I. Leitwort ‘leading word’ (Buber-Rosenzweig)

1. Genesis 24 – יד ‘hand’ 7x

24:2 שִׂים־נָ֥א יָדְךָ֖ תַּ֥חַת יְרֵכִֽי׃
   Place, please, your hand (yad) under my thigh.

24:9 וַיָּשֶׂם הָ֨עֶבֶד אֶת־יָד֔וֹ תַּ֛֥חַת יֶרֶךְ אֲדֹנָ֖יו
   And the servant placed his hand (yad) under the thigh of Abraham his master.

24:10 וַיִּקַּ֣ח הָ֠עֶבֶד עֲשָׂרָ֨ה גְמַלִּ֤ים מִגְּמַלֵּ֤י אֲדֹנָיו֙ וַיֵּ֔לֶךְ וְכָל־טוּב אֲדֹנָ֖יו בְּיָד֑וֹ
   And the servant took ten camels, from among the camels of his master, and he went with all the bounty of his master in his hand (yad).  [NJV: with him]

24:18 וַתֹּ֧רֶד כַּדָּ֛הּ עַל־יָדָ֖הּ וַתַּשְׁ קֵֽהוּ׃
   And she lowered her jug onto her hand (yad), and she gave him drink.

24:22 וַיִּקַּ֤ח אַ֣דֹנָ֣יו נֶֽזֶם زָהָ֔ב . . . וּשְׁנֵ֤י צְמִידִים֙ עַל־יָדֶ֔יהָ
   And the man took a nose-ring of gold . . . and two bracelets on her hands (yad).  [NJV: for her arms]

24:30 וַיְהִ֣י כַּדָּ֔הּ עַל־יָדֶ֖יהָ אֲחֹתוֹ֒
   And when he saw the nose-ring and the bracelets on the hands (yad) of his sister.  [NJV: on his sister’s arms]
24:47

וָאָשִׂ֤ם הַנֶּ֨זֶם עַל־אַפָּ֔הּ וְהַצְּמִידִ֖ים עַל־יָדֶֽיהָ׃
And I put the nose-ring on her nose and the bracelets on her hands (yad). [NJV: on her arms]

2. Exodus 1-2 – בַּת ‘daughter’ 11x

1:16

אָסְרָנָּה הָּאָנָּנָּה אֲחֵל אֶסְרָנָה יָדָּא יָדָּא
And if it is a son, you shall kill him, and if it is a daughter (bat), she may live. [NJV: if it is a girl, let her live]

1:22

כָּל־הַבֵּן הַיִּלּוֹד הַיְאֹרָה תַּשְׁלִיכֻ֔וּוּ וְכָל־הַבַּ֖ת תְּחַיּוּן׃
Every newborn son, into the Nile you shall cast him, and every daughter (bat) you shall let-live. [NJV: but let every girl live]

2:1

וַלְאִישׁ מֵעַיְלָה לֵוִי תָּאָבְדֵ֥ל׃
And a man from the house of Levi went, and he took a daughter (bat) of Levi. [NJV: a Levite woman]

2:5

וַתֵּרֶד בַּת־פַּרְעֹה לִרְחֹץ עַל־הַיְאֹר (see also vv. 7, 8, 9, 10)
And the daughter (bat) of Pharaoh went-down to bathe at the Nile.

2:16

וָלֹלְהוֹן מֵדַרֶנָּה בָּנָּה׃
And to the priest of Midian were seven daughters (banot).

2:20

וַיֹּ֥אמֶר אֶל־בְּנֹתָ֖יו וְאָיּו
And he said to his daughters (banotaw), ‘Where is he?’.

2:21

וַיִּתֵּ֛ן אֶת־צִפֹּ֥רָה בִּתּ֖וֹ לְמֹשֶֽׁה׃
And he gave Zippora his daughter (bitto) to Moses.
II. Connections between literary units

Exodus 2:2

וַתֵּרֶא אֹתוֹ כִּי־טוֹב

And she saw him, that he was good (ki ṭov). [NJV: how beautiful he was]

Genesis 1:4

וַיַּרְא אֱלֹהִים אֶת־הָאֹר כִּי־טוֹב

And God saw the light, that it was good (ki ṭov).

