Sequential Verb Forms in Hebrew: Varying Terminology

1. Waw Consecutive

Focus on narrative sequences (e.g. Ross; Seow; Weingreen).

	Non-Sequential	Sequential
Past	**Perfect** (+/- Waw Conjunctive)	**Preterite**[1] + **Waw Consecutive**
Future	**Imperfect** (+/- Waw Conjunctive)	**Perfect** + **Waw Consecutive**

2. Waw Conversive

Focus on the apparent reversal of meaning (e.g. Kittel/Hoffer/Wright; Lambdin).

	Non-Sequential	Sequential
Past	**Perfect**	**Imperfect** + **Waw Conversive**
Future	**Imperfect**	**Perfect** + **Waw Conversive**

Perfect	**Converted Imperfect**
Imperfect	**Converted Perfect**

3. Waw Inversive

Focus on the apparent reversal of meaning (e.g. Joüon/Muraoka[2]).

	Non-Sequential	Sequential
Past	**Perfect**	**Inverted Future**
Future	**Future**	**Inverted Perfect**

4. Waw Relative

Focus on the relation between verbs (e.g. Waltke/O'Connor).

	Non-Sequential	Sequential
Past	**Suffix Conjugation**	**Relative Waw** + **Prefix Conjugation**
Future	**Prefix Conjugation**	**Relative Waw** + **Suffix Conjugation**

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1. Others will call this the "Imperfect"+ Waw Consecutive.

2. Joüon/Muraoka prefer the term 'inverted' because it "has the advantage of including both inversion of meaning and inversion (shifting) of stress as in w-qataltī́" (Paul Joüon S. J., *A Grammar of Biblical Hebrew,* trans. and rev. T. Muraoka (Rome: Editrice Pontificio Istituto Biblico, 1996), 387.

5. Vav Ha-Hippux

Historical term (e.g. Buth).

	Non-Sequential	Sequential[3]
Past	**Past**	**Sequential Past**
Future	**Future**	**Sequential Future**

Definite Tense-Aspect	**Sequential Past Tense**
Indefinite Tense-Aspect	**Sequential Future Tense**

6. Transliteration

Focus on form rather than function (e.g. Buth; Joüon/Muraoka; Seow; Waltke/O'Connor).

	Non-Sequential	Sequential
Past	*qatal*	*wayyiqtol*
Future	*yiqtol*	*weqatal* [4]
	weyiqtol [5]	

(פָּקַד or קָטַל)	(וַיִּפְקֹד or וַיִּקְטֹל)
(יִפְקֹד or יִקְטֹל)	(וּפָקַד or וְקָטַל)
(וְיִפְקֹד or וְיִקְטֹל)	

Frequency of Occurance[6]

	Non-Sequential		Sequence	
Past	*qatal*	27%	*wayyiqtol*	29%
Future	*yiqtol*	28%	*weqatal*	13%
	weyiqtol	3%		

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3. The sequential forms all include the vav ha-hippux or "vav of overturning."

4. The term *weqatal* does not distinguish between Perfect + Waw Consecutive and Perfect + Waw Conjunctive. Some will use the term *weqataltí* to refer to the Perfect + Waw Consecutive (e.g. Joüon/Muraoka). This term emphasizes the accent shift that occurs in the 2nd masculine singular and 1st common singular forms of most verbs.

5. I.e. the Imperfect (not Preterite) + Waw Conjunctive.

6. Bruce K.Waltke and M. O'Connor, *An Introduction to Biblical Hebrew Syntax* (Winona Lake, IN: Eisenbrauns, 1990) 456.

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