

SlangLane Classroom & ESL Teacher Kit (100% SFW Edition)

Open Educational Resource (OER) under CC BY 4.0 | 79 General-Audience Expressions,
45-Minute Lesson Plan & Worksheet

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Interactive ESL Hub & Printable Web View: <https://slanglane.com/esl>

Custom 5-Word Classroom Quiz Maker: <https://slanglane.com/esl/quiz-maker>

Anki & Quizlet Flashcard TSV Download: <https://slanglane.com/api/dataset.tsv?mature=false>

Classroom-Safe SFW CSV Dataset (CC BY 4.0): <https://slanglane.com/api/dataset.csv?mature=false>

1. 45-Minute B1-C2 ESL Lesson Plan: Register, Irony & Reading the Room

Objective: Help second-language English learners distinguish between literal definitions, playful group-chat hyperbole (e.g., "cooked", "delulu", "ate"), hedging markers ("lowkey", "no cap"), and British/Irish everyday conversational slang ("craic", "grand", "knackered", "skint"). All entries in this curriculum are strictly filtered to general-audience (100% SFW) vocabulary.

Step 1 - Warm-Up (10 min): Write "I am lowkey cooked before Friday's exam" and "That presentation ate" on the board. Ask students what cook and eat mean literally, then contrast with informal group-chat register.

Step 2 - Register Sorting (15 min): Pairs sort 6 expressions below into: (A) Group chat with friends, (B) Casual spoken English, and (C) Avoid in formal client or academic writing.

Step 3 - US, UK & Irish Contrast (10 min): Compare Irish/UK everyday expressions (craic, grand, sound, knackered, gutted, gobsmacked, skint) with online/US slang (bet, mid, rent-free, side quest).

Step 4 - Interactive Check (10 min): Assign a custom 5-word quiz link from slanglane.com/esl/quiz-maker or use the 12-item matching worksheet below.

2. Printable 12-Item Classroom Matching Worksheet

Match each expression (1-12) with its plain-English definition (A-L) below:

- [____] AFK (informal | Regions: Online) --> Definition (A): "Okay," "agreed," "sounds good," or "challenge accepted." The tone depends on what the speaker is responding to.
- [____] AI slop (Critical derogatory | Regions: Online) --> Definition (B): A formative experience jokingly treated as an unavoidable part of someone's personal storyline, often embarrassing or difficult.
- [____] algospeak (Platform culture descriptive | Regions: Online) --> Definition (C): Altered words, spellings, euphemisms, or symbols people use because they believe platform algorithms may restrict the original wording.
- [____] ate (Enthusiastic praise | Regions: Online) --> Definition (D): An impression of coolness, confidence, or striking presence. "Aura points" turn that impression into a joking, imaginary score.

5. [____] aura (Playful evaluative | Regions: Online) --> Definition (E): An internet archetype of a highly attractive, sexually successful man; in a meme, the label can express exaggerated admiration or contrast.

6. [____] aura farming (Admiring or teasing | Regions: Online) --> Definition (F): based: praiseworthy despite being unpopular or controversial.

7. [____] banter (Playful relationship-dependent | Regions: UK, IE) --> Definition (G): Cultivating an effortlessly cool image through a pose, gesture, performance, or carefully timed moment.

8. [____] based (informal | Regions: Online) --> Definition (H): In plain English, "AFK": away from keyboard.

9. [____] bet (Casual affirmative | Regions: Online) --> Definition (I): Low-quality AI-generated material, especially output produced in volume with little concern for accuracy, coherence, or usefulness.

10. [____] brain rot (Critical or self-mocking | Regions: Online) --> Definition (J): Low-value, repetitive online content, or the feeling of being mentally saturated by it. Also a joking name for an intense fandom obsession.

11. [____] canon event (Storytelling metaphor often ironic | Regions: Online) --> Definition (K): Performed brilliantly, looked excellent, or completely delivered. "Ate and left no crumbs" intensifies the compliment.

12. [____] Chad (Admiring, ironic or status-focused | Regions: Online) --> Definition (L): Playful, quick back-and-forth conversation, often involving teasing that the participants enjoy.

