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Dear Editor,

Dear Editor,

We know Yaakov lived until 147 and that he descended to Egypt at 130. The question then becomes why the Torah had to go out of its way in the beginning of this week's parsha to say that Yaakov "lived in Mitzraim for 17 years," and furthermore, why not say the language *vayeshev* or *vayagar*.

The message is powerful and wonderous. Yaakov lived with Yosef for 17 years before he was sold, as we know Yosef was sold at 17 years old. It may be said that these original 17 years "were" Yaakov's life, his happiness and pride. He then descends into mourning. So, the verse in this week's parsha is saying "*vayechi*," to indicate that not only did Yaakov now enjoy "17" years of existential joy with Yosef, that mimicked the original "17," but also years of "*chiyus*," a spiritual nirvana, because he sees Yosef has withstood exile and didn't lose his spiritual *chiyus*. Indeed, two sets of 17 personified all of Yaakov's joy.

Steven Genack

Dear Editor,

Many people attending outdoor minyanim have been having trouble with their eyeglasses fogging up in the cold, winter air. This happens when the warm water vapor in our breath condenses on the cold surface of our glasses. I have read that WD-40 can limit the buildup of snow on car windows if it is sprayed

on before it snows. If applied to your shoes, it will give them a waterproof barrier. I wondered if WD-40 could keep our breath from condensing on our eyeglasses. To find out, I conducted the following experiment.

I sprayed the inside portion of the eyeglass lens with WD-40. After spraying, I let the excess drip off on a paper towel the glasses were resting on. I also wiped the bottom of the frames before I put the eyeglasses on. WD-40 can irritate your eyes and the can warns you to "immediately flush eyes with large amount of water for 15 minutes." I put my glasses on and positioned my mask so my breath would be funneled onto the inside portion of the lens. I walked outside to see if my hypothesis was correct. With each exhale, the lens fogged up but...with each inhale the fog disappeared. It did not adhere to the lenses of the glasses.

WD-40 has no repulsive odor and will easily wash off your glasses and hands with soap and water. It can also make your snow removal easier if you spray it on your shovel or down the chute of your snowblower.

Mark Dubin
Retired Science Teacher

Dear Editor,

I read Sara Rayvach's article about reactive and proactive parent-

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Readers Poll

Do you plan on getting the vaccine when it becomes available?

58% / 42%

YES

NO