



ACRONYMS AND SLANG IN MODERN ENGLISH

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The history of the English language

- The Romans invaded Britain in about 55 BC. They spoke Latin, and as they brought Christianity to Britain, Latin was the language of the church, and therefore of all writing at that time — only the monks learned to write! But Latin did not stay as a spoken language after the Romans left in 400 AD.
- The real origins of English come from languages spoken by the Anglo-Saxons, who came from Denmark, Holland and Northern Germany. In fact, even the word “English” comes from the name of their language - “Englisc”, and the name “England” comes from “Angle Land”. The Anglo-Saxon languages gave English its shorter, informal words. Then more short, simple words were brought by the Vikings, who invaded from Denmark, Norway and Sweden between the years 789 and 1069.
- The Normans brought the French language in 1066, which had its origins in Latin (because the French were ruled by the Romans for so long). French words were much more complex than English words. The French language became the language of the Royal Court, and therefore also of the ruling and business classes. Latin was still the language of the church and English was the language of the common, uneducated man.
- So, the Anglo-Saxon, Viking, Latin and Norman French languages are the main ingredients of modern English. The Renaissance period in Europe from the 15th to the 17th centuries brought even more influences to English. Words originating from Latin and French are still used in the formal and business language of today.

Definitions

Tea

Shook

- Slang is vocabulary that is used between people who belong to the same social group and who know each other well. It is mostly used in speaking rather writing. Slang normally refers to particular words and meanings but can include longer expressions and idioms. (ex: slay, busted)
- Acronyms are a pronounceable words formed mostly (but not always) from the initial letters of a descriptive name or title. (ex: ASAP = as soon as possible) It is often mistaken with abbreviations that are just shorted forms of a word or phrase used mainly in writhing to represent the complete form. (abbr. for abbreviation)

Tbh

Low Key

Usage in speech

- Language changes all the time. New words and phrases appear and evolve. The words and pronunciations used by young people in the UK can be very different to those used by adults. TV, music and the Internet have a big impact on the language of the young.
- Young British people use lots of language that you usually can't find in most dictionaries. These extremely informal words and expressions are known as 'slang'. It is not possible to make a complete list of modern British slang. By the time the list was finished, it would be out of date.

◦ Both slang and acronyms are used in speech for making language more informal and easy. They often can be a great way to express yourself more accurately as they carry certain meanings that cannot be conveyed in normal words. As you might have guessed, these language techniques are usually used by the younger generation because most of these forms have come from the Internet. And hearing such slang became a common thing in society, so it does not sound funny or ridiculous.



Pluses and minuses

- + It is a good way of communication between teenagers as it promotes cohesion within a community. While using slang or acronyms, there is a better understanding and the atmosphere seems to be more calm and comfortable.
- + Usage of them helps the language upgrade itself. English is constantly developing so slang is a good way to make it more modern than it already was. It broadens the English language by adding more words and phrases
- + People can learn history from slang words of different eras.
- It is common that new words are considered as bad because they pollute the language.
- It becomes harder for other people to assimilate into your community. The use of slang becomes one more way for people to discriminate, and newcomers are often ridiculed for their attempted use of this slang.

Examples

Shade

Acronyms in slang (internet abbreviations) and slang words:

SMH, TBH, IDC, IMO (IMHO), BTW, BRB, IRL, LOL, OMG, POV, ROLF, TNX, PLS, OFC

BAE – before anyone else

Basic: A put-down describing someone or something that's very common

Dying: Something that was so funny, you died laughing

Extra: If someone's "extra," it means they're way too dramatic

Fierce: signifies a strong, independent person

Low key: If someone or something is "low key," it means it's being done under the radar or they don't want anyone to know.

On point: Outstanding, perfectly executed

Woke: Slang for "awakened," as in being highly aware of social injustices.

Shook: very surprised

Tea (T) is primarily used to describe gossip or refers to some juicy information

Yas

Realness