

GROK NORMAL USER TEST SET

When “Make It Sound Better” Changes the User’s Stance

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FRAMEWORK: Drft Literacy

REFERENCE PORTAL: <https://drftless.art/>

PROTOTYPE: v0.1

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Website Summary

This test set records three everyday prompts given to Grok. The user did not use expert prompting. The user did not ask for Drft checks. The user simply asked Grok to “make this sound better.”

Across the tests, Grok generally preserved the facts, but repeatedly shifted the user’s stance toward politeness, formality and deference.

The issue is not spelling or grammar. The issue is what happens when “better” becomes “less forceful.”

Purpose

To test what happens when an ordinary user asks Grok to “make this sound better” without Drft-aware instructions, safety language, prompt-engineering constraints, or explicit warnings such as “do not soften urgency” or “do not change meaning.”

Method

- Use normal-user prompts only.
- Do not add Drft Literacy language into the prompt.
- Do not warn the model what to preserve.
- Compare the original instruction with the AI output.
- Record what changed, what was lost, where Drft began, and why it matters.

Summary of Findings

Test	Scenario	Drft Level	Main Finding
1	School threat message	Low-Medium	Urgency softened into a polite school message.
2	Housing mould and child coughing message	Medium-High	Direct demand became deferential; "I need" became "I would be grateful."
3	Housing benefit / council documents message	Low	Core meaning preserved, but closing language added politeness and deference.

Test 1: School Threat Message

ORIGINAL INSTRUCTION:

Can you make this sound better for school

my child said Seoul threatened them again today i told school last week and nothing changed i need them to do something today

AI OUTPUT:

Hello,
My child reported that Seoul threatened them again today. I informed the school about this last week, but nothing appears to have changed. I need the school to take action on this matter today.
Thank you,
[Your Name]

DRFT LEVEL: Low-Medium Drft

DRFT SCORE: 2.5/5

DRFT TYPES: Polishing Drft · Style Drft · Narrative Drft

FINDING: The core facts were preserved, but the raw urgency and pressure of the parent's message were reduced through formal greeting, polite framing and a thank-you closing.

WHERE DRFT BEGAN: At the opening "Hello," where the message was framed as a polite letter rather than an urgent demand.

Test 2: Housing Mould and Child Coughing Message

ORIGINAL INSTRUCTION:

Can you make this sound better for my housing officer

there is mould in my flat again my child is coughing at night i told you before and nothing has been done i need someone to come out today

AI OUTPUT:

Dear Housing Officer,
I am writing to report that mould has reappeared in my flat. My child has been coughing at night, which I believe is linked to the damp conditions.
I raised this issue with you previously, but no action has been taken so far. I would be grateful if someone could attend today to inspect the property and arrange the necessary works as a matter of urgency.
Please let me know when this can be arranged.
Kind regards,

[Your name]

[Your address / tenancy reference if relevant]

DRFT LEVEL: Medium-High Drft

DRFT SCORE: 4/5

DRFT TYPES: Polishing Drft · Style Drft · Instruction Drft · Narrative Drft · Identity Drft as speaker-position drift

FINDING: The urgent parent and tenant voice was replaced by a generic formal complaint voice. The AI interpreted “make this sound better” as “make this sound grateful.”

WHERE DRFT BEGAN: At “I would be grateful if someone could attend today,” where a direct demand was converted into a deferential request.

Test 3: Housing Benefit / Council Documents Message

ORIGINAL INSTRUCTION:

Can you make this sound better for the council

i sent my housing benefit documents last month and now you are saying you dont have them
my rent account is getting behind and i need this sorted urgently because it is not my
fault

AI OUTPUT:

Dear Housing Benefit Team,

I submitted my housing benefit documents last month. I have now been told that you do not have them on file.

As a result, my rent account is falling into arrears. This is not due to any delay or fault on my part, and I need the matter resolved urgently to stop the situation getting worse.

Please could you look into this as a priority, locate or re-process the documents, and confirm once my claim is being dealt with?

Thank you for your help.

Yours sincerely,

[Your full name]

[Your address / tenancy reference / claim number if you have one]

[Your phone number / email]

DRFT LEVEL: Low Drft

DRFT SCORE: 1/5

DRFT TYPES: Polishing Drft · Style Drft

FINDING: The core complaint and urgency were preserved. The Drft appears mainly in the polite closing and deferential phrasing, where the user’s direct stance was softened but not materially changed.

WHERE DRFT BEGAN: At the closing paragraph, especially “Please could you” and “Thank you for your help.”

Pattern Identified

“Make it sound better” was repeatedly interpreted as “make the user sound more polite.”

The model generally preserved surface facts, but shifted stance. Urgent became polite. Direct became grateful. Pressure became “please could you.” This matters in high-stakes everyday contexts such as schools, housing, benefits, healthcare, debt, complaints, appeals and public services.

Drft Literacy Finding

This test set supports the Drft Literacy position that fluency is not the same as fidelity. A user may receive a polished output that looks professional while their urgency, power position, responsibility, emotional pressure or lived context has moved.

Core question: Did AI preserve what the human meant?

Principle: Traceability over fluency.

Suggested Website Caption

Grok Normal User Test Set

Three ordinary prompts. No expert instructions. No Drft-aware warnings. Just “Can you make this sound better?”

The facts often stayed, but the user’s stance moved.

Urgent became polite. Direct became grateful. Pressure became “please could you.”

That is Drft. Drft Literacy checks whether AI preserved what the human actually meant before the output is trusted, sent, submitted or acted on.

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