

11 Refinement and Revision – Walkthrough

(Internet access needed for the parts of the module that use bibleineverylanguage.org – if internet access is not available, a PDF download of one section of the RG will be sufficient – 45 min.)

Intro: [►] After translators have completed the eight steps of MAST, they have a translation that is ready to be used, *and* [►] they should look for feedback on that translation from other Christians in their heart language community. We want to talk about some ways to invite the community to participate in ensuring the quality of the Scriptures and in making suggestions for refinement.

Explain: [►] Refinement is the process of making something that is already good even better. Once the translation team has carefully followed the checking steps, they can be confident that they have a good translation; **refinement is the next step—[►] making what is good even better.**

Ask: [►] **Why do you think it would be helpful to include others?** [►] *(Read Ecclesiastes 4:9–12 on teamwork.)*

- [►] New eyes might see things others have missed.
- It provides an opportunity for others to affirm the work of the translation team, which helps lead to broader acceptance in the community.
- It may help cross denominational boundaries.
- It may help spread the word about the new translation.

Explain: [►] Wycliffe Associates has developed some resources to help include the greater community in the process of refinement. One of those resources is called the [►] Reviewers' Guide. This guide is available on bibleineverylanguage.org. Although it is not comprehensive, it does [►] cover passages in every book, including some of the most difficult ones to understand, and those that teach the primary doctrines of Scripture. This will give translators and their community checkers assurance that, if the [►] hardest parts are clear and complete, all the content is good.

Explain: [►] To begin the review process, first find a leader and reviewers.

- A [►] translation team member, or other Christian leader, should guide the review.
- Reviewers should all be believers in good standing. There should be a group of 2 to 4 reviewers to review each passage.

Explain: Before the review begins, [►] the leader should remind the reviewers that the questions are designed not to test their memory but to check the completeness and clarity of the translation. Participants may look back at the translated Scripture (or ask to hear it again) when asked questions.

Here is how the review can be conducted.

- [►] The leader should read the background information before reading the passage of translated Scripture. (If the check is of a written translation, all the participants should have copies of the Scripture, if possible.)
- [►] The leader will then ask reviewers to summarize the passage. The summary question is intended to get most of the information about the passage. The specific follow-up questions are designed to help fill in the gaps.
- [►] If something is unclear or missing, comments should be made on the guide itself and this should be shared with the translation team. NOTHING should be changed in the Scripture by the reviewers. [►]

Exercise Session

(with handouts and slides, if possible)

- Hand out copies of Luke 17:11–19. *(Their practice translation from module 7 should be used, if possible. If needed, there is a copy of this passage from the ULB in the module resources.)*
- Then work through the Reviewers' Guide for the Luke passage together as a group:
 - Choose part of the group to act as leaders or to watch.
 - Have the other part of the group turn their back on the slide display. They will be the reviewers.
 - [►] Have a leader read the background information. Then have a leader read through the whole passage of translated Scripture while the reviewers follow along on their copies.
 - Have the reviewers summarize the passage. Leaders should decide which summary items would be checked off. Then have leaders use the specific questions to follow up. [►] *(Follow-up questions)*
[►] *(Follow-up questions)*

(When you are done, ask the review questions below.)

Ask:

1. **Are the questions we will ask about the translation designed to test A: the translation, or B: the reviewers' memory?**
2. **What does the leader read before the passage of translated Scripture? Why?**
3. **What do reviewers do after they hear the translated Scripture passage? Why do we ask follow-up questions?**
4. **Who makes changes to the translated Scripture?**

Ask: [►] **What do you think the response would be from Christians in your community who are asked to help with refinement?** *(Remind them that including others in refinement has two purposes—both affirming the quality of Scripture with*

new eyes on the text and encouraging the acceptance of the translation by a wider audience.)

Confirm: The team should understand that getting feedback from a wider audience is a helpful step in refining the translation and expanding its reach. The team should feel confident that resources are available to help them with this.