

## 2018-2019 American English Slang

### Nouns:

**Bae** – Literally “before anyone else”, /beɪ/, refers to one’s boyfriend or girlfriend

*Example: “Aww, my **bae** just texted me.”*

**Bop** – a good song

*Example: « Have you heard Drake’s new **bop**? »*

**Bruh** – a new pronunciation of « bro », short for « brother » but used to refer to male friends and acquaintances. In recent use, gives the sense that the listener did or said something thoughtless.

*Example: « You alright? » « **Bruh**, you can’t be throwing me around like a ragdoll; I just had knee surgery. »*

**Fam** – short for « family » but means friends that are like family (very close).

*Example: « Do you want some of my fries? » « Nah **fam**, I’m good. »*

**Finsta** – a “fake” (more private) Instagram account used to rant about one’s friends

*Example: « Did you see Jake’s post about vegans? » « No, what did he say about us? » « Oh, he must have posted it on his **finsta**. »*

**Gains** – weight increase (progress) when lifting weights at the gym.

*Example: « I’m really making some gains; I’m up to 110 now. »*

**Goals** – Can refer to « relationship goals » or « squad goals »

*Examples: « Meghan and Harry are relationship **goals**. »*

*« Just reached 120 on the benchpress. **#squadgoals** »*

**Queen** – although this term previously referred to a flamboyant gay man, it now refers to a woman who is attractive, confident, and even sassy. Often used in the expression “YASSS QUEEN” to indicate approval. Possibly linked to Queen’s “Killer Queen” song.

*Example: « Beyoncé is a **queen**. »*

*Note: Can also be short for **drag queen**, or a man who dresses as a woman for performance.*

**Snack** – someone who is very attractive

*Example: « Do you see that girl? She looks like a snack. »*

**Squad** – a close friend group. Originally referred to gym mates (see « squad goals »)

*Example: « Me and my **squad** are going to the gym to work out and get swole. »*

### Adjectives:

**Basic** – Someone who follows mainstream trends. Commonly seen in the phrase “basic white girl”.

*Example: « Cami says that she’s a flexitarian and is giving up plastic, but she still drinks pumpkin spice lattes from Starbucks, and she buys North Face winter jackets even though she lives in California. She is so **basic**. »*

**Bougie/Boujie/Boujee** – rich or acting rich. /bú ʒi/ Comes from *bourgeois*

*Example: « John chiffonades fresh basil to put on his pasta every time he eats it. He is so **boujie**. »*

Dank – excellent, perfect, or high-quality content

*Example: « He made some **dank** memes for his modern culture presentation. »*

Extra – someone who reacts dramatically to things or does dramatic things OR something unnecessarily fancy (also called “over-the-top”).

*Example: « Caroline is so **extra**; when she found out that her friend was gay, she enthusiastically hosted a rainbow glitter coming-out party. »*

Fierce – someone who has a positive mind and spirit, bold words and unapologetic actions

*Example: « Beyoncé is **fierce**; her latest performance included a homage to Black Lives Matter. »*

Gucci – good; satisfactory; without a problem

*Example: « I asked her parents about coming over, and everything was **gucci**. »*

Golden – all set; Gucci

*Example: « Did I file my paperwork on time? » « Yeah, you’re **golden**. »*

Lit – excellent, fun, wild, or exciting; beyond expectations

*Example: « That party last night was **lit**. » (Related previous slang: **epic**)*

On point – presentation is flawless, immaculate, impeccable, superb; everything in place

*Example: « Her outfit was **on point**. » (Related previous slang: **on fleek**)*

Salty – someone who is resentful, angry, or **bitter** about something.

*Example: « She is **salty** because he dumped her and started dating her enemy. »*

Savage – accurate but uncomfortable for the person it’s directed at; often a critical reply that destroys someone’s argument and makes the audience applaud.

*Example: « Her takedown of Kevin’s sexist rant was **savage**. »*

Shook – Shocked, very surprised, or shaken

*Example: « That wrestler is vegan? I’m **shook**. »*

(Straight) fire – “used to describe something/someone so unperceivably hot that just saying hot is insufficient. In order for someone/something to be straight fire, the majority of your squad must agree with it.” (Urban Dictionary)

*Example: « Damn, girl, you’re looking **straight fire**. »*

Swole – « swollen » or covered in large muscles. Previously known as « ripped ».

*Example: « Let’s go to the gym to get **swole**. »*

Thicc – attractive or voluptuous (person); delicious (food)

*Example: « I heart Nicki Minaj. That girl is **thicc**. »*

Turnt up – euphoric or full of positive energy that is stimulated by party music or substances

*Example: « He got **turnt up** at the New Year’s party; he was shouting and dancing on the tables. »*

Woke – aware of current social problems, usually the difficulties faced by minorities

*Example: « Our teacher is so **woke**; she did an exercise in class that illustrated how we inaccurately perceive more aggression in people with darker skin. »*

## Verbs:

Curve – to refuse sexual advances

*Example: « That guy at the bar kept asking me to go back to his place with him, but I **curved** him. »*

Finna – “fixing to” or “going to”

*Example: « I’m **finna** make something bougie for dinner. »*

Glow up – a mixture of “grow up” and “glow”; to mature and increasingly glow with beauty

*Example: « Wow, look at Rachel! She really **glowed up** after high school. »*

Ghost – to suddenly stop responding to a (usually new) girlfriend or boyfriend or a person you were flirting with.

