

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.
- Checking resources are essential to help translators understand the text in its original language and affirm the accuracy of their translation.
- Two checking resources available at bibleineverylanguage.org are Translation Notes and Translation Words.

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

Intro:

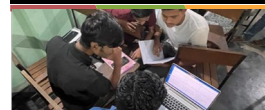
Some people wonder how translators with little training or no formal education can translate God's Word. We believe that God specifically empowers His people with His Spirit to do His work. We have also talked about how mother-tongue translators are uniquely prepared by God when they learn more than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

Time: 60 min.

Materials:

- ✓ White board
- ✓ Slide Deck: T3. Slides_14_ Checking.Resources
- ✓ Internet for bibleineverylanguage.org. If internet access is not available, have Translation Notes for Matthew printed or downloaded.
- ✓ Copies of pp. 217-220, if desired for 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).

All Scripture is taken from the New King James Version®. © 1982 by Thomas Nelson, Inc. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

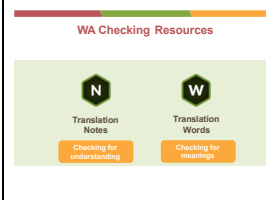
We also recognize that teamwork helps people to make better translation decisions by relying on everyone's understanding and Biblical knowledge. This is why the MAST process includes at least 6 translators in reviewing and checking every passage.

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.

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.

Notes:



Teach Back:

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

Discuss:

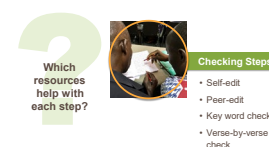
- **In which set of steps would you use the helps and resources?**
- **Think about each of the checking steps for a minute. What kind of resource—besides the original source text—might you use during each one?**

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

Notes:

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.



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:
(Participant Workbook pp. 78-79)
 We will practice with Matthew 12:9–14.

Notes:

Show bibleinevery language .org and demonstrate where to find the resources. If that is not possible, show your downloaded version of the PDF.

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.

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

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

Notes:

Guide the team in using the Translation Notes to answer the questions, using slides or pp. 217-219.



Translation Notes

“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

“A man who had a withered 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: Assumed Knowledge and Implicit Information)



Translation Words

“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:

accusation, 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, have a participant choose one of the words from the list to look at the definition.

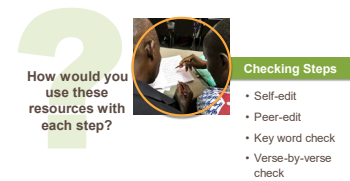
If you are using the slides or p. 220, the definition of “accuse” is given.

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?

Notes:



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.