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## USING A CASE STUDY AT THE LESSONS OF MARITIME ENGLISH

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**Abstract.** The article focuses on the effective communication, that is crucial in the maritime industry, where precision and clarity can impact safety and operational efficiency. This paper explores the integration of case studies in Maritime English lessons as a pedagogical approach to enhance language proficiency and situational awareness among maritime professionals. The article analyzes real-world scenarios, when students are engaged in problem-solving exercises that improve their ability to comprehend and use specialized terminology within authentic contexts. The study highlights the benefits of case-based learning, including the development of critical thinking, teamwork, and professional communication skills. The findings suggest that applying case studies facilitates deeper understanding and retention of language concepts while preparing learners for practical challenges in maritime settings.

**Keywords.** Case Study Method, Language Proficiency, Situational Awareness, Communication Skills, Problem-Solving, Critical Thinking.

**Introduction.** Maritime English serves as the universal linguistic framework for professionals in the industry, enabling seamless interaction between crew members, officers, and shore personnel. However, mastering this specialized language requires more than theoretical knowledge, it demands practical application within real-world contexts.

This paper explores the integration of case studies as a pedagogical approach in Maritime English lessons, emphasizing their role in enhancing comprehension and communicative competence. By immersing students in authentic scenarios, case-based learning fosters critical thinking, problem-solving, and language adaptability, preparing them for the challenges of onboard communication. The study examines the effectiveness of this method, highlighting its benefits in improving situational awareness and professional dialogue.

**Purpose and Objectives of the Study.** The primary purpose of this study is to evaluate the effectiveness of using case studies in Maritime English lessons to improve language proficiency, situational awareness, and professional communication skills among maritime students and professionals. By integrating real-world scenarios, the study aims to bridge the gap between theoretical learning and practical application, ensuring that learners develop essential language competencies required in maritime contexts.

**Research Results and Their Discussion.** Case studies are a powerful tool in Maritime English lessons, helping students develop practical language skills in real-world contexts. They allow learners to engage with authentic scenarios, improving their ability to communicate effectively in maritime settings.

The basic requirements for a successful case teaching experience are:

- an appropriate case;
- well-prepared students who are engaged with the material in a discussion;
- an instructor who knows the case, has a plan for the discussion, and is ready to deal with the unexpected.

To be most effective, use of the case method should be embedded in the course syllabus, so that learning in this way is one of the objectives of the course, and students have ample opportunity to practice their skills as case discussants. Going through the following steps, in order, will help you achieve that goal [5].

**Engaging Effectively in Case Study Discussions.** Even students with strong verbal skills require guidance to become effective participants in case study discussions. While they may be comfortable responding to direct questions from an instructor, they often have limited experience in dynamic classroom conversations involving peer interactions. Successful case discussions require active engagement, responsiveness to classmates' contributions, evidence-based arguments, role-playing, and teamwork in small groups. Mastering these skills involves a structured approach with three key steps [4, 289].

1. Establishing clear expectations. Begin by outlining your educational goals and explaining why case discussions are valuable in learning. Set clear participation guidelines to ensure productive dialogue: what approach to take for follow-up questions or debates, what tools (e.g., blackboard, digital notes) to be used to track discussions. The more students understand the structure and expectations, the better they can engage in meaningful discussions [5].

2. Demonstrating effective participation. Model the behaviors you expect from students by: encouraging open-ended questions that drive deeper analysis, active listening instead of immediately intervening with explanations, allowing discussions to flow naturally without strict control. By fostering an open and interactive environment, students can develop their confidence in engaging with case material.

3. Reflecting on the discussion process. After each case study, dedicate time to analyzing the discussion: What helped move the conversation forward? Were there any obstacles that hindered progress? How did your facilitation impact the discussion? What insights can students apply in future discussions? [4, 291].

There are also some key benefits of using Case studies in Maritime English:

**1). Realistic Contexts.** Students analyze real-life maritime situations, enhancing their problem-solving skills. Integrating realistic contexts into language learning enhances students' ability to apply theoretical knowledge in authentic situations. The case study method plays a crucial role in creating immersive learning environments where learners engage with real-world scenarios, improving communication, problem-solving, and critical thinking skills [1, 42].

