

Standard English charted for Bible versions: New Testament
evaluated by Wayne Leman

(1=standard English; 0=non-standard English)

This study evaluates whether or not a wording used in an English Bible version is standard English for current speakers. By "standard English," we refer to English wordings which are currently considered grammatical and appropriate by English composition teachers, editors, authors, and most native speakers of English.

To the left are calculations for versions which have the word "standard" in their title, plus the KJV and NIV which have become standard versions through usage. To the right are calculations for some other English versions.

This study uses the latest posted version of the ISV and in some cases wordings which are more recent than those posted on the [ISV website](#).

Please note that evaluations of specific wordings of an English Bible as to whether or not they are standard English are **not** an overall indication of the quality of translation of that version. Standard English is only one factor among several that should be considered in evaluating the overall adequacy of a Bible version. Accuracy, of course, is the most important factor to consider. But many Bible users do not realize that is possible to have Bible translations which are highly accurate as well as having a high degree of standard English.

The evaluations of what is standard English are my own. Other native speakers of English may not agree with each of my evaluations. If you do disagree with an evaluation you are invited to email about it to: wayne-leman at netzero.com

Study last updated: February 8, 2007

Matt. 3:9: In English one does not refer to a multi-generational forefather or ancestor as "father."

KJV	ASV	RSV	ESV	NRSV	NASB	NIV	HCSB	ISV
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				1				
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We have Abraham to [our] father:
 We have Abraham to our father
 We have Abraham as our father
 We have Abraham as our father
 We have Abraham as our ancestor
 We have Abraham for our father

TNIV NET NLT TEV CEV

0 We have Abraham as our father.
 0 We have Abraham as our father.
 1 We have Abraham for our forefather.
 We have Abraham as our father.
 We have Abraham as our father.
 we are descendants of Abraham
 by saying that Abraham is your ancestor
 that you belong to Abraham's family

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Matt. 6:13 (word order for negative)

KJV ASV RSV ESV NRSV NASB NIV HCSB ISV

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And lead us not into temptation
 And bring us not into temptation
 And lead us not into temptation
 And lead us not into temptation
 And do not bring us to the time of trial
 And do not lead us into temptation
 And lead us not into temptation
 And do not bring us into temptation
 And never bring us into temptation
 And lead us not into temptation
 And do not lead us into temptation
 And don't let us yield to temptation
 Do not bring us to hard testing
 Keep us from being tempted

TNIV NET NLT TEV CEV

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Matt. 8:12, hOI ... hUIOI THS BASILEIAS
 This Greek genitive here is the Semitic idiom "sons of ..." which
 does not refer to literal or social sonship. Translating with
 "sons of" (or "children of") does not communicate in standard English
 the original meaning of the idiom.

KJV ASV RSV ESV NRSV NASB NIV HCSB ISV

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the children of the kingdom
 the sons of the kingdom
 the sons of the kingdom
 the sons of the kingdom
 the heirs of the kingdom
 the sons of the kingdom
 the subjects of the kingdom
 the sons of the kingdom
 1 the citizens of that kingdom
 the subjects of the kingdom
 the sons of the kingdom
 those for whom the Kingdom was prepared
 those who should be in the Kingdom
 the ones who should have been in the kingdom

TNIV NET NLT TEV CEV

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Matt. 13:38 ("sons/children of the evil one" does not communicate the Semitic meaning of belonging to (or acting like) the evil one in standard English.)

KJV ASV RSV ESV NRSV NASB NIV HCSB ISV

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the sons of the evil *one*
the sons of the evil *one*
the sons of the evil one
the sons of the evil one
the children of the evil one
the sons of the evil *one*
the sons of the evil one
the sons of the evil one
1 those who belong to the evil one
the people of the evil one
the people of the evil one
the people who belong to the evil one
the people who belong to the Evil One
those who belong to the evil one

TNIV NET NLT TEV CEV

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Matt. 23:15: "son/child of hell" is not standard English, and it does not accurately communicate the meaning of the biblical idiom

KJV ASV RSV ESV NRSV NASB NIV HCSB ISV

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the child of hell
a son of hell
a child of hell
a child of hell
a child of hell
a son of hell
a son of hell
1 fit for hell
1 fit for hell
a child of hell
a child of hell
the child of hell
deserving of going to hell
fit for hell

TNIV NET NLT TEV CEV

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Matt. 23:32: It is not standard English to say "fill up the measure" of something or someone.

KJV ASV RSV ESV NRSV NASB NIV HCSB ISV

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Fill ye up then the measure of your fathers.
Fill ye up then the measure of your fathers.
Fill up, then, the measure of your fathers.
Fill up, then, the measure of your fathers.
Fill up, then, the measure of your ancestors.

TNIV NET NLT TEV CEV

0 Fill up, then, the measure of *the guilt* of your fathers
 0 Fill up, then, the measure of the sin of your forefathers!
 0 Fill up, then, the measure of your fathers' sins!
 1 Then finish what your ancestors started!
 Fill up, then, the measure of the sin of your forefathers!
 Fill up then the measure of your ancestors!
 Go ahead and finish what your ancestors started.
 Finish up what your ancestors started!
 So keep on doing everything they did.