Teacher Answer Key: 1->H | 2->I | 3->C | 4->K | 5->D | 6->G | 7->L | 8->F | 9->A | 10->J | 11->B | 12->E

3. Complete Classroom-Safe Reference Lexicon (79 General Terms)

AFK [Gaming | informal | Online]

In plain English, "AFK": away from keyboard. (Full examples & audio sketch: <https://slanglane.com/terms/afk>)

AI slop [Digital culture | Critical derogatory | Online]

Low-quality AI-generated material, especially output produced in volume with little concern for accuracy, coherence, or usefulness. (Full examples & audio sketch: <https://slanglane.com/terms/ai-slop>)

algospeak [Digital culture | Platform culture descriptive | Online]

Altered words, spellings, euphemisms, or symbols people use because they believe platform algorithms may restrict the original wording. (Full examples & audio sketch: <https://slanglane.com/terms/algospeak>)

ate [Internet essentials | Enthusiastic praise | Online]

Performed brilliantly, looked excellent, or completely delivered. "Ate and left no crumbs" intensifies the compliment. (Full examples & audio sketch: <https://slanglane.com/terms/ate>)

aura [Internet essentials | Playful evaluative | Online]

An impression of coolness, confidence, or striking presence. "Aura points" turn that impression into a joking, imaginary score. (Full examples & audio sketch: <https://slanglane.com/terms/aura>)

aura farming [Internet essentials | Admiring or teasing | Online]

Cultivating an effortlessly cool image through a pose, gesture, performance, or carefully timed moment. (Full examples & audio sketch: <https://slanglane.com/terms/aura-farming>)

banter [Across the Atlantic | Playful relationship-dependent | UK, IE]

Playful, quick back-and-forth conversation, often involving teasing that the participants enjoy. (Full examples & audio sketch: <https://slanglane.com/terms/banter>)

based [Internet essentials | informal | Online]

based: praiseworthy despite being unpopular or controversial. (Full examples & audio sketch: <https://slanglane.com/terms/based>)

bet [Internet essentials | Casual affirmative | Online]

"Okay," "agreed," "sounds good," or "challenge accepted." The tone depends on what the speaker is responding to. (Full examples & audio sketch: <https://slanglane.com/terms/bet>)

brain rot [Internet essentials | Critical or self-mocking | Online]

Low-value, repetitive online content, or the feeling of being mentally saturated by it. Also a joking name for an intense fandom obsession. (Full examples & audio sketch: <https://slanglane.com/terms/brain-rot>)

canon event [Social & memes | Storytelling metaphor often ironic | Online]

A formative experience jokingly treated as an unavoidable part of someone's personal storyline, often embarrassing or difficult. (Full examples & audio sketch: <https://slanglane.com/terms/canon-event>)

Chad [Internet essentials | Admiring, ironic or status-focused | Online]

An internet archetype of a highly attractive, sexually successful man; in a meme, the label can express exaggerated admiration or contrast. (Full examples & audio sketch: <https://slanglane.com/terms/chad>)

cheers [Across the Atlantic | Friendly informal | UK, IE]

A toast when drinking; also informal "thanks" or a friendly sign-off, especially in British and Irish English. (Full examples & audio sketch: <https://slanglane.com/terms/cheers>)

chronically online [Digital culture | Critical or self-mocking | Online]

So immersed in internet culture or disputes that your references, assumptions, or priorities seem disconnected from ordinary offline experience. (Full examples & audio sketch: <https://slanglane.com/terms/chronically-online>)

chuffed [Across the Atlantic | Informal pleased | UK, IE]

Very pleased, proud, or delighted about something. "Chuffed to bits" is an especially enthusiastic version. (Full examples & audio sketch: <https://slanglane.com/terms/chuffed>)

clickbait [Social & memes | Critical publishing language | Online]

A headline, thumbnail, or piece of content built to win clicks, often by withholding the point, exaggerating, or misleading. (Full examples & audio sketch: <https://slanglane.com/terms/clickbait>)

cooked [Internet essentials | Dramatic usually negative | Online]

In serious trouble, exhausted, defeated, or beyond an easy fix. "Am I cooked?" asks whether the situation is hopeless. (Full examples & audio sketch: <https://slanglane.com/terms/cooked>)

craic [Across the Atlantic | Informal social | IE]

Enjoyable company, conversation, fun, or news. "What's the craic?" can mean "what's happening?" or "how are things?" (Full examples & audio sketch: <https://slanglane.com/terms/craic>)

crash out [Internet essentials | Anger-related slang / ambiguous | Online]

To lose control in anger or act recklessly with serious consequences; separately, to fall asleep from exhaustion, fail or be eliminated. (Full examples & audio sketch: <https://slanglane.com/terms/crash-out>)

cringe [Internet essentials | context-dependent | Online]

cringe: feel embarrassed, disgusted, or fearful. (Full examples & audio sketch: <https://slanglane.com/terms/cringe>)

cringey [Internet essentials | context-dependent | Online]

