Chapter 10: MAST Process—Checking Steps

Two are better than one, because they have a good reward for their labor. For if they fall, one will lift up his companion. But woe to him who is alone when he falls, for he has no one to help him up (Eccl. 4:9-10).

MAST: designed to create

_____ -_____

translations.

MAST
- **Focuses the translator on meaningful content and natural wording first.**
- **Then applies careful checking to ensure accuracy and completeness.**

Steps 5-8: Checking Steps

Timing does NOT matter in these steps, and you can take breaks in between.

Step 5: _____

On your own, open the source text and look at it again. Compare what you've written to the source text. Make any needed changes. Make sure everything is included and correct, with nothing added.

Check:
- details
- key words
- key terms
- correct and consistent spelling

- correct punctuation
- neat and clear handwriting

There are also resources to help you to check your own work. We will discuss these in Chapter 14.

Step 6: _____
Have another member of the team edit your work.

Sit together while your partner reads your translation and offers suggestions. Your partner should compare the translation to the source text to make sure nothing is missing or incorrect.

Your partner should remember the following:

• Peer editors (or peer checkers) are **NOT** looking for a word-for-word translation; they're looking to make sure that the **AUTHOR'S INTENDED MEANING** is communicated.

• Peer editors should remember to use the Quality Assessment Guide. Some things they're looking for:
  o Is anything missing?
  o Is it natural and smooth?
  o Does it sound good in your language?
  o Is it pleasing to hear?
  o Is it clear and understandable?
  o Is it accurate?

YOUR NOTES:

YOUR NOTES:

- o Are all the details there?
- o Are the spelling and punctuation correct?

- Your partner (peer editor) should ask questions and make suggestions about your work. **However, you as the translator are the one who will make changes in your own translation.** The peer editor should not change things for you.

- If the two of you cannot agree on changes, you should get help from your other team members.

Step 7: _____
With a new partner, check key words.
There are two parts to this check:

- First have your partner read the passage in the source text and mark key words or terms. Your partner should ask you if these words are included in your text.

  Answer "yes" or "no." If there are several "no" answers, do not move forward. Instead, return to the self-edit and peer-edit steps.

- Secondly, if all the key words and terms are in the translated text (or only one or two are missing, and they can be added easily), then move on by verifying each key word with these questions:

o Was the original meaning of this word
accurately communicated?
o What is the definition of the word?

A resource called <u>Translation Words</u> will
help with this step. (See Chapter 14.)

Step 8: _____
With two new partners as checkers, read
your translation out loud to them one verse
at a time.

The first checker will translate each verse
out loud back into the source language,
while the second checker looks at the
source text and listens to make sure that
the back-translation is accurate and
complete.

**The wording of the back-translation will
not be exactly the same as the source
text, but it's important that the meaning
is the same as the meaning of the
source text and that all of the events
and important details are there.**

Make sure nothing is:
- **Missing**
- **Incorrect**
- **awkward, or**
- **unclear**

YOUR NOTES:

YOUR NOTES:

Work until **<u>everyone</u>** is satisfied that the translation meets the _____

_____ Guide that the translators agreed upon.

If more than just a few mistakes are found, you as the translator should go back to step 5, and the team will redo all the checking steps.

Involve as many different team members at different steps as possible.

Exercise:
Use these steps to check your translated passage on pages 43-44.

o **What do you think will happen if you skip any of these steps?**

5. Without Self-edit

_____

_____

_____

6. Without Peer-edit

_____

_____

_____

7. Without Key Word Check

_____

_____

_____

8. Without Verse-by-Verse Check

_____

_____

Care with each MAST step will result in a quality translation.

Look at your <u>Quality Assessment Guide</u>.

o **What qualities on your list can you check during the checking steps of MAST?**

_____

_____

_____

o **If there is a quality on the list that's not checked during the 4 checking steps, how can you apply that quality and check the text for it? (There could be more than one of these.)**

_____

_____

_____

Go through your guide and write which qualities you were able to check with each step.

<u>**Steps**</u>   <u>**Qualities Checked**</u>

5. _____

_____

_____

6. _____

_____

_____

7. _____

_____

_____

8. _____

_____

_____

<u>**Review of Core Concepts:**</u>
- The last four steps of MAST are checking steps to ensure accuracy of the translation.
- They must be done in order, but have no time limit: Self-Check, Peer-Check, Key Word Check, and Verse-by-Verse Check.