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Mark 3:28: In English only male children are called "sons." But Greek TOIS hUIOS in this verse refers to both males and females.

KJV ASV RSV ESV NRSV NASB NIV HCSB ISV

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the sons of men
 the sons of men
 the sons of men
 the children of man [translation of "man" is a separate issue here]
 people
 the sons of men
 men [probably intended to be gender-inclusive when translated]
 People
 1 people
 people
 people
 all sin and blasphemy can be forgiven
 people
 you

TNIV NET NLT TEV CEV

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Mark 10:9: "let not" is an obsolescent word order

KJV ASV RSV ESV NRSV NASB NIV HCSB ISV

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let not man put asunder
 let not man put asunder
 let not man put asunder
 let not man separate
 let no one separate
 man must not separate
 let man not separate
 man must not separate
 1 man must never separate
 let no one separate
 let no one separate
 let no one split apart
 No human being must separate
 And no one should separate

TNIV NET NLT TEV CEV

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Luke 2:26

(The literal translation of "see death" is non-standard English (a collocational clash) which does not accurately and clearly convey the meaning of the original euphemism to English.)

KJV ASV RSV ESV NRSV NASB NIV HCSB ISV

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that he should not see death
that he should not see death
that he should not see death
that he would not see death
that he would not see death
that he would not see death
that he would not die
that he would not see death
1 that he would not die
that he would not die
that he would not die
that he would not die
that he would not die
that he would not die

TNIV NET NLT TEV CEV

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Luke 13:16: In standard English a woman is not the "daughter" of someone who is her ancestor by more than one generation.

KJV ASV RSV ESV NRSV NASB NIV HCSB ISV

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a daughter of Abraham
a daughter of Abraham
a daughter of Abraham
a daughter of Abraham
a daughter of Abraham
a daughter of Abraham
a daughter of Abraham
a daughter of Abraham
1 a descendant of Abraham
a daughter of Abraham
a daughter of Abraham
a daughter of Abraham
descendant of Abraham
belongs to the family of Abraham

TNIV NET NLT TEV CEV

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Luke 19:9 (Standard English would interpret the literal translation of "son of Abraham" as referring to one of Abraham's sons, not the biblical meaning of "descendant of Abraham.")

KJV ASV RSV ESV NRSV NASB NIV HCSB ISV

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a son of Abraham
a son of Abraham
a son of Abraham
a son of Abraham
a son of Abraham

TNIV NET NLT TEV CEV

0 a son of Abraham
 0 a son of Abraham
 0 a son of Abraham
 1 a descendant of Abraham
 a son of Abraham
 a son of Abraham
 a true son of Abraham
 a descendant of Abraham
 a true son of Abraham

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Luke 19:44 (In standard English days we do not speak of "children within you" except when we are speaking of pregnant women, and that is not the meaning here.)

KJV ASV RSV ESV NRSV NASB NIV HCSB ISV

TNIV NET NLT TEV CEV

0 thy children within thee
 0 thy children within thee
 0 your children within you
 0 your children within you
 0 your children within you
 0 your children within you
 0 your children within you
 1 the children within your walls
 0 your children within you
 1 those who live within your city limits
 the children within your walls
 your children within your walls
 your children with you
 the people within your walls
 your people

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Luke 20:36 (Translating the Semitic idiom of this verse literally as "children/sons of the resurrection" is not standard English and is unlikely to accurately communicate the original meaning to very many speakers of standard English. There are other wordings which can accurately communicate the original meaning in standard English.)

KJV ASV RSV ESV NRSV NASB NIV HCSB ISV

TNIV NET NLT TEV CEV

0 the children of the resurrection
 0 sons of the resurrection
 0 sons of the resurrection
 0 sons of the resurrection
 0 children of the resurrection
 0 sons of the resurrection
 0 children of the resurrection
 0 sons of the resurrection
 0 sons of the resurrection
 1 since they share in the resurrection, are God's children
 children of the resurrection
 sons of the resurrection

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English and therefore is difficult to understand for normal speakers of English. In English people can be resurrected but life cannot be.

KJV ASV RSV ESV NRSV NASB NIV HCSB ISV

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the resurrection of life
the resurrection of life
the resurrection of life
the resurrection of life
the resurrection of life
a resurrection of life
will rise to live
the resurrection of life
1 the resurrection that is life
will rise to live
the resurrection resulting in life
will rise to experience eternal life
will rise and live
will rise to life

TNIV NET NLT TEV CEV

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John 5:29b: Literal translation as "resurrection of judgment" (or "condemnation") is not standard English and therefore is difficult to understand for normal speakers of English. In English people can be resurrected but condemnation cannot be.

KJV ASV RSV ESV NRSV NASB NIV HCSB ISV

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the resurrection of damnation
the resurrection of judgment
the resurrection of judgment
the resurrection of judgment
the resurrection of condemnation
a resurrection of judgment
will rise to be condemned
the resurrection of judgment
1 the resurrection that ends in condemnation
will rise to be condemned
the resurrection resulting in condemnation
will rise to experience judgment
will rise and be condemned
will rise and be condemned

TNIV NET NLT TEV CEV

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John 5:45 (Standard word order for centuries has "do" preceding "not".)