*Example: « I was talking to Vanessa last month, but then she **ghosted** me. »*

Heart – to love, adore, or be very happy about someone or something.

*Example: « I **heart** kittens. »*

Ship – to want or approve of a relationship between two other people, real or fictional.

*Example: « I totally **ship** Captain America and Black Widow. »*

Sip tea – to gossip. Comes from the stereotype of women exchanging social news while drinking tea at home.

*Example: P1: « I’ve got some good tea today. » P2: « Oh? Tell me more! »*

*P1: « **\*sips tea\*** Linda is pregnant after her affair with that businessman. »*

Skurt – To leave

*Example: « This party’s getting boring; I’m finna **skurt**. »*

Throw shade - to talk trash about a friend or acquaintance, to publicly denounce or disrespect someone

*Example: « Wow, that comedian really **threw shade** at Donald Trump. »*

Wildin – to do wild or crazy things; used in a present stative sense

*Example: « She just bought plane tickets to go to Hawai’i for the weekend. She **wildin**. »*

Wife – to commit to a long-term relationship with someone because they are amazing, usually because they are mature, tolerant, gorgeous, and/or good at adulting.

*Example: « She makes the best Christmas cookies and is sexy AF. **Wife** her now! »*

## Adverbs:

Lowkey – indicates something that is a secret desire or “being kept under wraps”. Not to be confused with the adjective “low-key,” which means “calm and quiet.”

*Example: « I **lowkey** want to date the neighbor’s son, but I’m too shy to ask him out. »*

## One-word replies

Word - 1) « well said », as in “This violence needs to stop.” “**Word.**”

2) said in agreement, as in “This pie is tasty.” “**Word.**”

3) reportedly can be used as a greeting, as in “**Word** up?”

Heard – The modern way to say « Understood. » or « I understood you. »

Yeet – A word that is so new, its meaning is not yet agreed upon. But it can be used as an expression of agreement, as in “yes” or “sure”. It can also be a verb that means “propel with all of one’s might.” (See Yeet Vine.) Its forms are *yeet*, *yeets*, *yeeting*, *yote*, *yought*. Have fun.

#### Expressions:

At (@) me next time – as in “address me directly on Twitter next time.” Used to reply to vague social media posts that are clearly complaining about you. Can also be used jokingly against a friend’s generalizations that unintentionally apply to you.

*Example:* « *People who put apples in sangria are the worst.* » « **@me next time.** »

Bet – “I accept your challenge.” New version of “You’re on.”

*Example:* « *You can’t eat that whole sandwich.* » « **Bet.** »

Blessed image/sacred image – something that is incredibly funny, emotional, or amazing

*Example:* \*Posts a picture of a kitten with a caption\* « **Sacred image.** »

Go off – to rant about life; used in command form as permission to start ranting.

*Example:* « *Ugh, my day today was the worst. Want to hear about it?* » « **Go off.** »

(I’m) dead – A way of saying “I’ve laughed so hard at this situation, I can’t breathe, and I am now dead.” Basically, there is no way to top that situation. Extreme version of “I’m dying.”

*Example:* « *That nauseated kid looks greener than my front lawn.* » « **Dead.** »

I’m screaming / I’m crying / I’m dying – “I’m laughing really hard” or a happy or outraged reaction to drama

*Example:* « *After she complained about people who post personal problems on social media, Cassie just livestreamed a fight with her boyfriend.* **I’m screaming.** »

My heart! – as in “My heart is bursting”. Expresses overwhelming happiness.

*Example:* « *Look at that puppy!* **My heart!** »

Thanks, I try. – Used to reply to compliments about things that you cannot control.

*Example:* « *Your curly hair is so pretty!* » « **Thanks, I try.** »

ujelly – “Are you jealous?” with a smug tone.

*Example:* « *Your mom gave you another video game console?!* » « **ujelly?** »

#### Acronyms:

SMH – Shaking my head.

BRB – Be right back

AFK – Away from the keyboard

NVM – Never mind.

FOMO – Fear of **missing out** (being excluded)

TBH – To be honest

GOAT – Greatest of all time

RIP – Stands for “Rest in peace;” pronounced “rip”. Means “that’s too bad” or “what a shame.”

AF – As F&\*+. Means “very.” Used after an adjective, as in « That video was long AF. »

OG - Original

OC – Open Crib. Means that a student’s parents will not be home to supervise.

For the latest information, see <https://www.urbandictionary.com/> and the “Do They Know It?” YouTube playlist by React.