In plain English, "cringey": embarrassing. (Full examples & audio sketch: <https://slanglane.com/terms/cringey>)

dead internet theory [Digital culture | Theory / meme not established fact | Online]

The idea that much online activity is automated or artificial rather than human; stronger versions make unsupported claims that most of the internet is fake. (Full examples & audio sketch: <https://slanglane.com/terms/dead-internet-theory>)

delulu [Internet essentials | Playful can be dismissive | Online]

An exaggerated, informal version of "delusional": unrealistically hopeful, imagining a connection, or choosing confidence over the available evidence. (Full examples & audio sketch: <https://slanglane.com/terms/delulu>)

doomscrolling [Social & memes | Informal digital habits | Online]

Continuing to scroll through distressing news or negative posts, often longer than you intended. (Full examples & audio sketch: <https://slanglane.com/terms/doomscrolling>)

eejit [Across the Atlantic | pejorative | IE, UK]

A pejorative regional word for an idiot or fool, documented for Ireland and Scotland. (Full examples & audio sketch: <https://slanglane.com/terms/eejit>)

FR [Texting shorthand | Casual sincere or questioning | Online]

"For real": an emphasis on sincerity, a strong agreement, or a surprised question meaning "seriously?" (Full examples & audio sketch: <https://slanglane.com/terms/fr>)

FWIW [Texting shorthand | informal | Online]

In plain English, "FWIW": for what it's worth. (Full examples & audio sketch: <https://slanglane.com/terms/fwiw>)

GG [Gaming | informal | Online]

In plain English, "GG": good game. (Full examples & audio sketch:
<https://slanglane.com/terms/gg>)

ghosting [People & relationships | Informal relationships and contact | Online]

Ending or abandoning an ongoing connection by stopping communication without an explanation. (Full examples & audio sketch: <https://slanglane.com/terms/ghosting>)

glazing [Internet essentials | Disapproving or self-mocking praise label | Online]

Giving someone or something excessive praise; the label suggests the admiration is over the top, unwarranted or annoying. (Full examples & audio sketch:
<https://slanglane.com/terms/glazing>)

goated [Internet essentials | informal praise | Online]

A slang description for someone or something considered the greatest of all time or the best. (Full examples & audio sketch: <https://slanglane.com/terms/goated>)

gobsmacked [Across the Atlantic | informal | UK, IE]

gobsmacked: utterly astonished and speechless. (Full examples & audio sketch:
<https://slanglane.com/terms/gobsmacked>)

grand [Across the Atlantic | Informal reassuring | IE, UK]

In Irish English, often "fine," "okay," or "no problem." It does not necessarily mean magnificent or unusually impressive. (Full examples & audio sketch:
<https://slanglane.com/terms/grand>)

green flag [People & relationships | Approving reassuring | Online]

An encouraging sign that someone or something may be trustworthy, compatible, or worth pursuing. (Full examples & audio sketch: <https://slanglane.com/terms/green-flag>)

gutted [Across the Atlantic | Informal deeply disappointed | UK, IE]

Very disappointed, upset, or crushed by an unwelcome result. Often used for a loss, cancellation, or missed opportunity. (Full examples & audio sketch:
<https://slanglane.com/terms/gutted>)

highkey [Internet essentials | Emphatic openly stated | Online]

"Really," "openly," or "without trying to play it down." It turns an opinion or feeling into a more direct declaration. (Full examples & audio sketch:
<https://slanglane.com/terms/highkey>)

ick [People & relationships | Informal aversion | Online]

A feeling or expression of disgust or aversion. "The ick" can describe a reaction that makes someone suddenly feel put off. (Full examples & audio sketch:
<https://slanglane.com/terms/ick>)

ICYMI [Texting shorthand | internet slang | Online]

ICYMI expands to 'in case you missed it,' introducing information for a reader who may have missed it. (Full examples & audio sketch: <https://slanglane.com/terms/icymi>)

IDK [Texting shorthand | informal | Online]

In plain English, "IDK": I don't know. (Full examples & audio sketch:
<https://slanglane.com/terms/idk>)

IMO [Texting shorthand | informal | Online]

In plain English, "IMO": in my opinion. (Full examples & audio sketch:
<https://slanglane.com/terms/imo>)

IYKYK [Texting shorthand | Knowing inside reference | Online]