KJV ASV RSV ESV NRSV NASB NIV HCSB ISV

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Do not think that I will accuse you to the Father
Think not that I will accuse you to the Father
Do not think that I shall accuse you to the Father
Do not think that I will accuse you to the Father.
Do not think that I will accuse you before the Father
Do not think that I will accuse you before the Father

TNIV NET NLT TEV CEV

1 do not think I will accuse you before the Father
 1 Do not think that I will accuse you to the Father.
 1 Do not suppose that I will be the one to accuse you before the Father.
 do not think I will accuse you before the Father
 Do not suppose that I will accuse you before the Father
 Yet it isn't I who will accuse you before the Father.
 Do not think, however, that I am the one who will accuse you to my Father.
 Don't think that I will be the one to accuse you to the Father.

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John 6:45: A literal translation as "taught of God" is not standard English for the original meaning, that people will be taught by God.

KJV ASV RSV ESV NRSV NASB NIV HCSB ISV

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taught of God
 taught of God
 taught by God
 taught by God
 taught by God
 taught of God
 taught by God
 taught by God
 1 taught by God
 taught by God
 taught by God
 taught by God
 God will teach all of them.

TNIV NET NLT TEV CEV

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John 7:26 (It would not be standard English to translate this literally as "in openness he speaks" or even "he speaks in openness.")

KJV ASV RSV ESV NRSV NASB NIV HCSB ISV

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he speaketh boldly
 he speaketh openly
 speaking openly
 speaking openly
 speaking openly
 He is speaking publicly
 speaking publicly
 He's speaking publicly
 1 He is speaking in public
 speaking publicly
 speaking publicly
 speaking in public
 talking in public
 speaking for everyone to hear

TNIV NET NLT TEV CEV

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John 12:15: In standard English "daughter of Zion" will be understood to

refer to a woman whose father's name is Zion.

KJV ASV RSV ESV NRSV NASB NIV HCSB ISV

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daughter of Sion
daughter of Zion
daughter of Zion
daughter of Zion
daughter of Zion
DAUGHTER OF ZION
Daughter of Zion
daughter of Zion
1 people of Zion
Daughter Zion
people of Zion
people of Jerusalem
city of Zion
People of Jerusalem

TNIV NET NLT TEV CEV

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John 17:12 (Standard English does not sanction people saying that someone is a son of anything inanimate, so literal translation of this Semitic idiom does not accurately communicate the original meaning.)

KJV ASV RSV ESV NRSV NASB NIV HCSB ISV

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the son of perdition
the son of perdition
the son of perdition
the son of destruction
the one destined to be lost
the son of perdition
the one doomed to destruction
the son of destruction
1 the one who was destined for destruction
the one doomed to destruction
the one destined for destruction
the one headed for destruction
the man who was bound to be lost
the one who had to be lost

TNIV NET NLT TEV CEV

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John 17:17: It is not standard English to sanctify "in" the truth. Truth is not a location, but it can be a means, which could be translated in English with the prepositions "by" or "with."

KJV ASV RSV ESV NRSV NASB NIV HCSB ISV

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Sanctify them through thy truth
Sanctify them in the truth
Sanctify them in the truth
Sanctify them in the truth
Sanctify them in the truth
Sanctify them in the truth

TNIV NET NLT TEV CEV

Rom. 1:5: The "obedience of faith" is not standard English. Faith is inanimate and cannot obey anything. There is ellipsis in the Greek which must be filled in in English for it to make sense.

KJV ASV RSV ESV NRSV NASB NIV HCSB ISV

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obedience to the faith
obedience of faith
the obedience of faith
the obedience of faith
the obedience of faith
the obedience of faith
the obedience that comes from faith
the obedience of faith
1 the obedience that proceeds from faith
to faith and obedience
the obedience of faith
so that they will believe and obey him
to believe and obey
would obey and have faith

TNIV NET NLT TEV CEV

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Rom. 1:17: Literal translation as "from faith to faith" or similar wordings is not standard English. They do not accurately or clearly convey the meaning of the original Greek.

KJV ASV RSV ESV NRSV NASB NIV HCSB ISV

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from faith to faith
from faith unto faith
through faith for faith
from faith for faith
through faith for faith
from faith to faith
by faith from first to last
from faith to faith
0 from faith to faith
by faith from first to last
from faith to faith
from start to finish by faith
through faith from beginning to end
everyone who has faith, but only those who have faith

TNIV NET NLT TEV CEV

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Rom. 4:11: Literal translation as "righteousness of the faith" is not standard English.

