MODERN SLANG IS CHANGING THE WAY WE SPEAK…

by Emma Davidge

Classroom context:

Making this course contemporary, engaging, and enjoyable ensures accessibility and relevance for all learners. This activity is designed to encourage students to think beyond their own communication styles and to engage with a range of contemporary linguistic expressions.

Syllabus link:

Students will develop knowledge and understanding of the nature of communication through a study of:

- how culture determines the ways individuals encode messages, what mediums they choose for transmitting them, and the ways messages are interpreted
- the impact of changing communication technologies on:
    - intra-generational interaction
    - language usage
    - cross-generational interaction
    - social interaction
    - cross-cultural interaction
    - globalisation.

Syllabus outcomes:

P1 identifies and applies social and cultural concepts

P3 identifies and describes relationships and interactions within and between social and cultural groups

Learning Intention:

Students learn to understand how language evolves over time and reflects cultural, generational, and social change.

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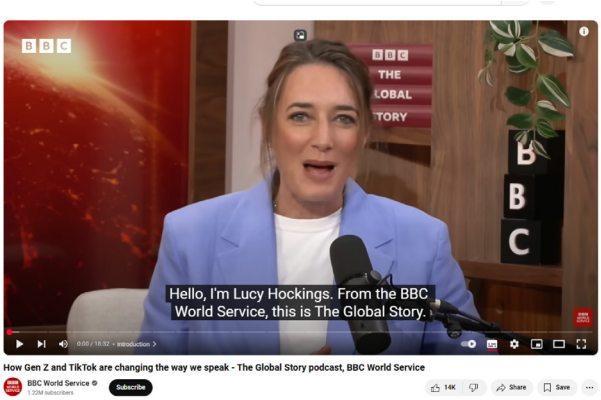
Students will watch the following YouTube clip:



How Gen Z and TikTok are changing the way we speak - The Global Story podcast, BBC World Service

1. Before Watching the Clip:

Slang and Generations

a) Make a list of 10 modern slang words and their current meanings.

b) Do your parents understand these slang words? Test their knowledge and record their responses.

2. During the Clip:

Comprehension and Analysis

a) What is linguicide, and how does it impact a language?

b) How does language reflect personal and cultural identity?

c) Explain the homogenisation and globalisation of language.

d) How do individuals and societies influence or control language?

e) In what ways has social media contributed to the rapid evolution of vocabulary?

f) How does the spread of slang today compare to the pre-internet era?

g) Is grammar evolving at the same pace as vocabulary, or is it more resistant to change?

h) What could be the possible outcomes of rapid language evolution?

i) What factors determine whether a language will survive or become extinct?

j) People often claim that modern language is deteriorating - can you provide an example of how younger generations have actually improved language?

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3. After Watching the Clip:

Reflection and Application

a) Using slang can sometimes lead to intercultural misunderstandings. Can you recall a time when this happened to you? Write a personal reflection on this experience.

b) Research and list the most popular slang terms of 2024.

c) Test your teacher! From the extensive list of 100 Teen Slang Words and Phrases for 2025, how many does your teacher know? **100 Teen Slang Words and Phrases To Know in 2025**

4. Revision gamification:

Slang Bingo! Instructions:

Mark off each slang word as you hear or use it during class discussion. First to complete a full row, column, or diagonal calls out 'Slang!' (Slang will need updating every year eg. 6-7!)

Slang Bingo - Version 1

Slay	Ate	Era	Demure	Mewing
Lowkey	Bruh	Vibe	Rizz	Drip
Aura	Flex	……..	Cap	Cooked
Delulu	Glazing	Beta	Demure	Demure
Ate	Bruh	Aura	Flex	Glazing

Slang Bingo - Version 2

Bruh	Era	Vibe	Cap	Aura
Cooked	Ate	Rizz	Demure	Lowkey
Drip	Beta	……..	Flex	Delulu
Slay	Glazing	Mewing	Beta	Cooked
Cooked	Aura	Drip	Glazing	Era

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Slang Bingo - Version 3

Mewing	Flex	Ate	Era	Bruh
Drip	Aura	Slay	Delulu	Glazing
Beta	Cap	……..	Cooked	Demure
Vibe	Lowkey	Rizz	Era	Vibe
Beta	Mewing	Delulu	Lowkey	Flex

Slang Bingo - Version 4

Drip	Lowkey	Beta	Aura	Cap
Demure	Delulu	Era	Mewing	Cooked
Ate	Vibe	……..	Rizz	Glazing
Slay	Bruh	Flex	Cooked	Aura
Bruh	Ate	Glazing	Delulu	Era

Slang Bingo - Version 5

Slay	Flex	Demure	Beta	Era
Bruh	Cooked	Aura	Delulu	Lowkey
Cap	Glazing	…….	Vibe	Drip
Ate	Rizz	Mewing	Slay	Mewing
Flex	Slay	Glazing	Rizz	Drip