/-äi, -e and -i/-i-". It should have been explained that in principle these verbs show a division between a strong stem in -äi- and a weak stem in -i- (the distribution of which coincides with the distribution between strong and weak stems in all other ablauting verbs), albeit that before endings starting in -i- the -äi- of the strong stem is monophthongized to -e (e.g. *dai-םh > zēḏh), and that before an ending starting in a vowel the intervocalic -i- is lost with compensatory lengthening of the preceding -a- (e.g. *dai-i > da-i, *dai-er > dēr). In the course of time, the -äi- of these latter forms is spreading throughout the paradigm (e.g. da-is > da-iš). Moreover, on the basis of a reanalysis of the 3pl.pres.act. form in "Civi-anzi as "Civi-æ-zi, these verbs are in the course of time being influenced by the -a-æ-class (e.g. dai-ær > ḥiyan). To the paradigm of za-zi/zī- 'to cross' ([13.21]) the forms 1sg.pres.act. z̄ēh̄h̄a[z] (KBo 8.67, 9 [OS]) and 2pl.pres.act. z̄ēt̄eni (KUB 26.87, 11 [OH/NS]) should be added. Within the paradigm of halzāi/halzi- 'to call' ([13.21]), the forms 1sg.pres.act. halzibhi and 1sg.pret.act. halzibhun should in fact be read halzibhi and halzibhun (the sequence -zi-ih- can also be read -zi-eh-).

Hereewith ends the part that treats the morphology. The remainder of the book deals with semantics, usage and syntax. Chapter 15, Grammatical Agreement (235-41) discusses what types of agreement and, more interestingly perhaps, what types of lack of agreement can be found in Hittite. Chapter 16, Noun Cases (242-70) gives an impressively detailed overview of the semantics and usage as well as sometimes syntax (e.g. "Word Order in a Genitival Phrase", §§16.50-64) of the cases.

Instead of interpreting the phrase MU.KAM-za  meḫur as a partitive apposition in the nominative (§16.10), it is better to interpret MU.KAM-za as a genitive and translate the phrase as 'time of the year' (thus Rieken 1999: 27-8). Note that the common phrase ëi-ne ëi-nai, usually interpreted as containing a 2sg.imperf. form and translated as 'don't fear', is in §16.32 convincingly interpreted as containing a 3sg.pres.act. form that should be translated impersonally, 'let it not frighten you'. The cases where the ablative case seems to be used for 'indicating directions' (§16.92), e.g. 1stuša=ma=ši lmenza ZAG-aš, which is translated by H&K as 'In the direction of Uša, Zarata is his boundary', it is better to translate more literally 'seen from the direction of'. The instrumental case can not only be represented by the Akkadogram ṢITU (§16.104), but also by the Semenogram TA.

Chapter 17, Adjectives (271-6), Chapter 18, Pronouns (276-88), Chapter 19, Adverbs (289-93) and Chapter 20, Local Adverbs, Preverbs, and Postpositions (294-301) briefly discuss the semantics, usage and syntax of the categories mentioned, including the way in which in Hittite the comparative (§§17.13-6) and the superlative degree (§§17.17-20) are expressed.

The local adverb kata (§20.21) does not only have the meaning 'with, alongside of', but also 'downwards'.

Chapter 21, Verb Voice (302-5), Chapter 22, Verb Tense (306-12), Chapter 23, Verb Mood (313-19), Chapter 24 Verb Aspect (317-29) (including parts on the adverbs kāša(ta) and kāšma (§§24.27-30) and "The "Serial" Use of pai- 'to go' and uva- 'to come'" (§§24.31-42)) and Chapter 25, Non-Finite Verb Forms (330-40) treat the semantics, usage and syntax of the several verbal categories. The parts on the "historical present" (§§22.6-7) and the "Nuances of Imperfective Aspect" (§§24.6-19) are especially enlightening.

