

British & Irish Conversational English Slang: Reference Corpus & B1-C2 ESL Guide

Regional Pragmatics, Register, and Classroom Activities for UK and Irish Everyday Vocabulary (CC BY 4.0)

Primary CERN Zenodo Corpus DOI (10.5281/zenodo.23541347): <https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.235413>

CERN Zenodo ESL Curriculum DOI (10.5281/zenodo.23541449): <https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.235414>

All SlangLane Academic Working Papers & PDFs: <https://slanglane.com/papers>

Interactive ESL Teacher Kit & Quiz Maker: <https://slanglane.com/esl>

Abstract & Scope

This thematic working paper compiles documented British and Irish conversational expressions from the SlangLane Open Corpus (including craic, grand, sound, knackered, gutted, gobsmacked, skint, fiver, banter, and proper). All entries in this compendium are filtered to general-audience (100% SFW) vocabulary and paired with register notes and clickable canonical entry links.

Interactive Companion Tools on SlangLane.com

Slang Age & Brain-Rot Diagnostic Lab: <https://slanglane.com/vibe-check>

Corporate Email <-> Gen Z Group-Chat Translator: <https://slanglane.com/roast>

Court & HR Legal Exhibit Stamp Generator: <https://slanglane.com/exhibit>

5x5 Classroom & Meeting Slang Bingo: <https://slanglane.com/bingo>

Side-by-Side Usage Comparisons (A vs. B): <https://slanglane.com/compare>

Indexed Thematic Entries (11 Headwords, Edition daily-2026-10-21)

1. banter (aliases: bants, bantering) - [Across the Atlantic | Playful relationship-dependent]

Playful, quick back-and-forth conversation, often involving teasing that the participants enjoy. | Regions: UK, IE | Canonical entry: <https://slanglane.com/terms/banter>

2. cheers - [Across the Atlantic | Friendly informal]

A toast when drinking; also informal "thanks" or a friendly sign-off, especially in British and Irish English. | Regions: UK, IE | Canonical entry: <https://slanglane.com/terms/cheers>

3. chuffed (aliases: well chuffed, chuffed to bits) - [Across the Atlantic | Informal pleased]

Very pleased, proud, or delighted about something. "Chuffed to bits" is an especially enthusiastic version. | Regions: UK, IE | Canonical entry: <https://slanglane.com/terms/chuffed>

4. craic (aliases: the craic, what's the craic, good craic) - [Across the Atlantic | Informal social]

Enjoyable company, conversation, fun, or news. "What's the craic?" can mean "what's happening?" or "how are things?" | Regions: IE | Canonical entry: <https://slanglane.com/terms/craic>

5. **eejit** - [Across the Atlantic | pejorative]

A pejorative regional word for an idiot or fool, documented for Ireland and Scotland. | Regions: IE, UK | Canonical entry: <https://slanglane.com/terms/eejit>

6. **gobsmacked** - [Across the Atlantic | informal]

gobsmacked: utterly astonished and speechless. | Regions: UK, IE | Canonical entry: <https://slanglane.com/terms/gobsmacked>

7. **grand (aliases: that is grand, that's grand, I'm grand)** - [Across the Atlantic | Informal reassuring]

In Irish English, often "fine," "okay," or "no problem." It does not necessarily mean magnificent or unusually impressive. | Regions: IE, UK | Canonical entry: <https://slanglane.com/terms/grand>

8. **gutted** - [Across the Atlantic | Informal deeply disappointed]

Very disappointed, upset, or crushed by an unwelcome result. Often used for a loss, cancellation, or missed opportunity. | Regions: UK, IE | Canonical entry: <https://slanglane.com/terms/gutted>

9. **mate (aliases: mates)** - [Across the Atlantic | Familiar tone-sensitive]

A friend or a familiar way to address someone. It can sound warm, neutral, sarcastic, or confrontational depending on delivery. | Regions: UK, IE | Canonical entry: <https://slanglane.com/terms/mate>

10. **proper** - [Across the Atlantic | colloquial]

A UK and Irish colloquial use of proper as an adverb meaning thoroughly or completely. | Regions: UK, IE | Canonical entry: <https://slanglane.com/terms/proper>

11. **sound (aliases: sound person, sound as)** - [Across the Atlantic | Informal approving]

Decent, reliable, friendly, or good. As a short reply, "sound" can mean "okay," "agreed," or an appreciative acknowledgment. | Regions: UK, IE | Canonical entry: <https://slanglane.com/terms/sound>