"If you know, you know": a signal that people with the shared experience or background will understand an unstated reference. (Full examples & audio sketch:
<https://slanglane.com/terms/iykyk>)

locked in [Internet essentials | Focused motivational | Online]

Fully focused and committed to a task. "Time to lock in" means it is time to stop distractions and concentrate. (Full examples & audio sketch:
<https://slanglane.com/terms/locked-in>)

looksmaxxing [Internet essentials | Appearance-focused community vocabulary | Online]

Trying to improve physical appearance, especially within online communities that frame attractiveness as a competitive status or dating advantage. (Full examples & audio sketch:
<https://slanglane.com/terms/looksmaxxing>)

lore [Social & memes | Storytelling often playful | Online]

The background story and accumulated details of a fictional world, community, or person. A "lore drop" reveals a new piece of that backstory. (Full examples & audio sketch:
<https://slanglane.com/terms/lore>)

love bombing [People & relationships | context-dependent | Online]

love bombing: manipulative over affection tactic. (Full examples & audio sketch:
<https://slanglane.com/terms/love-bombing>)

lowkey [Internet essentials | Understated informal | Online]

"Kind of," "quietly," or "I am admitting this without making a big deal of it." A low-key event is also relaxed or understated. (Full examples & audio sketch:
<https://slanglane.com/terms/lowkey>)

main character energy [Social & memes | Admiring or critical | Online]

A confident, cinematic sense of being the protagonist of the moment; sometimes a criticism of acting as if everyone else is a supporting character. (Full examples & audio sketch:
<https://slanglane.com/terms/main-character-energy>)

mate [Across the Atlantic | Familiar tone-sensitive | UK, IE]

A friend or a familiar way to address someone. It can sound warm, neutral, sarcastic, or confrontational depending on delivery. (Full examples & audio sketch:
<https://slanglane.com/terms/mate>)

mewing [Internet essentials | Appearance-trend vocabulary / ambiguous | Online]

A tongue-posture practice pursued with the aim of changing jaw or facial appearance; also the ordinary act of making a mew sound. (Full examples & audio sketch: <https://slanglane.com/terms/mewing>)

mid [Internet essentials | Dismissive evaluative | Online]

Mediocre, underwhelming, or not worth the hype. Usually a criticism, even though it literally suggests the middle. (Full examples & audio sketch: <https://slanglane.com/terms/mid>)

mogging [Internet essentials | Comparative / appearance-ranking slang | Online]

Outshining or appearing superior to someone, especially in perceived physical attractiveness; a subjective comparison rather than an objective score. (Full examples & audio sketch: <https://slanglane.com/terms/mogging>)

no cap [Internet essentials | Informal emphatic | Online]

"Honestly," "for real," or "I am not exaggerating." Cap means a lie or an exaggeration in this slang context. (Full examples & audio sketch: <https://slanglane.com/terms/no-cap>)

OMW [Texting shorthand | informal | Online]

In plain English, "OMW": on my way. (Full examples & audio sketch: <https://slanglane.com/terms/omw>)

pookie [People & relationships | Affectionate, cutesy or playful | Online]

An affectionate name for a loved person, such as a partner, friend or relative; as an address, roughly sweetheart or darling. (Full examples & audio sketch: <https://slanglane.com/terms/pookie>)

POV [Texting shorthand | Perspective scenario framing | Online]

"Point of view." In captions, it usually introduces a situation the viewer is invited to imagine experiencing. (Full examples & audio sketch: <https://slanglane.com/terms/pov>)

proper [Across the Atlantic | colloquial | UK, IE]

A UK and Irish colloquial use of proper as an adverb meaning thoroughly or completely. (Full examples & audio sketch: <https://slanglane.com/terms/proper>)

rage bait [Social & memes | Critical media language | Online]

Content designed to provoke anger so people will react, argue, share, or keep watching. (Full examples & audio sketch: <https://slanglane.com/terms/rage-bait>)

ratio [Social & memes | Combative platform-dependent | Online]

A social-media response showing stronger pushback than approval, or a reply that gets more support than the post it challenges. (Full examples & audio sketch: <https://slanglane.com/terms/ratio>)

red flag [People & relationships | Warning sometimes exaggerated | Online]

A warning sign that something may be wrong or deserves closer attention, especially in a relationship or decision. (Full examples & audio sketch: <https://slanglane.com/terms/red-flag>)

rent-free [Social & memes | Teasing sometimes dismissive | Online]

Occupying someone's thoughts without effort or invitation, usually in "living rent-free in my head." It can describe delight, annoyance, or fixation. (Full examples & audio sketch: <https://slanglane.com/terms/rent-free>)

rizz [Internet essentials | Playful usually flattering | Online]

