

STYLES, SLANGS AND JARGONS

STYLE- is a choice of a particular way of saying or writing something as there is often more than one way of conveying the same message.

The style changes from **formal** to **informal**, as the situation becomes more urgent. Other terms that are used to identify different context-dependent styles include **frozen**, **casual** and **intimate**.

Style choices affect both grammar and vocabulary. Words that are used only in certain styles are often identified as such in dictionaries. Styles include **literary**, **old-fashioned**, **humorous** and **medical**.

Examples:

Bonker-humorous

lunatic-old-fashioned

bipolar-medical

The choice is determined by the following:

1. Specific contextual factors, such as the degree of formality that is required.
2. A particular effect that the person wants to achieve.

Style is language variation which reflects changes in situational factors, such as addressee, setting, task or topic

- **Addressee as an Influence on Style**

- **Age of addressee**= People generally talk to the very young and to the very old. For example: Baby-talk

- **Social background of addressee**= People talk differently to the higher class and to the lower class. For example: The pronunciation of newsreaders on different radio station

- **Context, Style and Class**

(Some Examples)

- Formal contexts and social roles
- Different style within an interview
- Colloquial style or the vernacular
- The interaction of social class and style

Stylistics- is the study of style, or the way language is used to create particular effects, especially those associated with the expressive and literary uses of language.

SLANGS- words and phrases which are highly colloquial and informal in type, occurring more often in speech than in print. It consists either of newly crafted words or existing

words employed in special sense. It is making abstract concrete and memorable, by employing imagery.

- are very informal English and maybe understood only within a certain group of people. Words often have short shelf life, fading away after a generation. Some slang words have endured and entered the general lexicon, including bogus, geek, mob, hubbub and rowdy.

REASONS FOR USING SLANG:

1. For fun
2. As an exercise either in wit and ingenuity or in humor
3. To be different; to be novel
4. To be secret or not understood by those around.

Slang exist alongside jargon and argot

- The use of slang plays a major role in the maintenance of the gang's group identity.
- It separates the in-group, who use the slang, from the rest of society who do not and are not part of the gang.
- For example: Glasgow slang, American university (UCLA) slang, etc.

The Examples of Glasgow Slang

Crap bag= coward

Punters= fellow gang members

Malky= weapon

Snide gear= unfashionable clothes

Sleekit= cunning

Peter=police or prison cell

TYPES OF SLANG

(Note: This is only categorized by the researcher based on the different data gathered from different sources)

1. Abbreviations
 - Etc- etcetera (and so on)
 - Vid-video
 - Po-po= police
2. Acronyms
 - TLC-Tender Loving Care
 - BFF- Best Friends Forever
 - JPEG- Joint Photographic Experts Group (a file format)
 - DSL=Digital Subscriber Line
 - BOLO= Be on the Look Out

3. Shorthands
 - GR8=great
 - 24/7= 24 hours a day, 7 days a week
4. Symbols
 - \$\$\$= a lot of money
5. Idiomatic expressions/Phrasal verbs
 - Pain on the neck= somebody who is annoying
 - Knock out= somebody who is extremely stunning or gorgeous
 - Lost the plot= to become crazy or mentally unstable
 - To goof up= to make a serious mistake
 - To make waves= to cause trouble
 - Screw around= to waste time
 - To catch some Z's= to get some sleep
 - It's monkeys outside= the weather is freezing or very cold
 - Zapped out= tired or exhausted
6. Numbers
 - 404= error or page not found
7. Words
 - Swotting= studying a subject intensely for examination
 - Bummed=to be sad or depressed
 - Hickey=a reddish mark on the skin caused by amorous kissing or sucking
 - Pants=something rubbish or nonsense (crap)
 - Cookie=information transmitted
 - Ace= very good (American)
 - Fox=attractive person (American)
 - Article= objectionable person (British)
 - Antwacky= old-fashioned (British)
 - Fossil= a person who has been studying college for more than four years
8. Phrases
 - Full monty= to do something complete as possible
 - Honkey dory= something that is excellent, fine or perfect
 - Far out= something great
9. Sentences
 - I'm hooked on you.= extremely addicted
 - Use your loaf and bread= use your head
 - She has a dumpling on.=a woman is expecting a child
10. Rhyming slang (David Crystal-1995)
 - Apples and pears= stairs
 - Artful dodger= lodger
 - Cain and Abel= table

North and south= mouth
Read and write= fight
Trouble and strife= wife
Bees and honey=money
Fork and knife=wife

11. Exclamation/Cockney Slang

Charles's dead!= to draw attention when somebody's trousers are unzipped
He has a load on. = he is drunk
There are ants on your pants.= anxious or restless

12. Backslang or Pig Latin

Rennig=nigger
Ump chay = chump (a foolish person)
A.C.A.B= All Coppers are bastards

JARGON- (American Dictionary)" the language, especially the vocabulary, peculiar to a particular trade, profession, or group; medical jargon".

A language that is characterized by uncommon or pretentious vocabulary and convoluted syntax and is often vague in meaning.

