

Video Script Chapter 9: MAST Process: Drafting Steps

Video 9.1

MAST is a process to create meaning-based translations. It first focuses the translator on natural wording of the meaning, then applies careful checking to assure accuracy and completeness.

MAST is short for Mobilized Assistance Supporting Translation:

- Mobilized—training church partners, translators, and facilitators around the world
- Assistance—assisting the local church worldwide
- Supporting—providing training, materials, and tools for the local church
- Translation—partnering to get a Bible in Every Language

The first four steps are drafting steps.

TIMING is very important with these steps.

From this point, I'm going to lead this session as if you're a group of translators.

Step 1 is Consume

On your own, read the whole portion of text for understanding. Each of you will read your passage of Scripture to yourself, trying to understand the meaning and details to get a general overview of the text.

This step should take no more than 5–7 minutes (first reading, then thinking about the passage). If the passage is longer and needs more time, it's best to split it into 2 or more passages.

If you struggle to understand something in the passage, it's also OK to pause and ask team members a question. HOWEVER, you should then read the passage again from the beginning and restart the time.

Step 2 is Verbalize

Speak out loud to a partner in your own language, telling them what you've just read.

Try to include:

- What are the big ideas?
- What events and people were in the passage and what did they do?
- What key words and key terms are in this passage? (You may mark them in the source text as you go.)

The important thing in this step is that you express the passage out loud to help you remember and understand what it was about. This should take about 2–3 minutes.

Step 3 is Chunk

On your own, look at the passage of Scripture and break it into smaller parts (complete thoughts) that you can remember and rewrite. This will usually be about 1–4 verses, but push for the maximum amount of text that you can remember, **without** being able to memorize.

This step should take about 5-7 minutes.

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Step 4 is *Blind Draft*

On your own, look over the first chunk in your passage. Then, hide the source text from your view, and write that chunk in your mother-tongue.

Read and then blind draft each chunk, one at a time, until all the chunks of Scripture in that passage are written.

The goal is to express the meaning in natural language. Do not expect the blind draft to be perfect! Remember, this is your first draft—it will be checked and refined.

Video 9.2

Here are some examples of consequences of skipping drafting steps:

1. Without Consume

- Flow and connectors are lost.

2. Without Verbalize

- You won't remember it as well.
- Chunking will be more difficult because this is a building element of chunking.
- You will lose the benefits of combining input and output.
- Skipping this will also result in "cheating" (looking at text during blind draft).

3. Without Chunk

- If the chunks are too small, you'll lose connectors.
- The story is lost.

4. Without Blind Draft

- You will lose naturalness.
- The translation will sound choppy.
- There will be too many borrowed words.