change to a menu of twenty-eight text objects varying mostly by placement, justification, and shading, or a paint set of twenty-two that gives you the ability to alter colors and import .PCX, .TIF, and .MSP formatted graphics. To view your work from different perspectives, *Form Publisher* allows you to zoom the screen from twenty-five to four hundred percent of normal, plus options to appear on screen horizontally, vertically, or optimized for "best fit".

    Form Publisher is fun to use, and the object oriented approach really makes the tedious act of laying out forms much easier to stomach. Unfortunately, there are a few serious problems. Screen redraw rate, while reasonably fast in default view (since it tends to allow for a relatively small numbers of objects on screen), degrades significantly as more objects are added, and if you include actual views of your imported graphics images, it's an absolute nightmare. Since *Form Publisher* doesn't support multitasking, you can't just switch to another application and allow it to work in the background - you have to wait. If you import a graphic, don't be surprised if the wait is on the order of several minutes, and has to be repeated each time you alter anything on screen. *Form Publisher*'s help system, though context sensitive in spots (most dialog boxes include a "help" option), doesn't lend itself well to ad-hoc queries. If you use either the command summary or index to get help (they can be navigated **only** with scroll bars), you usually need to restart at the top of the alphabetical list for each subject you look up.

    Then, there's printing. *Form Publisher* works best with Postscript printers, and the results gotten by those with dot matrix devices or Hewlett-Packard compatible lasers can be disappointing. Dot matrix printers can handle the forms, although at low resolutions, but PCL printers are dealt with in one of two ways, neither of which is acceptable. Either you wait a long time for your jobs to print (with the same ramifications as apply to screen redraws), or you use a special "H-P PRINT" mode that bypasses *Windows*' printer driver altogether, requiring you to download fonts manually and compile graphics as H-P printer macros before printing documents. There are alternate drivers available for PCL printers running under *Windows* (notably Zenographics' *SuperPrint*, also reviewed in this issue) that ease the problem and provide better output to boot, but neither that nor the problem's stemming more from the state of the Microsoft-produced driver then from conditions internal to *Form Publisher* offers much consolation when you're standing there wide-eyed and waiting.

    Documentation explains the printing and screen refresh problems adequately, but offers no real solutions. Parts of the program, such as creating printer macros and using the bundled scanner control software (H-P only) aren't afforded even this level of attention, so you're mostly on your own when it comes to learning *Form Publisher*, but we'll end the same way we started: with 601 forms ready to go, it may not matter.

Language Master
Franklin Software

    If your word processor's dictionary and thesaurus ever leave you feeling as if there ought to be more, *Language Master* may be just what you're looking for. If you're using one not endowed with those features, (and it happens to run under *Windows*), look no further.

    OK, now back to reality. Except for *Windows*'

own Write, we don't know of a word processor designed for the environment that doesn't have both effects built in. Does that mean that the *Windows* version of *Language Master* is a product without a purpose? Well, no.

Installed automatically in whatever directory you choose, occupying two megabytes of disk space, and documented in under thirty pages, there doesn't seem to be that much to say about *Language Master*. Beyond naming your word processor - *Amí Professional*, *Word for Windows*, "generic" or Custom (differentiated primarily by their ability to allow certain keystroke combinations to cut and paste text and "pop up" *Language Master* without conflict), there isn't even a setup procedure. To use *Language Master*, you need do nothing more complicated then enter the word you wish to work with into a box clearly designed for the purpose, either manually, or from another program. While any product can communicate with *Language Master* via *Windows*' Clipboard (at least in 386 enhanced mode), you'll need to be using a program designed for *Windows* if you want to hot-key into *Language Master*. With *Language Master* running, simply highlight the word you want to check, pop up the utility, and your word will be looked up. Switching between dictionary and thesaurus function is no more difficult then clicking the correct "radio button".

That's all there is to using the product effectively, but *Language Master* offers more. Besides providing definitions, synonyms, antonyms, and contrasting, compared, and related words, *Language Master* shows syllabic break points and parts of speech. Like a printed dictionary, *Language Master* even gives variants ("working" and "worked" for "work") and matches inflection in the thesaurus; typing "jumped" yields "bounced", while "working" produces "toiling". You also get spelling correction, and the best tool for cheating at crossword puzzles ever devised. How would you like to type "i??or???ion" and be told that the words "importation" and "information" fit the bill?

Language Master also will work with *Windows* programs other then word processors, such as the *Excel* spreadsheet, and allow for dynamic switching to responses for words that are part of the result of a search; just highlight the word in question and click the "lookup" button or press <Enter>. It remembers