KJV ASV RSV ESV NRSV NASB NIV HCSB ISV

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the righteousness of the faith which [he had
the righteousness of the faith which he had
the righteousness which he had by faith
the righteousness that he had by faith
the righteousness that he had by faith
the righteousness of the faith which he had

TNIV NET NLT TEV CEV

KJV ASV RSV ESV NRSV NASB NIV HCSB ISV

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the body of sin
the body of sin
the sinful body
the body of sin
the body of sin
our body of sin
the body of sin
sin's dominion over the body
1 our sinful bodies
the body ruled sin
the body of sin
so that sin might lose its power in our lives
the power of the sinful self
our sinful bodies

Rom. 7:24: Literal translation as "body of death" is not standard English and likely communicates to most English speakers that death has a body, which does not make sense.

TNIV NET NLT TEV CEV

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KJV ASV RSV ESV NRSV NASB NIV HCSB ISV

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the body of this death
the body of this death
this body of death
this body of death
the body of this death
this body of death
this body of death
1 this body that is infected by death
this body of death
this body of death
this life that is dominated by sin and death
this body that is taking me to death
this body that is doomed to die

Rom. 8:9: It is not standard English to be "in the flesh", unless this refers to literally being located in the flesh. Standard English does not seem to have a grammatical category of locative of sphere which formally corresponds to a semantic locative of sphere for Greek.

TNIV NET NLT TEV CEV

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KJV ASV RSV ESV NRSV NASB NIV HCSB ISV

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ye are not in the flesh
ye are not in the flesh
you are not in the flesh
You, however, are not in the flesh
you are not in the flesh
you are not in the flesh
1 You, however, are controlled not by the sinful nature

TNIV NET NLT TEV CEV

KJV ASV RSV ESV NRSV NASB NIV HCSB ISV

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the children of the flesh
the children of the flesh
the children of the flesh
the children of the flesh
the children of the flesh
the children of the flesh
the natural children
the children by physical descent
1 the children of natural descent
the natural children
the children of the flesh
Abraham's physical descendants
the children born in the usual way
Abraham's descendants by his son Isaac

TNIV NET NLT TEV CEV

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Rom. 12:1: It is not standard English to refer to a group which includes both males and females as "brothers."

KJV ASV RSV ESV NRSV NASB NIV HCSB ISV

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I beseech you therefore, brethren
I beseech you therefore, brethren
I appeal to you therefore, brethren
I appeal to you therefore, brothers
I appeal to you therefore, brothers and sisters
Therefore I urge you, brethren
Therefore, I urge you, brothers
Therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, I urge you
0 I therefore urge you, brothers
Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters
Therefore I exhort you, brothers and sisters
And so, dear brothers and sisters, I plead with you
So then, my friends
Dear friends

TNIV NET NLT TEV CEV

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1 Cor. 7:1: "Touch" is not a euphemism for "have intercourse with" in English.

KJV ASV RSV ESV NRSV NASB NIV HCSB ISV

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[It is] good for a man not to touch a woman.
It is good for a man not to touch a woman.
It is well for a man not to touch a woman.
It is good for a man not to have sexual relations with a woman.
It is well for a man not to touch a woman.
it is good for a man not to touch a woman
It is good for a man not to marry.
1 It is good for a man not to have relations with a woman.
1 It's good for a man not to marry.
It is good for a man not to have sexual relations with a woman.

TNIV NET NLT TEV CEV

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It is good for a man not to have sexual relations with a woman.
 it is good to live a celibate life
 A man does well not to marry.
 Is it best for people not to marry?

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1 Cor. 7:15: In standard English one is not "called to/in peace."

KJV ASV RSV ESV NRSV NASB NIV HCSB ISV

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God hath called us to peace
 God hath called us in peace
 God has called us to peace
 God has called you to peace.
 It is to peace that God has called you.
 God has called us to peace
 God has called us to live in peace
 God has called you to peace.
 1 God has called you to live in peace.
 God has called us to live in peace
 God has called you in peace.
 God has called you to live in peace
 God has called you to live in peace.
 God chose you and wants you to live at peace

TNIV NET NLT TEV CEV

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1 Cor. 11:30: "Sleep" is not a euphemism for "die" in standard English.

KJV ASV RSV ESV NRSV NASB NIV HCSB ISV

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many sleep
 not a few sleep
 some have died
 some have died
 some have died
 a number sleep
 a number of you have fallen asleep
 many have fallen asleep
 1 a considerable number are dying
 a number of you have fallen asleep
 quite a few are dead
 some have even died
 several have died
 a lot of others have died

TNIV NET NLT TEV CEV

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1 Cor. 15:17: In standard English one is not "in sin." Translating Greek
 en with English "in" improperly assumes that the form:meaning
 relationship of one language matches the form:meaning relationship of
 another.

KJV ASV RSV ESV NRSV NASB NIV HCSB ISV

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ye are yet in your sins
 ye are yet in your sins
 you are still in your sins

TNIV NET NLT TEV CEV

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you are still in your sins
 you are still in your sins
 you are still in your sins
 you are still in your sins
 you are still in your sins
 1 you are still imprisoned by your sins
 you are still in your sins
 you are still in your sins
 you are still guilty of your sins.
 you are still lost in your sins
 you are still living in your sins

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2 Cor. 3:18: "from glory to glory" is not standard English and so it does not accurately communicate the original biblical meaning to very many speakers of English.

