NOUNS AND ADJECTIVES

	SINGULAR			PLURAL			DUAL		
	A	C	E	A	C	E	A	C	E
M	—	—	ה– , א–	ין– , י–	י–	(יה–) , יא–	ין–	י–	יא–
F	ה– , א– , ת–	ת–	תה– , תא–	ן–	ת–	תה– , תא–	תין–	תי–	?
M	—	—	– ā	– īn	– ay	– ayyā	– ayin	– ay	– ayyā
F	– ā, (– at)	– at	– tā	– ān	– āt	– ātā	– tayin	– tay	– tayyā
M	טָב	טָב	טָבָא	טָבִין	טָבֵי	טָבַיָּא	טָבִין	טָבֵי	טָבַיָּא
F	טָבָה	טָבַת	טָבְתָא	טָבָן	טָבָת	טָבָתָא	טָבְתֵין	טָבְתֵי	טָבָתַיָּא

Aramaic has	2 genders:	Masculine (M), Feminine (F)
	3 numbers:	Singular (S), Plural (P), Dual (D)
	3 states:	Absolute (A), Construct (C), Emphatic (E)

It has NO — definite or indefinite article. Determinacy is marked by 'state'.
marked cases (Genitive, Dative, etc).

Gender: The gender of a noun is usually marked by its ending. But there are exceptions! In such cases, feminine nouns include: names of lands, countries; abstract ideas, matters, states of affairs; parts of the body that come in pairs.

Number: The number of a noun is marked by its ending.
A few 'collective nouns' which are singular in form refer to multiple individuals, and take plural verbs etc. e.g. קן ($qān$) 'sheep' ; גרדא ($gardā$) 'domestic staff'.
Some nouns are regularly used in the plural, the 'pluralia tantum': רחמין ($raḥmīn$) 'affection'; דמיא ($dəmayā$) 'price'.
Only the noun has a dual form (not adjectives, pronouns, verbs). Duals cannot be distinguished from plurals (except DF) in unvocalised texts. It appears to be restricted to pairs of body parts, and the numbers 2 and 200. RARE!

State: The state of a noun is marked by its ending.
The ABSOLUTE state is used when the noun is indeterminate ('a land', 'a woman').
[For emphasis, the numeral 'one' may be added: e.g. שׁור חד ($šūr ḥaḏ$), 'a wall'.]
It is also often used:
   a. with cardinal numbers: e.g. שׁקלין תלתא ($šəqālīn təlātā$), 'three shekels'.
   b. when following כל (kul), 'all', 'every', 'each'.
   c. in distributive repetition; e.g. ירח ירח ($yarḥ yarḥ$), 'month by month' ; לגבר לגבר ($la-gəbar la-gəbar$), 'to each person'.
   d. for predicative adjectives; e.g. שׁריר הוי ($šarīr həwī$), 'be strong!'

The EMPHATIC, or determined, state is used when the noun is determinate ('the land', 'the woman'), and also with attributive use of demonstrative pronouns; יומא זנה ($yawmā dənā$) 'this day'. (The emphatic state may have evolved from a form with suffixed definite article.)

The CONSTRUCT state indicates the dependence or close relationship of a noun or adjective X on another, Y. In European languages this is usually rendered by 'X / of Y', but in Semitic languages by 'X of / Y', where X is in the construct, and Y is in the absolute or emphatic. It often indicates possession: בית מלכא ($bayt malkā$) 'house of / the king' ; תרע ביתא ($təraʿ baytā$) 'gate of / the house'. [For other categories, see Muraoka & Porten, §61.] It is possible to have a chain of nouns in the construct: e.g. יומי מלך מצרין ($yawmay məlek miṣrīn$) 'the days of / the king of / Egypt'.

Genitive relationship:

There are several ways of indicating a genitive relationship in EA (e.g. 'house of God):

a.	construct	בֵּית אֱלָהָא	*bayt 'ĕlāhā*
b.	*ḏī*	בַּיְתָא זִי אֱלָהָא	*baytā ḏī 'ĕlāhā*
c.	proleptic pronoun + *ḏī*	בַּיְתֵהּ זִי אֱלָהָא	*baytēh ḏī 'ĕlāhā*
d.	lə-	בֵּית לֵאלָהָא	*bayit lē'lāhā* [< *lə-'ĕlāhā*]

Of these, (c.) with the anticipatory pronoun is usually restricted to combinations where the second noun is a proper noun; and (d.) is mostly found in legal texts, and usually with indeterminate (absolute) first noun.