



# Language is key for integration

## Growing Participator Approach

Original language learning materials in English

by Greg Thomson: [de.wycliffe.ch/thomson](http://de.wycliffe.ch/thomson)

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## Language is key for integration

«We are working with a group of Afghan refugees who can neither read nor write. A traditional book-based language course isn't helpful», a woman involved with refugees shares with me on the phone. We discuss the difficulty of trying to help someone read and write before being able to understand and speak the new language. When learning a language, understanding comes before speaking. If the sequence is reversed, unfortunate consequences follow: progress is slow and the potential for frustration is high.

Language learning has always been a core competency of Wycliffe. The «Thomson Growing Participant Approach» offers an alternative to foreign language instruction for which reading and writing are not prerequisites. This method provides the learner with a quick start in German/French as a second language, whether he or she can already read and write. Once the learner has achieved a solid foundation during an initial phase ranging from several weeks to months, he or she can attend book-based language instruction.

This method can be used by lay volunteers with no formal teacher training. An explanatory manual, sample lessons and demo-video clips (in German) are all downloadable from our website at no charge. For easy use of these materials, we offer a half-day training upon request.

## Wycliffe - our Mission

Together with God and alongside His Church, we encourage and facilitate Bible translation movements that contribute to the holistic transformation of language communities worldwide.



Wycliffe, Rue de la Poste 16, 2504 Biel  
[www.wycliffe.ch](http://www.wycliffe.ch), [info@wycliffe.ch](mailto:info@wycliffe.ch)