KJV ASV RSV ESV NRSV NASB NIV HCSB ISV

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from glory to glory
 from glory to glory
 one degree of glory to another
 from one degree of glory to another
 from one degree of glory to another
 from glory to glory
 ever-increasing glory
 from glory to glory
 1 with ever-increasing glory
 ever-increasing glory
 from one degree of glory to another
 makes us more and more like him as we are changed into his glorious image
 an ever greater degree of glory
 makes us more and more like our glorious Lord

TNIV NET NLT TEV CEV

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2 Cor. 6:11 (Literal translation as "our mouth is open (un)to you" does not accurately communicate the original meaning of this idiom in any dialect of standard English.)

KJV ASV RSV ESV NRSV NASB NIV HCSB ISV

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our mouth is open unto you
 Our mouth is open unto you
 Our mouth is open to you
 We have spoken frankly to you
 We have spoken freely to you
 Our mouth has spoken freely to you
 We have spoken freely to you
 We have spoken openly to you
 1 We have spoken frankly to you
 We have spoken freely to you
 We have spoken freely to you
 We have spoken honestly with you

TNIV NET NLT TEV CEV

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his glorious grace
 the glory of his grace
 the glorious grace
 his glorious grace
 was very kind to us

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Eph. 1:17a: Translation as "spirit of wisdom" is not the most natural standard English. Some scholars consider it best to analyze the Greek phrase as an attributive genitive and translate to standard English as "spiritual wisdom" (as in the NET, NLT, TEV, and CEV).

KJV ASV RSV ESV NRSV NASB NIV HCSB ISV

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the spirit of wisdom
 a spirit of wisdom
 a spirit of wisdom
 a spirit of wisdom
 a spirit of wisdom
 a spirit of wisdom
 the Spirit of wisdom
 a spirit of wisdom

1 a wise spirit
 the Spirit of wisdom
 spiritual wisdom
 spiritual wisdom
 to give you the Spirit, who will make you wise
 to give you his Spirit. The Spirit will make you wise

TNIV NET NLT TEV CEV

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Eph. 1:17b: Translation as "in the knowledge of him" is not standard English. It is an improper use of the English preposition "in" to correspond to the Greek preposition *en* with the dative case.

KJV ASV RSV ESV NRSV NASB NIV HCSB ISV

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in the knowledge of him
 in the knowledge of him
 in the knowledge of him
 in the knowledge of him
 as you come to know him
 in the knowledge of Him
 so that you may know him better
 in the knowledge of Him

1 through knowing Christ fully
 so that you may know him better
 in your growing knowledge of him
 so that you might grow in your knowledge of God
 so that you will know him
 what it means to know God

TNIV NET NLT TEV CEV

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Eph. 1:18a: It is not standard English to say "the hope of his calling."

KJV ASV RSV ESV NRSV NASB NIV HCSB ISV

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the hope of his calling
the hope of His calling
the hope to which he has called you
the hope to which he has called you
the hope to which he has called you
the hope of His calling
the hope to which he has called you
the hope of His calling
0 the hope of his calling
the hope to which he has called you
the hope of his calling
the confident hope he has given to those he called
the hope to which he has called you
the hope that was given to you when God chose you

TNIV NET NLT TEV CEV

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Eph. 1:18b: It is not standard English to say "the riches of the glory."
Translation with "glorious" as an adjective would be standard English,
reflecting an underlying attributive Greek genitive.

KJV ASV RSV ESV NRSV NASB NIV HCSB ISV

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the riches of the glory of his inheritance
the riches of the glory of his inheritance
the riches of his glorious inheritance
the riches of his glorious inheritance
the riches of his glorious inheritance
the riches of the glory of His inheritance
the riches of his glorious inheritance
the glorious riches of His inheritance
1 the riches of his glorious inheritance
the riches of his glorious inheritance
the wealth of his glorious inheritance
his holy people who are his rich and glorious inheritance
how rich are the wonderful blessings he promises his people
the glorious blessings that will be yours together with all of God's people

TNIV NET NLT TEV CEV

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Eph. 1:18c: In standard English one does not have an inheritance "in" or
"among" a group of people.

KJV ASV RSV ESV NRSV NASB NIV HCSB ISV

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the riches of the glory of his inheritance in the saints
the riches of the glory of his inheritance in the saints
the riches of his glorious inheritance in the saints
the riches of his glorious inheritance among the saints
the riches of his glorious inheritance in the saints
the riches of the glory of His inheritance in the saints
the riches of his glorious inheritance in the saints
0 the glorious riches of His inheritance among the saints

TNIV NET NLT TEV CEV

Col. 1:22: In standard English one is not reconciled "in" the body of someone. The English preposition "in" does not communicate the Greek meaning of instrumentality or means which occurs in this verse. Instead, English uses the preposition "by" for that meaning.

