

# Alphabets

| CANAANITE | PHOENICIAN | GREEK | PRESENT-DAY ENGLISH |
|-----------|------------|-------|---------------------|
|           |            |       | A                   |
|           |            |       | B                   |
|           |            |       | C                   |
|           |            |       | D                   |
|           |            |       | E                   |
|           |            |       | F                   |
|           |            |       |                     |
|           |            |       | H                   |
|           |            |       | I                   |
|           |            |       | K                   |

| CANAANITE | PHOENICIAN | GREEK | PRESENT-DAY ENGLISH |
|-----------|------------|-------|---------------------|
|           |            |       | L                   |
|           |            |       | M                   |
|           |            |       | N                   |
|           |            |       | O                   |
|           |            |       | P                   |
|           |            |       |                     |
|           |            |       | Q                   |
|           |            |       | R                   |
|           |            |       | S                   |
|           |            |       | T                   |

1. What letters show the most similarity across the alphabets?
2. Why might one language's alphabet have fewer letters than another?

|        | SINAITIC | CANAANITE-<br>PHOENICIAN | EARLY<br>GREEK | LATER<br>GREEK | LATIN | ENGLISH       |
|--------|----------|--------------------------|----------------|----------------|-------|---------------|
| ALEPH  |          |                          |                |                | A     | A             |
| BETH   |          |                          |                |                | B     | B             |
| GIMEL  |          |                          |                |                | CG    | C, G          |
| DALETH |          |                          |                |                | D     | D             |
| HE (?) |          |                          |                |                | E     | E             |
| WAW    |          |                          |                |                | FV    | F, U, V, W, Y |
| ZAYIN  |          |                          |                |                |       | Z             |
| HETH   |          |                          |                |                | H     | H             |
| TETH   |          |                          |                |                |       | (Th)          |
| YOD    |          |                          |                |                | I     | I, J          |
| KAPH   |          |                          |                |                |       | K             |
| LAMED  |          |                          |                |                | L     | L             |
| MEM    |          |                          |                |                | M     | M             |
| NUN    |          |                          |                |                | N     | N             |
| SAMEK  |          |                          |                |                | X     | (X)           |
| AYIN   |          |                          |                |                | O     | O             |
| PE     |          |                          |                |                | P     | P             |
| TSADE  |          |                          |                |                |       | (S)           |
| QOPH   |          |                          |                |                | Q     | Q             |
| RESH   |          |                          |                |                | R     | R             |
| SHIN   |          |                          |                |                | S     | S             |
| TAW    |          |                          |                |                | T     | T             |