

Workplace, Corporate & Digital Culture Lexicon: Algorithmic and Online Pragmatics

A Source-Locked Reference Guide to Contemporary Remote-Work, Media-Literacy, and Internet Vocabulary (CC BY 4.0)

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

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

Abstract & Scope

This thematic compendium documents expressions emerging from digital platforms, algorithmic culture, and modern workplace communication (including brain rot, AI slop, algospeak, vibe coding, quiet firing, parasocial, touch grass, and main character energy). Designed for media-literacy educators, computational linguists, and workplace communication courses.

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 (25 Headwords, Edition daily-2026-10-21)

1. AI slop (aliases: slop, AI-generated slop) - [Digital culture | Critical derogatory]

Low-quality AI-generated material, especially output produced in volume with little concern for accuracy, coherence, or usefulness. | Regions: Online | Canonical entry: <https://slanglane.com/terms/ai-slop>

2. algospeak (aliases: algo-speak, algorithm speak) - [Digital culture | Platform culture | descriptive]

Altered words, spellings, euphemisms, or symbols people use because they believe platform algorithms may restrict the original wording. | Regions: Online | Canonical entry: <https://slanglane.com/terms/algospeak>

3. canon event (aliases: canon events) - [Social & memes | Storytelling metaphor | often ironic]

A formative experience jokingly treated as an unavoidable part of someone's personal storyline, often embarrassing or difficult. | Regions: Online | Canonical entry: <https://slanglane.com/terms/canon-event>

4. chronically online (aliases: terminally online, extremely online) - [Digital culture | Critical or self-mocking]

So immersed in internet culture or disputes that your references, assumptions, or priorities seem disconnected from ordinary offline experience. | Regions: Online | Canonical entry: <https://slanglane.com/terms/chronically-online>

5. clickbait (aliases: click bait, click-bait) - [Social & memes | Critical publishing language]

A headline, thumbnail, or piece of content built to win clicks, often by withholding the point, exaggerating, or misleading. | Regions: Online | Canonical entry: <https://slanglane.com/terms/clickbait>

6. dead internet theory (aliases: dead Internet theory) - [Digital culture | Theory / meme not established fact]

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. | Regions: Online | Canonical entry: <https://slanglane.com/terms/dead-internet-theory>

7. doomscrolling (aliases: doomscroll, doom scrolling, doom-scrolling, doomscrolls) - [Social & memes | Informal digital habits]

Continuing to scroll through distressing news or negative posts, often longer than you intended. | Regions: Online | Canonical entry: <https://slanglane.com/terms/doomscrolling>

8. ghosting (aliases: ghosted, ghost someone) - [People & relationships | Informal relationships and contact]

Ending or abandoning an ongoing connection by stopping communication without an explanation. | Regions: Online | Canonical entry: <https://slanglane.com/terms/ghosting>

9. green flag (aliases: green flags, greenflag) - [People & relationships | Approving reassuring]

An encouraging sign that someone or something may be trustworthy, compatible, or worth pursuing. | Regions: Online | Canonical entry: <https://slanglane.com/terms/green-flag>

10. ick (aliases: the ick) - [People & relationships | Informal aversion]

A feeling or expression of disgust or aversion. "The ick" can describe a reaction that makes someone suddenly feel put off. | Regions: Online | Canonical entry: <https://slanglane.com/terms/ick>

11. lore (aliases: lore drop, personal lore) - [Social & memes | Storytelling often playful]

The background story and accumulated details of a fictional world, community, or person. A "lore drop" reveals a new piece of that backstory. | Regions: Online | Canonical entry: <https://slanglane.com/terms/lore>

12. love bombing - [People & relationships | context-dependent]

love bombing: manipulative over affection tactic. | Regions: Online | Canonical entry: <https://slanglane.com/terms/love-bombing>

13. main character energy (aliases: main-character energy) - [Social & memes | Admiring or critical]

A confident, cinematic sense of being the protagonist of the moment; sometimes a criticism of acting as if everyone else is a supporting character. | Regions: Online | Canonical entry: <https://slanglane.com/terms/main-character-energy>

14. pookie - [People & relationships | Affectionate, cutesy or playful]

An affectionate name for a loved person, such as a partner, friend or relative; as an address, roughly sweetheart or darling. | Regions: Online | Canonical entry: <https://slanglane.com/terms/pookie>

15. rage bait (aliases: ragebait, rage-bait, rage baiting) - [Social & memes | Critical media language]

Content designed to provoke anger so people will react, argue, share, or keep watching. | Regions: Online | Canonical entry: <https://slanglane.com/terms/rage-bait>

16. ratio (aliases: ratioed, ratio'd, ratioing) - [Social & memes | Combative platform-dependent]

A social-media response showing stronger pushback than approval, or a reply that gets more support than the post it challenges. | Regions: Online | Canonical entry: <https://slanglane.com/terms/ratio>

17. red flag (aliases: red flags, redflag) - [People & relationships | Warning sometimes exaggerated]

A warning sign that something may be wrong or deserves closer attention, especially in a relationship or decision. | Regions: Online | Canonical entry: <https://slanglane.com/terms/red-flag>

18. rent-free (aliases: rent free, living rent-free, lives rent free) - [Social & memes | Teasing sometimes dismissive]

Occupying someone's thoughts without effort or invitation, usually in "living rent-free in my head." It can describe delight, annoyance, or fixation. | Regions: Online | Canonical entry: <https://slanglane.com/terms/rent-free>

19. scroll fatigue - [Digital culture | Emerging informal]

A feeling of being mentally worn out by prolonged scrolling through feeds or other online material. | Regions: Online | Canonical entry: <https://slanglane.com/terms/scroll-fatigue>

20. side quest (aliases: sidequest, side quests) - [Social & memes | Playful gaming metaphor]

An optional detour from the main objective in a game, or a spontaneous little adventure away from your original plan in everyday life. | Regions: Online | Canonical entry: <https://slanglane.com/terms/side-quest>

21. situationship (aliases: situationships) - [People & relationships | Informal dating language]

A romantic connection whose status, expectations, or commitment have not been clearly defined. | Regions: Online | Canonical entry: <https://slanglane.com/terms/situationship>

22. soft launch (aliases: soft-launch, soft launching, soft-launched) - [People & relationships | Social media indirect reveal]

Hinting at a romantic relationship online without clearly identifying the partner or explicitly announcing the relationship. | Regions: Online | Canonical entry: <https://slanglane.com/terms/soft-launch>

23. tasteslop (aliases: taste slop) - [Digital culture | Emerging critical]

A critical label for AI-generated style or lifestyle content that appears tasteful and curated but feels generic, derivative, or empty. | Regions: Online | Canonical entry: <https://slanglane.com/terms/tasteslop>

24. touch grass (aliases: touching grass, touched grass, go touch grass) - [Social & memes | Teasing often dismissive]

Step away from the internet and regain some real-world perspective. Often a dismissive response to an overly online argument. | Regions: Online | Canonical entry: <https://slanglane.com/terms/touch-grass>

25. vibe coding (aliases: vibe code, vibe-coded, vibecoding) - [Digital culture | Technical culture debated scope]

Building software by repeatedly prompting an AI and reacting to the result, especially when the person pays little attention to the underlying code. | Regions: Online | Canonical entry: <https://slanglane.com/terms/vibe-coding>