KJV	ASV	RSV	ESV	NRSV	NASB	NIV	HCSB	ISV	TNIV	NET	NLT	TEV	CEV
0								he reconciled					
	0							In the body of his flesh					
		0						he reconciled in the body of his flesh					
			0					he has now reconciled in his body of flesh					
				0				he has now reconciled in his body of flesh					
					0			he has now reconciled in his fleshly body					
						0		He has now reconciled you in His fleshly body					
							1	he has reconciled you by Christ's physical body					
								He has reconciled you by His physical body					
								1 he has now reconciled by the death of his physical body					
								he has reconciled you by Christ's physical body	1				
								he has reconciled you by his physical body		1			
								he has reconciled you to himself through the death of Christ in his physical body			0		
								by means of the physical death of his Son, God has made you his friends				1	
								But his Son became a human and died. So God made peace with you					1

Col. 2:18: Literal translation of the Greek genitive here would be "the mind of his flesh" which is not standard English. And it would basically be meaningless in English. All versions evaluated translated this genitive into standard English, as an adjective.

KJV	ASV	RSV	ESV	NRSV	NASB	NIV	HCSB	ISV	TNIV	NET	NLT	TEV	CEV
1								his fleshly mind					
	1							his fleshly mind					
		1						his sensuous mind					
			1					his sensuous mind					
				1				a human way of thinking					
					1			his fleshly mind					
						1		his unspiritual mind					
							1	his fleshly mind					
								1 his carnal mind					
								their unspiritual minds	1				
								his fleshly mind		1			
								Their sinful minds			1		
								their human way of thinking				1	
								their minds are filled with selfish desires					1

Heb. 2:9a
 Literal translation as "the suffering of death" is not standard English and does not make sense to many English speakers.

KJV	ASV	RSV	ESV	NRSV	NASB	NIV	HCSB	ISV	TNIV	NET	NLT	TEV	CEV
0								for the suffering of death					
	0							because of the suffering of death					

0 because of the suffering of death
 0 because of the suffering of death
 0 because of the suffering of death
 0 because of the suffering of death
 1 because he suffered death
 0 because of the suffering of death
 1 because he suffered death
 because he suffered death
 because he suffered death
 because of the death he suffered
 now that Jesus has suffered and died

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Heb. 2:9b
 Literal translation as "taste death" is a collocational clash in English. It is not a standard English euphemism, whereas it was a frequently used euphemism in the speech of the author of Hebrews.

KJV ASV RSV ESV NRSV NASB NIV HCSB ISV

0 he ... should taste death for every man
 0 he should taste of death for every *man*
 0 he might taste death for everyone
 0 he might taste death for every one
 0 he might taste death for everyone
 0 He might taste death for everyone
 0 he might taste death for everyone
 0 He might taste death for everyone
 1 he might experience death for everyone
 he might taste death for everyone
 he would experience death on behalf of everyone
 Jesus tasted death for everyone
 he should die for everyone
 Jesus died for everyone

TNIV NET NLT TEV CEV

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Heb. 10:22: It is not standard English to speak of "assurance of faith."
 It is difficult to understand what that wording is intended to mean.

KJV ASV RSV ESV NRSV NASB NIV HCSB ISV

0 Let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith
 1 let us draw near with a true heart in fulness of faith
 0 let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith
 0 let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith
 0 let us approach with a true heart in full assurance of faith
 0 let us draw near with a sincere heart in full assurance of faith
 0 let us draw near to God with a sincere heart in full assurance of faith
 0 let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith
 1 let us continue to come near with sincere hearts in the full assurance that faith provides

TNIV NET NLT TEV CEV

let us draw near to God with a sincere heart in full assurance of faith
 let us draw near with a sincere heart in the assurance that faith brings
 let us go right into the presence of God with sincere hearts fully trusting him
 So let us come near to God with a sincere heart and a sure faith
 let's come near God with pure hearts and a confidence that comes from having faith

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Heb. 11:13: It is not standard English to die "in faith."

KJV ASV RSV ESV NRSV NASB NIV HCSB ISV

TNIV NET NLT TEV CEV

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These all died in faith
 These all died in faith
 These all died in faith
 These all died in faith
 All of these died in faith
 All these died in faith
 All these people were still living by faith when they died.
 These all died in faith
 1 All these people died having faith.
 All these people were still living by faith when they died.
 These all died in faith
 All these people died still believing
 It was in faith that all these persons died.
 Every one of those people died. But they still had faith

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Heb. 12:28: Literal translation as "let us have grace" is not standard English. Furthermore, it does not accurately communicate the original idiomatic meaning of being thankful.

KJV ASV RSV ESV NRSV NASB NIV HCSB ISV

TNIV NET NLT TEV CEV

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let us have grace
 let us have grace
 let us be grateful
 let us be grateful
 let us give thanks
 let us show gratitude
 let us be thankful
 0 let us hold on to grace (cf. footnote which gives the figurative meaning)
 1 let us be thankful
 let us be thankful
 let us give thanks
 let us be thankful
 Let us be thankful
 We should be grateful

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James 1:10 ("the rich" is plural in standard English)

KJV ASV RSV ESV NRSV NASB NIV HCSB ISV

TNIV NET NLT TEV CEV

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the rich, in that he is made low:
 the rich, in that he is made low

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the rich in his humiliation
 the rich in his humiliation
 the rich in being brought low
 the rich man is to glory in his humiliation
 the one who is rich should take pride in his low position
 the one who is rich (should boast) in his humiliation
 1 a rich person in his lowliness
 the rich should take pride in their humiliation
 the rich person's pride should be in his humiliation
 those who are rich should boast that God has humbled them
 the rich Christians must be glad when God brings them down
 any who are rich should be glad when God makes them humble

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James 1:23: Literal translation as "observing the face of his birth" is not standard English. It would make little sense to most speakers. But all Bible versions evaluated translated this idiom to natural, standard English which can be accurately and clearly understood by anyone.

