



Wordiness

Welcome to DigiMar videos!

In this video, we will focus on wordiness or messages containing too many words, which may make the message unclear.

If we want to keep communication clear, each phrase should contain only one topic, and the sentences need to have a simple structure.

After watching this video, you will be able to recognize wordiness and alternative ways to structure the same content.

This video uses examples from real-life scenarios. They may have been kept in their authentic form to support learning, even when they include mistakes or deviate from maritime communication standards.

Let us start with an example. DigiMar VTS asks Motor Vessel Sunrise to keep a lookout for a reported missing surfer.

There is a possibility that there is one surfer in the sea around your position. I repeat. There's one possibility, keep a sharp lookout if you can see any person. I know it's hard but keep a sharp lookout, just keep sharp lookout if you, if there is any surfer. It is a possibility that there is surfer around your position on surfing a board or just keep sharp lookout.

What are the main points that the VTS officer wants to communicate?

- Tell the vessel there is a reported missing surfer near the vessel's position (he repeats this part of the message).
- Ask the vessel to keep a sharp lookout for the missing surfer.

Let us consider this alternative way to convey the same meaning. DigiMar VTS asks Motor Vessel Sunrise to keep a lookout for a reported missing surfer.

Information. Reported a missing surfer in the sea in your position. I repeat. Reported a missing surfer in the sea in your position. Request. Keep a sharp lookout. I repeat. Keep a sharp lookout.

In this case, no unnecessary words are used, each phrase contains one topic, and all sentences have a simple structure.

Let us have a look at another example. DigiMar VTS informs MV Sunrise to contact the Harbour Master to ask them for the permission to drift.

Okay, understood. If you want to drift a safe distance from the coast, that depends on the Harbour Master, so ask them for the permission on channel zero eight, yes, and arrange with the Harbour Master either to drift or to drop the anchor, or for the best option, just for your information, around midnight tonight, local time, you should go inside.



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What are the main points that the VTS officer wants to convey?

- Tell the vessel to call the Harbour Master on channel 08 for the permission to drift.
- Support this statement by informing the vessel that pilot boarding time is around 00.00 local time.

Let us consider this alternative way to convey the same meaning.

Received. Call the Harbour Master on channel 08 for the permission to drift.

In this case again, no unnecessary words are used, each phrase contains one topic, and only relevant information is conveyed.

In the VTS Voice Communications and Phraseology published by the International Association of Lighthouse Authorities you will find more information on the importance of avoiding wordiness on pages 9–10.

We hope that this video has been useful and that it will help you to successfully complete the chatbot exercises available at: <https://digimar.si/category/digital-tools/chatbots/>

Thank you for watching and stay tuned for more Digimar videos on effective maritime communication!