

Example of Insertion

Deuteronomy 1:12 עַם גְּדוֹל וְרַם מִבְּנֵי יְעֻרִים

"a people } greater and stronger than us cities"...

We insert a "with" between us and cities. It is not in the Hebrew text but a necessary and proper insertion.

Example of Deletion

Deuteronomy 1:16 בֵּין-אִישׁ וּבֵין-אֶחָיו וּבֵין-אֶתְרָם

"between a man, between his brothers, and between his stranger..."

We remove the copula and the unnecessary between and read:

"between a man and his brothers and his stranger."

or "between a man, his brethren and his sojourner..."

Guidelines for adding and deleting

- the alteration must not change the basic meaning in the text.
- the alteration must work and demonstrate clarity of meaning.
- the alteration must be readily understandable to a reader.
- the alteration must not be construed as part of the text.
- the alteration should not allow a new meaning to the text.

D. Idioms, Colloquialisms

It is hard to know how to categorize all sorts of phrases and those we are about to mention may be neither of the above! But they are sufficiently close to those things to make this treatment practical.

Deuteronomy 1:7 וְשָׂמוּ לְךָ

"and take for you"

The pronoun is superfluous and we would read it "and take"

Deuteronomy 1:23 אֶחָד לְכָל שִׁבְט

"one man per tribe"

We would probably translate it with "each".

Exodus 4:13 אֲנִי אֶתְיַצֵּד עִמָּךְ

"with me, LOrd..."

Which really means..."Pardon me, Lord."