

The Book of Mormon

We have English translation of an ancient language.

The first writers came from Jerusalem.

What language did people speak in Jerusalem?

Therefore what the commonly understood language the Book of Mormon?

First Verse of the Book of Mormon sets stage

1 Nephi 1:1

I, Nephi, having been born of goodly parents, therefore, I was taught somewhat in all the learning of my father.

And having seen many afflictions in the course of my days, nevertheless, having been highly favored of the Lord in all my days,

Yea, having had a great knowledge of the goodness and the mysteries of God,

Therefore, I make a record of my proceedings in my days.

Yea, I make a record in the language of my father,

which consists of the learning of the Jews,

and the language of the Egyptians;

When is the time period of 1 Nephi Chapter 1?

- Approximately 600 BC.
- What is the language (assumed) spoken in Jerusalem?
- What is the written language of the day?
- Hebrew?....or something else?

When is the language the Book of Mormon is being written in?

- Hebrew? (The Learning of the Jews, but the Language of....)
- (This is why we looked at how many F's were in the first slide...lol)

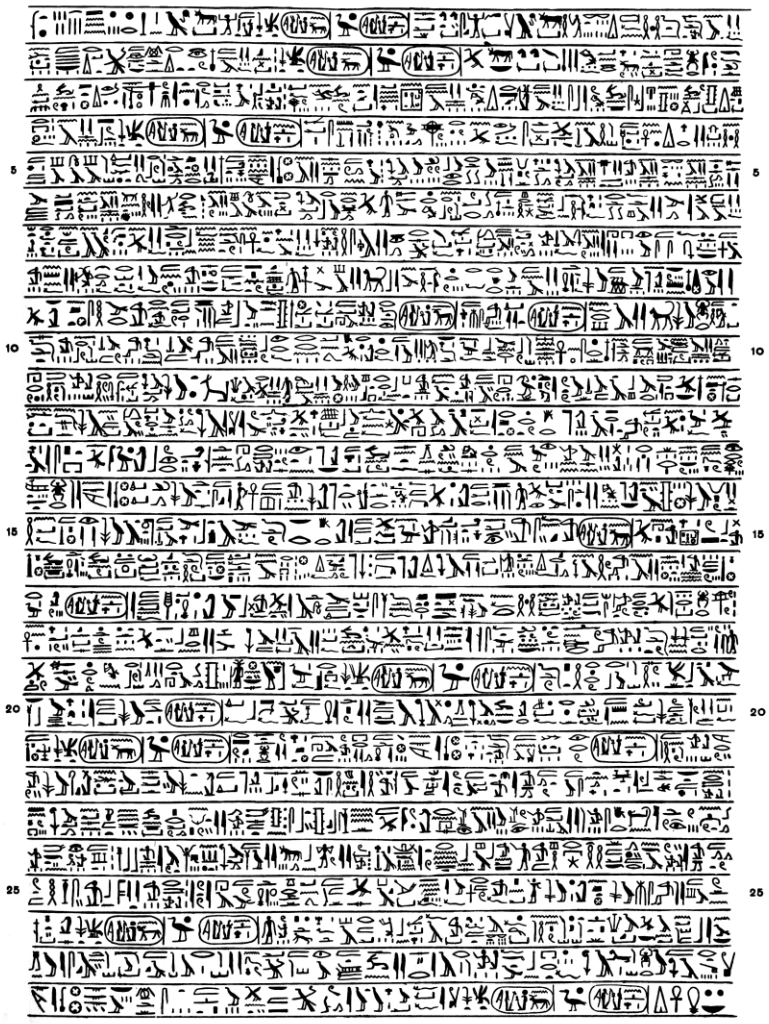
What might 'Language of the Egyptians' mean?

In the Days of Moses....

1:8

THEBES. INSCRIPTION ON STELE OF MERENPTAH.

XIV.



Ancient Hebrew was actually 'Pictograph' not 'letters' taken from Egypt.



Over 700 Egyptian hieroglyphics, Moses people determined to use 22 of these.

That is why eventually, the Hebrew modern language has 22 Hebrew characters. They all started from Egyptian hieroglyphics.

<https://www.ancient-hebrew.org/ancient-alphabet/ancient-pictographic-alphabet.htm>

The Characters Evolved over time

Early Hebrew

20th-12th Century BC (1900-1100 BC)

Selected Egyptian Pictographs



Middle Hebrew

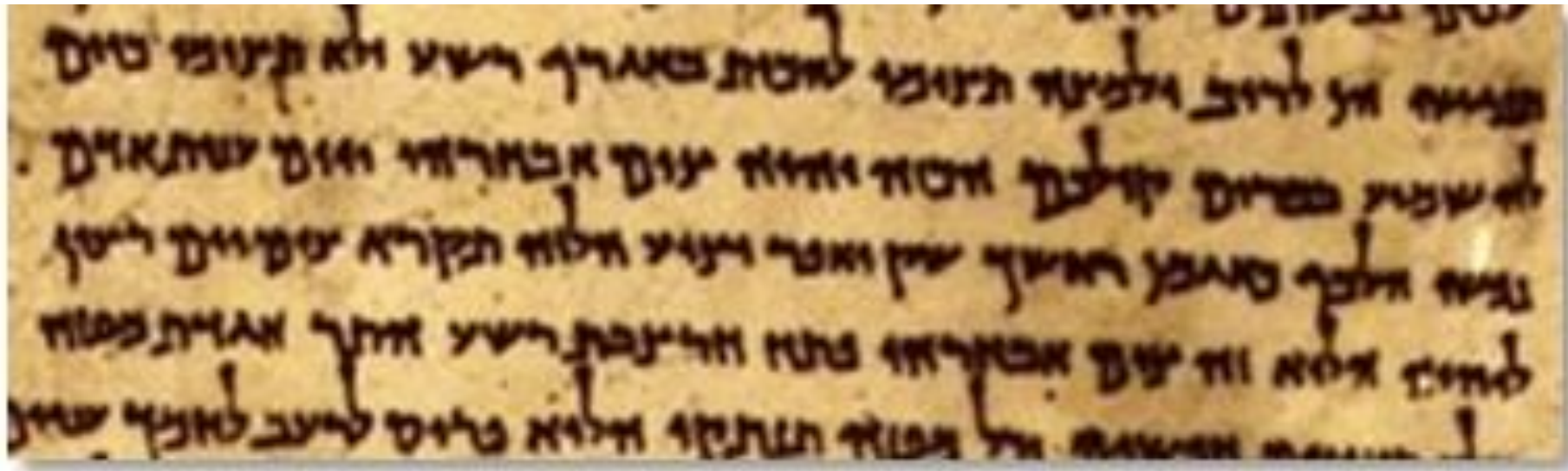
About the 12th Century BC-5th Century
Prior to Babylonian Conquest



Late Hebrew

4th-1st Century BC

After Babylonian Conquest



Modern Hebrew

After 11 th Century AD



So what was used in Lehi's Day?

Written language closer to
Egyptian Script than modern
Hebrew

How would minimally educated
1800's rural New York state
teenager have known this?