The phrase mān šēḏu in is in §23.7 translated as "may [... ] prosper and have rest", as if 3sg.imp.act. šēḏu belongs with the verb šē- 'to sleep, to rest'. Instead it belongs with the verb šaš(d)-, šeš(d)- 'to prosper, to proliferate'. The 2sg.imperf.act. forms of imperfectives in ške/šk- are in §24.9 cited as if ending in ške (šutuškē, šišqammāškē). Yet, on the basis of plene spelled forms "š-k(i- (e.g. ak-šu-šk-šk- 'drink!' (KBo 7.28 obv. 23 [OH/MS]), šš-k(i- 'see' (KBo 25.123, 10 [OS])), it is clear that the non-plene spelled forms should be transliterated with š as well: šutuškē, šišqammāškē (cf. Kloekhorst 2008: 96 for the fact that word-final accented šō-
Hitt. *-i.* The verb *nanna*- ‘to drive’ is not an imperfective in *-nani*- derived from the stem *nai* (pace §24.22); such a form would have been **ni*nanna*-. Instead, *nanna*-* is a reduplication of *nai,* whereas the regular imperfective of *nai* is *naška*-/*a*-*a.* The form *waqareš* as cited in §25.28 does not exist. The text (KUB 33.106 ii 8-9) in facts reads *aqarareš(*ka*)*ja*šu*at.* The supine in *-yan* only occurs with the verb *dai*-/*ti* ‘to put’ and not with the verb *tiše*-/*a* ‘to step’ (pace §23.37, also mentioned in §24.19). All cases where we seem to be dealing with supine + *tiše/-a* are from the NH period, which is exactly the period in which **-i**-verbs in *-ai*- are heavily influenced by the *-i/e/a*-class. So, in these cases the stem *tiše/-a* represents a secondarily reshaped variant of original *dai/-ai*.

Chapter 26. Negation (341-7), Chapter 28. Particles (354-88) and Chapter 29, Conjunctions (389-405) deal with the semantics, usage and syntax of the categories mentioned (of which the treatment of the local particles *-an, -apa, -ašta, -kan* and *-šan* (§§28.43-114) and the chapter on conjunctions are especially elucidating). Chapter 27. Questions (348-53) (the ordering of which seems a bit strange to me, as I would expect it to have been placed before or after the chapter on clauses) briefly discusses the various interrogative clauses that can be formed in Hittite. Chapter 30, Clauses (406-29) gives a detailed overview of the syntax of Hittite. Finally, Chapter 31, Sumerian and Akkadian (430-41) gives an overview of Sumerian and Akkadian grammar insofar as needed to properly understand the Sumerograms and Akkadograms as used in Hittite. The volume ends with References (442-68). No index of words is given, but the lack of this is made up by the possibility to search the PDF file of the book that is available on the accompanying CD-ROM (see also below), although this is not specifically indicated in the book itself.

Part 2: Tutorial contains, apart from Contents (v-vi) and Introduction to the Lessons (1), fourteen Lessons (2-53), that “are designed to help [the reader] master step-by-step the essentials of Hittite morphology and syntax” (1). Each Lesson contains a paragraph Grammar, where it is explained which part of the grammar will be treated and which parts of the Reference Grammar should be studied, a Translation Exercise usually consisting of fifteen Hittite sentences that are to be translated, for which the Vocabulary can be used and in which the new words of the lesson are given with translation. In lessons 1-4 the sentences are given in broad transcription, in lessons 5-9 in transliteration as well as broad transcription, and in lessons 10-14 only in transliteration. Sentences that are unmarked have been made up by H&M, sentences marked with * are taken from actual Hittite texts, and sentences marked with ◇ are taken from actual Hittite texts with slight modifications. Extensive footnotes to the translation exercises provide difficult words and phrases with explanatory commentaries. The volume ends with a Comprehensive Vocabulary (54-71) in which all words of the translation exercises are given, and the Sources of Exercises Marked ♦ or ◇ (72-5), in which references are made to the Hittite texts from which (some of) the exercise sentences were taken.

No translations of the sentences are given, which would make it difficult to use this tutorial for self-study (which is acknowledged by H&M themselves in Part 1, p. xiv). Moreover, no examples in cuneiform are given, although this is a large part of the difficulty of learning Hittite.

The Reference Grammar and the Tutorial are accompanied by a CD-ROM on which PDF files of both volumes can be found, which can be used for searching specific words, phrases, etc., which makes up for the lack of an index of words treated in the Reference Grammar. A handy file called “Tips and Recommendations for Using the PDF files of A Grammar of the Hittite Language” gives a good overview of the possibilities of searching the contents of the two volumes (e.g. that diacritics can be ignored in searching the files). A serious drawback, however, is that Sumerograms are not searchable at all, and that Hittite words that have the same shape as (parts of) English words cannot be separated from them. If one, for instance, wants to find all Hittite words starting in *iš/h*+, one also gets as a result all English verbs ending in *-ish.*

A big advantage, though, is that meanings, grammatical terms, etc., are now searchable as well.

We can conclude that, although there certainly is room for improvements, especially in the treatment of the phonology and the verbal morphology, it cannot be denied that this grammar is a work of tremendous importance that greatly enhances our knowledge of the Hittite language. Particularly the treatment of syntax and the meaning and usage of particles and adverbs is a big step forward. We therefore can only wholeheartedly thank the authors for sharing with the general public their vast knowledge and insights into the sometimes dark caverns of Hittite grammar, which thanks to this book have become appreciably brighter.

References


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