Simulated professional scenarios engage students in Maritime English dialogues, role-playing onboard communication. Authentic Materials help to incorporate real-life maritime reports, radio conversations, and incident analyses for language development. Problem-Based Learning (PBL) also uses case studies to encourage practical decision-making.

Guidelines for Creating Effective Realistic Contexts: Align scenarios with learning goals; ensure case studies match the linguistic challenges students need to overcome; use interactive approaches; encourage discussions, role-playing, and problem-solving exercises; incorporate industry-specific terminology; help students build professional vocabulary through authentic communication; encourage reflection and feedback; guide students in analyzing their responses and improving language application [3, 94].

**2). Improved Communication.** Case study and discussions encourage the use of precise maritime terminology and structured dialogue. Effective communication is at the core of successful language acquisition. The case study method enhances communication skills by immersing learners in real-world interactions, helping them develop fluency, accuracy, and confidence [2].

Authentic Conversations simulates professional discussions, maritime commands, and emergency responses. It teaches problem-solving skills in teams, engages students in collaborative decision-making, reinforcing effective

communication. Standardized language use promotes accuracy in technical vocabulary, particularly in Maritime English contexts.

It helps learners apply language naturally in realistic scenarios, encourages peer interaction, implements structured feedback, provides students with insights on improving clarity and articulation. It can also help to integrate technology and multimedia tools, such as recorded dialogues, enhance pronunciation and comprehension [5].

**3). Critical Thinking.** This method helps learners assess situations, make decisions, and apply language skills practically. Critical thinking plays a vital role in language learning, enabling students to analyze, evaluate, and apply linguistic knowledge in practical contexts. The case study method fosters critical thinking by engaging learners in problem-solving, reasoning, and decision-making within authentic scenarios. It encourages open-ended discussions, stimulates reasoning and interpretation, uses problem-solving tasks, challenges students to think critically about maritime communication, integrates reflective exercises, encourages learners to assess their thought processes and linguistic choices, promotes evidence-based learning and supports logical reasoning through factual case analysis [3, 96].

**4). Teamwork and Collaboration.** The case study method simulates onboard communication, preparing students for professional interactions. Effective teamwork and collaboration are essential in maritime communication, ensuring operational efficiency and safety. Maritime English plays a crucial role in fostering clear, standardized communication among multinational crew members, enhancing coordination, problem-solving, and decision-making in high-pressure situations.

Well-coordinated communication prevents errors and improves workflow. It also ensures safety. Precise language use and structured interactions reduce misunderstandings in emergency situations. Standardized Maritime English helps bridge linguistic gaps among international crews. This method strengthens leadership and decision-making, as effective communication supports command structures on board [1, 45].

It helps in overcoming language barriers in diverse maritime environments, using standard marine communication phrases (SMCP). The role of structured phrases is invaluable in ensuring clarity during operations [2].

**Conclusions.** The integration of the case study method in language learning provides a powerful approach to bridging the gap between theoretical knowledge and practical application. By engaging students in real-world scenarios, case-based learning enhances critical thinking, problem-solving, and communication skills, fostering a deeper understanding of language in authentic contexts.

Learning to navigate case discussions is a skill that improves with practice. By setting clear expectations, guiding student interactions, and encouraging reflective thinking, discussions will become more dynamic, insightful, and rewarding over time.

This study highlights the pedagogical advantages of using case studies, particularly in Maritime English education, where clarity, precision, and situational

awareness are vital. Structured case-based exercises not only improve language proficiency but also encourage collaborative engagement, preparing learners for professional interactions and complex communication challenges.

Moving forward, effective implementation of case studies requires thoughtful case selection, interactive methodologies, and reflective learning practices. Educators should tailor case-based approaches to students' proficiency levels, incorporate multimedia tools, and emphasize discussion-based learning to maximize effectiveness.

By adopting these strategies, the case study method can significantly enhance language acquisition, ensuring learners develop the skills needed for effective, professional, and contextually appropriate communication.

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## ПРАВО ТА КРИТИЧНИЙ АНАЛІЗ ДИСКУРСУ

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У можливостей дискурсивного аналізу є різні джерела походження та традиції. Наприклад, зі сфери лінгвістики та теорії літератури з'явилася юридична семіотика та деконструкція у той час, коли з філософії чітко виділилася юридична герменевтика. З іншого боку, відповідно до наявних традицій право покращило комунікативну теорію права, критичну та наративну теорію права, а також теорію комунікативних дій.