

it down would perhaps be a better translation. He wrote down the border. But how about this case? I don't think those translators in the days of KJV thought that a young man just caught at random that ~~was~~ way would be able to write down the ~~names~~ ^{names} of 77 leaders and a little bit about them, so when they came to the word write here, they simply translated it "describe." But the Heb. word is "write" and is very interesting evidence of the fact that writing in the days of Gideon was probably much commoner/^{in Palestine} than 20 years ago. Writing was very common in the ancient world. If you question whether writing was common, you just learn cuneiform and read the Code of Hammurabi. You read in that Code where Hammurabi says the King of Babylon c. 1700 B.C, he said, I put this big thing up in the public square so that anybody who thinks that he has been unjustly treated can read it and see what his rights are. Nowadays, if you want to know what your rights are you have to go and pay a lawyer to find out what they are, but in those days he put this up in the public square with the idea that everyone should be able to read. I'll tell you if you start reading that Code of Hammurabi that before you got very far you'd decide you were very wise to learn how to read because Hammurabi says in his code if anybody sees a piece of property in someone else's hands that belongs to him, he can call the police and have that man seized and bring him before the judges and give proof that that is his property, and when he does so the other man will be put to death as a thief unless the other man can bring proof that he acquired it lawfully in which case the man ~~who~~ he acquired it from is put to death as a thief unless he can prove it. You could prove it by bringing the witnesses to testify to your getting it, but they might be out of town but it's a lot safer to have a written document. So you see in those days it was a matter of life and death to be able to read and write.