

Slang

Slang is an informal dialect of a language that is used in everyday communication by a group of people – often young people. Slang words generally have symbolic rather than direct meanings, and knowing those meanings helps you to feel like a member of the group. Slang occurs in every country and every language; in the US, it is sometimes called "street language" or the "language of young people" – although the latter usually by old people who had their own slang when they were younger. Slang also follows its own trends, creating something unique to each generation.

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In Vietnam, slang was once mostly borrowed from Chinese, but, with greater emphasis on English in schools, it is increasingly formed by borrowing English words. Because slang is an unofficial form of speech, it can be used for fun or entertainment or with close friends, but it should be used only in appropriate contexts. Slang is a bad idea in formal communication, both because it can give a poor impression and because there is a risk it will not be understood. Nevertheless, some young people still use slang in tests and even in graduation exams.

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Why do members of a group use slang?

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Why is using slang in an exam a bad idea?

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What slang words do you use?