

# How well do you **really** know the material?

As I've interacted with quizzers this year through quizmastering, practices and other interactions, I've been very impressed with the dedication and ability by many of you. It takes a lot of hard work and patience to memorize the material and then apply it in the meet.

I've also observed frustration from some of you all-material quizzers, who expect to be doing better since you know the entire material.

A likely reason you are not attaining the averages you expect is your "standard" for knowing the material is not as high as it should be.

I will lay out some ways to determine if your knowledge of the material is at an appropriate level to succeed at a high level within the District, and at GWI or Internationals.

1. **How long does it take you to recall each verse when you are given the reference?** If it takes you more than 1-3 seconds, you need to review more.
2. **Are you able to quote any verse, word-perfect, the first time?** If you have to quote it more than once to get it word-perfect, you need to review more.
3. **Are you able to distinguish between similar passages?** (e.g. never mixing up "fix your" and "fix our"?) If you occasionally begin quoting the wrong passage, you need to review more.
4. **How quickly can you quote through verses/chapters?** You should be able to quote each verse in about 6-8 seconds (on average). The ability to quote quickly shows that you are not consciously recalling verses—but subconsciously recalling them.
5. **If you are given a key phrase or key word, can you always locate it in the material?**
6. **Can you quote backwards (Heb 1:14, Heb 1:13, Heb 1:12, etc), without much trouble?**

These are all great barometers to benchmark your knowledge of the material. Many of these barometers can be met by simply quoting often (50+ verses daily). Every single time you quote a passage, it becomes further cemented in your long-term memory.

Keep in mind that these are very high standards, and are mainly for those who want to excel at a very high level within the District, qualify for and excel at GWI and qualify for and excel at Internationals.