Charm or the ability to attract someone, especially through flirting. To "rizz someone up" is to try to win them over. (Full examples & audio sketch: <https://slanglane.com/terms/rizz>)

scroll fatigue [Digital culture | Emerging informal | Online]

A feeling of being mentally worn out by prolonged scrolling through feeds or other online material. (Full examples & audio sketch: <https://slanglane.com/terms/scroll-fatigue>)

side quest [Social & memes | Playful gaming metaphor | Online]

An optional detour from the main objective in a game, or a spontaneous little adventure away from your original plan in everyday life. (Full examples & audio sketch: <https://slanglane.com/terms/side-quest>)

sigma [Internet essentials | Ironic or status-focused internet language | Online]

A self-sufficient lone-wolf male archetype; also praise meaning excellent, or a deliberately absurd word in memes such as "what the sigma." (Full examples & audio sketch: <https://slanglane.com/terms/sigma>)

simp [Internet essentials | Derogatory or self-mocking | Online]

Someone accused of excessive devotion or deference to another person; as a verb, to admire or praise in an exaggerated, deferential way. (Full examples & audio sketch: <https://slanglane.com/terms/simp>)

situationship [People & relationships | Informal dating language | Online]

A romantic connection whose status, expectations, or commitment have not been clearly defined. (Full examples & audio sketch: <https://slanglane.com/terms/situationship>)

six seven [Internet essentials | Absurdist context-dependent | Online]

A meme expression usually said "six seven," often with a balancing hand gesture. It has no single fixed literal meaning. (Full examples & audio sketch: <https://slanglane.com/terms/six-seven>)

skibidi [Internet essentials | Absurd meme language | Online]

A deliberately nonsensical meme word used for humorous effect, reactions or references to internet slang; it has no single dependable plain-English meaning. (Full examples & audio sketch: <https://slanglane.com/terms/skibidi>)

slay [Internet essentials | Enthusiastic approving | Online]

To do something impressively well or look excellent. "Slay!" is an enthusiastic expression of approval. (Full examples & audio sketch: <https://slanglane.com/terms/slay>)

soft launch [People & relationships | Social media indirect reveal | Online]

Hinting at a romantic relationship online without clearly identifying the partner or explicitly announcing the relationship. (Full examples & audio sketch: <https://slanglane.com/terms/soft-launch>)

sound [Across the Atlantic | Informal approving | UK, IE]

Decent, reliable, friendly, or good. As a short reply, "sound" can mean "okay," "agreed," or an appreciative acknowledgment. (Full examples & audio sketch: <https://slanglane.com/terms/sound>)

sus [Internet essentials | Suspicious often joking | Online]

Suspicious, questionable, or not quite trustworthy. It can be a genuine concern or a playful reaction to odd behavior. (Full examples & audio sketch: <https://slanglane.com/terms/sus>)

tasteslop [Digital culture | Emerging critical | Online]

A critical label for AI-generated style or lifestyle content that appears tasteful and curated but feels generic, derivative, or empty. (Full examples & audio sketch: <https://slanglane.com/terms/tasteslop>)

TBH [Texting shorthand | informal | Online]

In plain English, "TBH": to be honest. (Full examples & audio sketch: <https://slanglane.com/terms/tbh>)

TL;DR [Texting shorthand | Concise sometimes dismissive | Online]

"Too long; didn't read." It can dismiss a long message, but is also a common label for a short summary supplied by the writer. (Full examples & audio sketch: <https://slanglane.com/terms/tldr>)

touch grass [Social & memes | Teasing often dismissive | Online]

Step away from the internet and regain some real-world perspective. Often a dismissive response to an overly online argument. (Full examples & audio sketch: <https://slanglane.com/terms/touch-grass>)

unc [Internet essentials | Affectionate or teasing age-related slang | Online]

A shortening of uncle; also a teasing label for an older man or somebody seen as out of touch with current youth culture. (Full examples & audio sketch: <https://slanglane.com/terms/unc>)

vibe coding [Digital culture | Technical culture debated scope | Online]

Building software by repeatedly prompting an AI and reacting to the result, especially when the person pays little attention to the underlying code. (Full examples & audio sketch: <https://slanglane.com/terms/vibe-coding>)

W [Internet essentials | internet slang | Online]

In internet slang, W abbreviates win: a success or winning result. (Full examples & audio sketch: <https://slanglane.com/terms/w>)