KJV ASV RSV ESV NRSV NASB NIV HCSB ISV

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beholding his natural face
 beholding his natural face
 observes his natural face
 looks intently at his natural face
 look at themselves
 looks at his natural face
 looks at his face
 looking at his own face
 1 looks at himself
 look at their faces
 gazes at his own face
 glancing at your face
 see themselves
 stare at themselves

TNIV NET NLT TEV CEV

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James 3:13: In standard English one does not refer to "meekness of wisdom." Wisdom is inanimate and as such cannot be meek.

KJV ASV RSV ESV NRSV NASB NIV HCSB ISV

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with meekness of wisdom
 in meekness of wisdom
 in the meekness of wisdom
 in the meekness of wisdom
 with gentleness born of wisdom
 in the gentleness of wisdom
 in the humility that comes from wisdom
 with wisdom's gentleness
 1 in humility born of wisdom
 in the humility that comes from wisdom

TNIV NET NLT TEV CEV

1

in the gentleness that wisdom brings
 with the humility that comes from wisdom
 with humility and wisdom
 by being humble and wise

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1 Peter 1:13: The Greek idiom here is vivid, literally, "gird up the loins of your mind." But this literal translation is not standard English. Many English speakers would not understand the literal translation unless it is explained to them. But that defeats the purpose of translation which is to allow someone to understand the meaning of words and word constructions in another language.

KJV ASV RSV ESV NRSV NASB NIV HCSB ISV

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gird up the loins of your mind
 girding up the loins of your mind
 gird up your minds
 preparing your minds for action
 prepare your minds for action
 prepare your minds for action
 prepare your minds for action
 get your minds ready for action
 1 prepare your minds for action
 with minds that are alert and fully sober
 get your minds ready for action
 think clearly
 have your minds ready for action
 Be alert

TNIV NET NLT TEV CEV

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1 Peter 2:15: It is standard English to "silence" someone or to "silence" talk, but it is not proper English to "silence" ignorance.

KJV ASV RSV ESV NRSV NASB NIV HCSB ISV

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ye may put to silence the ignorance of foolish men
 ye should put to silence the ignorance of foolish men
 you should put to silence the ignorance of foolish men
 you should put to silence the ignorance of foolish people
 you should silence the ignorance of the foolish
 you may silence the ignorance of foolish men
 forgetting what he has heard
 silence the ignorance of foolish people
 1 you should silence the ignorant talk of foolish people
 you should silence the ignorant talk of the foolish
 silence the ignorance of foolish people
 silence those ignorant people who make foolish accusations
 silence the ignorant talk of foolish people
 silence stupid and ignorant people

TNIV NET NLT TEV CEV

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1 Peter 4:18: In standard English "the righteous" is plural and requires

KJV	ASV	RSV	ESV	NRSV	NASB	NIV	HCSB	ISV	TNIV	NET	NLT	TEV	CEV
								plural number agreement.					
0								if the righteous scarcely be saved (cf. context for evaluation)					
	0							if the righteous is scarcely saved					
		1						If the righteous man is scarcely saved					
			0					If the righteous is scarcely saved					
				1				If it is hard for the righteous to be saved (cf. context for evaluation)					
					0			IF IT IS WITH DIFFICULTY THAT THE RIGHTEOUS IS SAVED					
						0		If it is hard for the righteous to be saved (cf. context for evaluation)					
							0	if the righteous is saved with difficulty					
							1	If it is hard for the righteous person to be saved					
								If it is hard for the righteous to be saved (cf. context for evaluation)	0				
								if the righteous are barely saved, what will become of the ungodly and sinners?		1			
								If the righteous are barely saved, what will happen to godless sinners?			1		
								It is difficult for good people to be saved; what, then, will become of godless sinners?				1	
								If good people barely escape, what will happen to sinners and to others who don't respect God?					1

KJV	ASV	RSV	ESV	NRSV	NASB	NIV	HCSB	ISV	TNIV	NET	NLT	TEV	CEV
								1 John 1:8: It is not standard English for truth to be "in" someone.					
0								the truth is not in us					
	0							the truth is not in us					
		0						the truth is not in us					
			0					the truth is not in us					
				0				the truth is not in us					
					0			the truth is not in us					
						0		the truth is not in us					
							0	the truth is not in us					
								1 we're not being truthful within ourselves (better: "with ourselves", or delete last two words)		0			
								the truth is not in us			0		
								the truth is not in us				0	
								not living in the truth					0
								there is no truth in us					
								the truth isn't in our hearts					0