Genesis 1:10, 12, 18, 21, 25

וַיַּרְא אֱלֹהִים כִּי־טוֹב׃

And God saw that it was good (ki ṭov).

III. Confused syntax

1. 1 Samuel 9:12-13

וַתֹּאמַר אוֹתָם בַּבָּמָה׃ הִנֵּה יֵשׁ מַהֵ֣ר לְפָנֶ֑יךָ לֹֽא־יֹאכַ֤ל הַבָּמָ֜תָה בְּטֶרֶם֩ אֹת֡וֹ תִּמְצְא֣וּן כֵּֽן הָעִ֣יר כְּבֹאֲכֶ֣ם יָרְכוּ לִֽשְׁמַע׃

‘Yes, here before you; hurry now, because today he is coming to the city, because the sacrifice is today for the people at the high-place. When you come to the city, thus you will find him, before he goes up to the high-place to eat, because the people cannot eat until he comes, because he must bless the sacrifice, afterwards the invited-ones can eat; so now go up, because him, this very day you will find him’.

2. Genesis 37:30

וַיֹּאמַ֑ר הַיֶּלֶד אֵינֶ֔נּוּ בַּעֲלָתָׁ֖ם לֹא־יֹאכַל אֲנִ֑י אֲנִי־בָֽא׃

G.A.R.: And he returned to his brothers, and he said, “The child is not, and I, to where shall I come?”

NJV: Returning to his brothers, he said, “The boy is gone! Now, what am I to do?”
RSV: and returned to his brothers, and said, “The lad is gone; and I, where shall I go?”

Alter: and he came to his brothers, and he said, “The boy is gone, and I, where can I turn?”

Fox: and returned to his brothers and said: The child is no more! And I – where am I to go?

Buber-Rosenzwig: und kehrte zu seinen Brüdern und sprach:
Das Kind is nicht da! und ich, ach wo komme ich hin!

IV. White space

2 Samuel 12:5-7

5 וַיִּחַר־אַף דָּוִד בָּאִישׁ מְאֹד וַיֹּאמֶר אֶל־נָתָן חַי־יְהֹוָה כִּי בֶן־מָוֶת הָאִישׁ הָעֹשֶׂה זוֹאת׃

6 וְאֶת־הַכִּבְשָׂה יְשַׁלֵּם אַרְבַּעְתָּיִם עֵקֶב אֲשֶׁר עָשָׂה אֶת־הַדָּבָר הַזֶּה וְעַל אֲשֶׁר لֹא־חָמָל׃

7 וַיֹּאמֶר נָתָן אֶל־דָּוִד אַתָּה הָאִישׁ כֹּה־אָמַר יְהֹוָה אֱלֹהֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל אָנֹכִי מְשַׁחְתִּיךָ לְמֶלֶךְ על־יִשְׂרָאֵל וְאָנֹכִי הִצַּלְתִּיךָ מִיַּד שָׁאֽוּל׃

NJV: 5 David flew into a rage against the man, and said to Nathan, “As the LORD lives, the man who did this deserves to die! 6 He shall pay for the lamb four times over, because he did such a thing and showed no pity.” 7 And Nathan said to David, “That man is you! Thus said the LORD, the God of Israel: ‘It was I who anointed you king over Israel and it was I who rescued you from the hand of Saul. . . .
G.A.R.:

5 And David became very angry against the man, and he said to Nathan, “As YHWH lives, a ‘son of death’ is the man who did this! 6 For the ewe he shall pay fourfold, because he did such a thing and showed no pity.”

7 And Nathan said to David, “You are the man!”

“Thus says YHWH, the God of Israel: ‘I, I anointed you king over Israel and I, I rescued you from the hand of Saul. . . .”