

Chapter 14: Checking Resources

Objective: *Participants will know where to access helpful resources and how to use them while doing the four checking steps of MAST. (Refinement and Revision resources will be discussed in Chapter 15.)*

Core Concepts:

- Careful checking is part of ensuring an accurate translation.
- Translators need checking resources to help them understand the text in its original language and affirm the accuracy of their translation.
- Two checking resources available through bibleineverylanguage.org are Translation Notes and Translation Words.
- Checking resources should only be used during the checking steps of MAST, not the drafting steps.

But all things that are exposed are made manifest by the light, for whatever makes manifest is light (Eph. 5:13).

Intro:

Some people wonder how translators with little training or no formal education can translate God's Word. We believe that God specifically empowers His people with His Spirit to do His work. We have also talked about how mother-tongue translators are uniquely prepared by God when they learn more than one language during their childhood.

We also recognize that teamwork helps people to make better translation decisions by relying on everyone's understanding and Biblical knowledge. This is why the MAST process includes at least 6 translators in reviewing and checking every passage.

Now we want to talk about one of the ways that Wycliffe Associates supports translators in creating accurate translation. We offer checking resources to be used during the MAST checking steps. These resources enhance translators' understanding of the passage in its original language. Checking with reliable resources is essential to affirm the quality of your translation.

Time: 60 min.

Workbook p. 58

Materials:

- ✓ White board
- ✓ Slide Deck: T3.Slides_14_Checking.Resources
- ✓ Internet for bibleineverylanguage.org. If internet access is not available, have a downloaded or printed version of the Translation Notes and Translation Words for Matthew. These resources for Matt. 12:9-14 can be copied from pp. 148-150 of this Guide for the Exercise.
- ✓ Bible with place markers

Teacher's Notes:



Checking Resources

But all things that are exposed are made manifest by the light, for whatever makes manifest is light (Eph. 5:13).

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Let's discuss and practice using two checking resources.

- **Translation Notes**—This is a series of specific notes for each verse of the Bible. These notes discuss the verse's context, background, figures of speech, and how others have translated hard-to-understand concepts and abstract terms.
- **Translation Words**—This is like a dictionary of Biblical terms, providing clear meanings and suggestions for alternate words with the same meaning.

Teach Back:

Let's review MAST's four drafting steps and four checking steps.

Discuss:

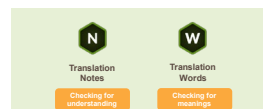
- **In which set of steps would you use the helps and resources?**

- **Think about each of the checking steps for a minute. What kind of resource—besides the original source text—might you use during each one?**

During the checking steps, use all resources that are available to you.

Notes:

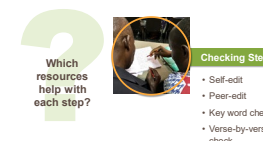
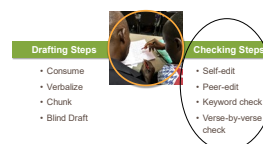
WA Checking Resources



Have participants take turns naming and describing the 8 MAST steps.

Make sure participants understand that checking resources are designed for the checking steps. All the drafting steps are to be done with only the source text and no other helps.

The Steps of MAST



Suggested answers:

- commentaries
- other versions of Scripture in the Gateway Language
- Greek lexicons
- the resources described above

The Translation Notes and Translation Words checking resources are available on bibleineverylanguage.org, and leaders can download and print out PDFs for each book of the Bible from that website.

These resources are also available in BTT Writer and VMAST, because they are built in.

Exercise: Guided Practice (Workbook p. 60)

We will practice with Matthew 12:9–14.

- What do you think “Behold” means?
- What is a “withered hand”?
- Why did the Pharisees ask Jesus a question?

Notes:

Show

bibleineverylanguage.org and demonstrate where to find the resources. If that is not possible, show your downloaded or printed version.

Accessing the Resources



If the team has already chosen a program for their translation, demonstrate where to find these resources on that program.

You may use the slides to demonstrate use of these resources instead of doing so on BIEL, if you prefer.

Try it

Read
Matthew 12:9–14

Ask a participant to read Mt. 12:9-14.

After brief discussion, guide the team in using the Translation Notes to answer the questions.

Translation Notes

¹⁴ Behold, there was a man who had a withered hand. The Pharisees asked Jesus, saying, “Is it lawful to heal on the Sabbath?” so that they might accuse him of sinning.

Behold

The word “Behold” alerts us to a new person in the story. Your language may have a way of doing this.

a man who had a withered hand

Is man who had a paralyzed hand or “a man with a withered hand”?

The Pharisees asked Jesus, saying, “Is it lawful to heal on the Sabbath?” so that they might accuse him of sinning.

The Pharisees wanted to accuse Jesus of sinning, so they asked him, “Is it lawful to heal on the Sabbath?”

Is it lawful to heal on the Sabbath?

“According to the law of Moses, may a person heal another person on the Sabbath?”

so that they might accuse him of sinning

They did not just want to accuse Jesus in front of the people. The Pharisees wanted Jesus to give an answer that contradicted the law of Moses so they could take him before a judge and legally charge him with breaking the law. (See: Accused knowledge and implicit information)

Also on pp. 148-49 if print copies are desired.

Let's look at Translation Words a little more. It gives us a list of words that other translators have found difficult to understand and translate. This is NOT a list of the key words or terms. Notice that this list does not include "Pharisees," "Jesus," or "sinning," yet all three of those words would be key words that are necessary to understand this passage.

The definitions in Translation Words can help you pick the right word or phrase to translate the meaning of difficult words or concepts.

Remember, these resources have been designed to help **ONLY** during the checking steps. Using them in the steps leading up to drafting will make drafting much more difficult and take more time. Your natural wording will likely also be lost, making the translation sound very awkward or foreign.

Teach Back:

Now that we have practiced using Translation Notes and Translation Words, how would you use these resources with each of the checking steps?

Confirm:

Participants understand that checking resources are an essential part of affirming quality. Using them will take practice, but translators will gain proficiency and see the value in the resources' content as they use them.

Notes:

Translation Words

²² Behold, there was a man who had a withered hand. The Pharisees asked Jesus, saying, "Is it lawful to heal on the Sabbath?" so that they might accuse him of sinning.

- hand
- lawful
- heal
- Sabbath
- accuse

accuse

Related ideas:

accuse - accuse

Definition:

The terms "accuse" and "accusation" refer to blaming someone for doing something wrong. A person who accuses others is an "accuser."

- A false accusation is when a charge against someone is not true, as when Jesus was falsely accused of wrongdoing by the leaders of the Jews.

If demonstrating online, ask a participant to choose one of the words from the list to look at the definition.

If you are using the slides or handout (from p. 150), the definition of "accuse" is given.

How would you use these resources with each step?



Checking Steps

- Self-edit
- Peer-edit
- Key word check
- Verse-by-verse check