KJV	ASV	RSV	ESV	NRSV	NASB	NIV	HCSB	ISV	TNIV	NET	NLT	TEV	CEV
								1 John 3:18 (It is not standard English to "love in tongue" or "with the tongue" or "in speech" or "in talk.")					
0								let us not love in word, neither in tongue					
	0							let us not love in word, neither with the tongue					
		0						let us not love in word or speech					
			0					let us not love in word or talk					
				0				let us love, not in word or speech					
					0			let us not love with word or with tongue					
						0		let us not love with words or tongue					
							0	we must not love in word or speech,					
							?	we must stop loving by our words and manner of speech					

let us not love with words or tongue
 let us not love with word or with tongue
 let's not merely say that we love each other
 our love should not be just words and talk
 not merely by talking about it

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1 John 4:16: It is standard English to "believe" someone or some proposition (e.g. believe that ...), but it is proper English to believe something inanimate such as love.

KJV ASV RSV ESV NRSV NASB NIV HCSB ISV

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believed the love that God hath to us
 believe in the love that God has for us
 believe the love God has for us
 believed the love that God has for us
 believe the love that God has for us
 believed the love which God has for us
 rely on the love God has for us
 believe the love that God has for us
 1 rely on the love that God has for us
 rely on the love God has for us
 believe the love that God has in us
 We know how much God loves us, and we have put our trust in his love.
 believe the love which God has for us
 are sure that God loves us

TNIV NET NLT TEV CEV

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1 John 5:10a: It is not standard English to have a testimony "in" yourself or even in your heart.

KJV ASV RSV ESV NRSV NASB NIV HCSB ISV

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He that believeth on the Son of God hath the witness in himself
 He that believeth on the Son of God hath the witness in himself
 He who believes in the Son of God has the testimony in himself.
 Whoever believes in the Son of God has the testimony in himself.
 Those who believe in the Son of God have the testimony in their hearts.
 The one who believes in the Son of God has the testimony in himself
 Anyone who believes in the Son of God has this testimony in his heart.
 The one who believes in the Son of God has the testimony in himself.
 1 The person who believes in the Son of God believes this testimony personally.
 Whoever believes in the Son of God accepts this testimony.
 The one who believes in the Son of God has the testimony in himself
 All who believe in the Son of God know in their hearts that this testimony is true.
 So those who believe in the Son of God have this testimony in their own heart
 If we have faith in God's Son, we have believed what God has said.

TNIV NET NLT TEV CEV

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1 John 5:10b: It is standard English to "believe" the testimony of someone, but not to believe "in" the testimony of someone.

KJV ASV RSV ESV NRSV NASB NIV HCSB ISV

TNIV NET NLT TEV CEV

1									he believeth not the record					
	0								he hath not believed in the witness					
		0							he has not believed in the testimony					
			0						he has not believed in the testimony					
				0					by not believing in the testimony					
					0				he has not believed in the testimony					
						1			he has not believed the testimony					
							0		he has not believed in the testimony					
								1	by not believing the testimony					
									they have not believed the testimony					
									he has not believed in the testimony					
									they don't believe what God has testified					
									they have not believed what God has said					
									we don't believe what God has said					

Rev. 3:20 "Behold" is no longer a standard English translation of the Greek word *idou*.

KJV	ASV	RSV	ESV	NRSV	NASB	NIV	HCSB	ISV	Behold, I stand at the door, and knock					
	0								Behold, I stand at the door and knock					
		0							Behold, I stand at the door and knock					
			0						Behold, I stand at the door and knock.					
				0					Behold, I stand at the door and knock.					
					1				Listen! I am standing at the door, knocking					
						0			Behold, I stand at the door and knock					
							1		Here I am! I stand at the door and knock.					
								1	Listen! I stand at the door and knock.					
									1 Look! I am standing at the door and knocking.					
									Here I am! I stand at the door and knock.					
									Listen! I am standing at the door and knocking!					
									Look! I stand at the door and knock.					
									Listen! I stand at the door and knock					
									Listen! I am standing and knocking at your door					

Rev. 18:7: In standard English one does not "give" torment, suffering, or torture to someone else. Instead, in English we would use the plain verb for this verse, as in "torture her that much."

KJV	ASV	RSV	ESV	NRSV	NASB	NIV	HCSB	ISV	so much torment ... give her					
	0								so much give her of torment					
		0							give her a like measure of torment					
			0						give her a like measure of torment					
				0					give her a like measure of torment					
					0				to the same degree give her torment					
						0			Give her as much torture					
							0		give her that much torment					
								1	inflict on her just as much torture and misery					

TOTAL EXAMPLES
PERCENTAGE = SUM OF HITS / TOTAL VERSES

85

8% KJV
6% ASV
22% RSV
26% ESV
38% NRSV
19% NASB95
61% NIV
35% HCSB
93% ISV

71% TNIV
58% NET
91% NLTse
88% TEV
96% CEV

An evaluation of "?" is not counted in the calculations.

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