Unlike most slang, academic jargon is typically not imaginative or picturesque. Too much of it would make one feeling stifled, even oppressed. Like some slang, jargon might keep outsiders out, serving to exclude. Nonetheless, jargon has its place, enabling members of a group to communicate about their interests. There are also non-academic jargon which is delightfully creative as with the metaphoric trucker jargon like bear in the air, rubber duck, roller skate, alligator and etc.

This is originally an old French word meaning "warbling of birds". In Britain, government jargon is called, "whitehalese". In the United States, "Federal Prose" or "Gobbledygook (from the gobbling noise of Turkey cock)

Jargon and Argot

- The terms *jargon* and *argot* are often used almost interchangeably to refer to "obscure or secret language" or "language of a particular occupational group".
- The term *argot* arose in the 17th century as the label for a speech variety used by French beggars and street merchants and later was applied to the secret language of criminals.

• The Examples of Jargon and Argot

- Cockney rhyming slang...English argot used among navies in London's East End in the 19th century (*bees & honey* ; money, *merry-go-round*; pound sterling)

- Gay lingo; used among homosexual co.
- Hacker jargon (*freeware, happiware, etc.*)
- Cyberspace jargon (*www, mailing list, e-mail, etc.*)

Examples of Jargons:

1. Grease= money
2. A tiger hunter= a gambler

KINDS OF JARGONS

1. Medical Jargons

- Agonal - Term to signify a major, negative change in a patient's condition
- BP - Medical shorthand for blood pressure
- FX - Medical jargon meaning bone fracture
- JT - A joint
- NPO - A patient should not take anything by mouth
- IM - Intramuscular
- K - The elemental symbol for potassium

2. Business Jargons

- Bang for the buck - A term that means, to get the most for your money
- Due diligence - Putting effort into research before making a business decision
- Sweat equity - Getting a stake in the business instead of pay
- The 9-to-5 - Business jargon meaning a standard work day
- Chief cook and bottle-washer - A person who holds many responsibilities

3. Police Jargons

- Suspect - A person whom the police think may have committed a crime
- 10-4 - Radio jargon meaning Okay or I understand
- Code Eight - Term that means officer needs help immediately
- Code Eleven - A code that means the individual is at the scene of the crime
- FTP - The failure of an individual to pay a fine
- Assumed room temperature: An individual has died

4. Military Jargons

- TD - Temporary duty
- AWOL - Absent without leave
- SQDN - A squadron
- SAM - Surface-to-Air missile
- PCS - A permanent change of station
- LES - Leave and earning statement

5. Political Jargons

- Left wing - Political jargon for liberal, progressive viewpoint

- Right wing - Jargon meaning a conservative viewpoint
- Getting on a soapbox - Making a speech in public
- POTUS - President of the United States
- SCOTUS - Supreme Court of the United States

6. Internet Jargons

- BTW - By the way
- CYA - See you around
- FAQ - Frequently asked questions
- HTH - Hope this helps
- MOTD - Message of the day
- YMMV - Your mileage may vary
- IIRC - If I remember correctly
- IANAL - I am not a lawyer
- LOL - Laugh out loud
- BFF - Best friends forever
- TTYL - Talk to you later

7. Campus Jargons

A lexic= a student preparing for a law course

8. Trucker Jargons

Differentiating Terms:

Gobbledgook- long stretches of pretentious, often unintelligible words; reminds one of the gobbling and “gook”-ing and pretentious strutting of a turkey.

Slang- informal, casual, often playful words. Typically short-lived coinages and figures of speech that are deliberately used in place of standard terms for added raciness, humor, irreverence or other effect.

Cant- sometimes used synonymously with “jargon” and “slang”, but more often referring to hypocritical affectation, “humbug”-or whining manner of speech-of tramps, thieves, or beggars.

Argot- secret language used by criminals; criminal cant.

Doublespeak- obscure, deceptive, inhumane, or propagandistic language-especially such language with pernicious, social or political consequence.

Tech Speak-As defined by Edward Tenner in his book Tech Speak, or How to Talk High Tech.” It is post colloquial discourse modulation protocol for user status enhancement. It is a referential system for functional-structural, microscopically specific macroscopic object redesignation. It is a universal semantic transformation procedure. It is a

holophrastic technocratic socilect. It is a meta-semiotic mode for task specific nomenclature.”

Computerese-The Tech Speak of computer geeks. He was running OS/2 se 1.0 on an AT/099 with an ST251-1.”

Buzzword-An important-sounding word or phrase connected with a specialized field or group that is used primarily to impress lay persons. “Sensitivity is the buzzword in he beauty industry this fall.”

Alphabet soup- language laced with acronyms. “ An RFP was issued by DOE; ORNL for the ORR.

Bureaucratese-the inflated, euphemistic, official-sounding language of government-often dripping with alphabet soup.

Pentagonese-military jargon..” After the damage assessment study, our weapons systems revisited the site to further suppress enemy assets; we achieved effective attrition, but unfortunately, we had collateral damage due to incontinent ordinance.”

PC- “Politically Correct” speech; language that goes to absurd lengths trying to avoid offending various classes of people. “ The anthropology professor lectured on Neanderthal person.”

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