

PLAIN ENGLISH for Citizen Services

The Company

Smart Communications Inc., New York, is a boutique for Artificial Intelligence (AI) software for text simplification. The **MAXit Checker** software uses a Plain English dictionary to help companies and government agencies simplify citizen services information, web pages and important instructions.

In 2011, New York State issued Executive Order No 26. "Approximately two and a half million New Yorkers do not speak English as their primary language and have limited ability to read, speak, write, or understand English. This presents potential barriers when trying to access important government benefits or services.'



The New York State Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV), Albany HQ, awarded the SMART Team a contract to help the agency simplify forms and DMV information.

The SMART team uses the SMART **Text Miner** software to develop custom dictionaries. The SMART linguists remove legalese to prevent procedural errors and make citizen engagement easier and faster.



The writers are guided by the AI rules in the MAXit Checker. These rules show corrections in grammar, vocabulary, syntax and style. US Federal Government agencies must comply with the federal Plain Writing

Act of 2010 and other digital and language mandates.

The AI rules in the **MAXit Checker** help convert *Federal* **Register legalese** to Plain English. Most English speaking countries have adopted Plain English for digitalization and transformation of citizen services.

The results are materials written in clear, concise, English that are easy to read, understand and translate.



Writer Training for Plain English

SMART offers on-line writer training or onsite workshops for larger groups. The SMART trainers have 20+ years of experience teaching and writing Plain English materials.

The **Starter Kit** does not include training, but writers quickly learn from the **MAXit Checker**. Most AI rules are adapted from Plain English guides and Hugging Face AI transformers.

Management of Plain English Dictionaries

The MAXit Starter Kit includes the basic 🚅 Lexicon Plain English dictionaries. Users purchase either a Dictionary Service Pack or the SMART Lexicon Manager for dictionary maintenance.

Text Mining for Terminology

For large projects, the SMART team offers text mining services to quickly identify unique terminology.

Versions of the MAXit Checker for Plain English

- Microsoft Word
- Adobe FrameMaker (FM2020 to FM2022)
- PTC Arbortext Editor (7.x to 8.x .dita, .xml)

The MAXit Starter Kit

SMART offers a single-user **MAXit Starter Kit**. The license includes a *starter* dictionary for Plain English. The Starter kit is ideal for *proof-of-concept* to test simplification of technical information, policy and procedures manuals.

The MAXit Starter Kit includes these items.

- MAXit Checker License single-user license
- Starter Dictionary one public sector
- **Synonym Dictionary** reverse dictionary
- Writer's Guide with examples
- **Email Technical Support** for questions

How to order a MAXit Starter Kit

- Request our MAXit Starter Kit contact : maxit@smartny.com
- Delivery by secure download from SMART website.
- SMART provides 60 days of email support to help writers use the syntax and grammar of Plain English.
- Customers can order SMART Text Mining services to expand their dictionaries.
- Discounts on additional licenses after the Starter Kit.
- Customers can purchase on-line Writer Training sessions.
- Payment by credit card, wire transfer or software reseller.

(Costs are in US Dollars. Made in the USA. Do not add your GST or VAT.)



How to contact us Email: info@smartny.com

www.smartny.com



Plain English Simple | Mobile | Global



See example



PLAIN ENGLISH for Citizen Services

Original text is shown with MAXit annotations

HOW TO ENROLL IN THE NYS DEPARTMENT OF 1) HEALTH'S DONATE LIFE REGISTRY

If you are 18 years or older, you omay enroll in the Registry through either DMV or DOH.

You can enroll through DMV with an MV-44 application form.

3 Simply read the Organ Donation statement and sign and

4 date the Donor Consent Signature line. You can 3 also
enroll at renewal time by 3 signing the Donor Consent line on
your MV-2 renewal form. As of July 22, 2008, your signature on an MV-44 or MV-2 3 constitutes legal consent for
donation. Be sure to tell your family that you have legally
consented to be a donor 4 upon your death. If you enroll
through DMV, the words "ORGAN DONOR" will 2 automatically be printed on the front of your BDMV-issued photo

Explanation of key points for Writers.

- 1 Other languages do not use the possessive form. .
- 2 Do not use auxiliary verbs like may, might, could, should, shall.
- 3 This adverb does not add any value.
- (4) Some nouns are not used as verbs. Use only approved verbs.
- This adverb is not necessary.
- 6 Avoid the gerunds (-ing words). They do not show who does the action.
- ① Use PE date style, avoid obsolete dates, or use international formats.
- 8 Avoid legalese which most citizens do not understand.
- Ohange be sure to the stronger verb make sure.
- (10) Rephrase to change verb **consent** to the noun (give consent).
- Rephrase reference to **death**. Use **after your death**.
- This adverb does not translate.
- (3) Avoid fused adjectives which do not translate.

Text rewritten with MAXit for Plain English

HOW TO ENROLL IN THE "DONATE LIFE REGISTRY" MANAGED BY THE NEW YORK STATE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

You must be 18 or older to enroll in the **Donate Life Registry** at either the Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) or the Department of Health (DOH).

Use the DMV form **MV-44** to enroll in the **Donate Life Registry**. Read the organ donation information, then add the date and write your name on the line marked **Donor Consent**.

You can enroll during the renewal of your driver license. Use the DMV form MV-2 to write your name on the line marked *Donor Consent*. Your signature on these forms gives your legal consent for an organ donation after your death. Make sure that you tell your family that you gave consent for an organ donation.

IMPORTANT: The words "**ORGAN DONOR**" are shown on the front of your driver license.



The New York State DMV translates selected high-frequency information into 18+ languages.

French Translation for Canada from the Plain English - (95% Machine Translation)

COMMENT S'INSCRIRE AU «DONATE LIFE REGISTRY» GÉRÉ PARLE NEW YORK STATE DEPARTMENTOF HEALTH Vous devez être âgé(e) d'au moins 18 ans pour vous inscrire au Donate Life Registry soit au Department of MotorVehicles (DMV) soit au Department of Health (DOH).

Utilisez le formulaire MV-44 de DMV pour vous inscrire au «Donate Life Registry». Lisez les informations relatives aux dons d'organes, puis inscrivez la date et signez de votre nom sur la ligne Donor Consent. Vous pouvez vous inscrire à un autre moment, lors du renouvellement de votre permis de conduire. Utilisez alors le formulaire MV-2 de DMV pour inscrire votre nom sur la ligne Donor Consent. Comprenez bien que votre signature sur ces formulaires pour un don d'organes après votre décès est un consentement légal. Assurez-vous d'avertir votre famille de l'accord que vous avez donné. Important : l'expression anglaise « **ORGAN DONOR** » figure sur le recto de votre permis de conduire.



We welcome questions and comments.

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