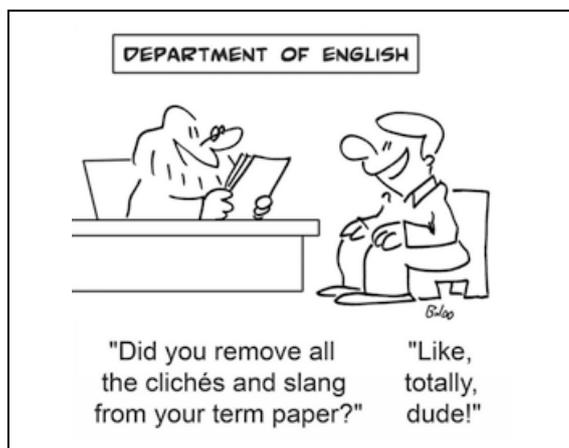




What you say and how you say it

It isn't always easy to say the right thing in different situations. Here you can find out more about register.



Describe the cartoon. What comment does it make about the way young people use English? Do you agree?

What can you say?

Choose an appropriate reaction to each situation.

1. Your best friend tells you that her expensive new phone stopped working after six months.
2. A teacher tells you that you got 98% on a test. You expected to get about 50%.
3. You are telling a friend's grandmother about a new computer game.
4. Your brother tells you that the US is 1,000 times bigger than Germany.
5. A police officer tells you that a local road is closed. You never use this road.

Useful phrases

I don't think that's true. | I'm very sorry to hear that. |
 It's absolutely amazing. | You gotta be kidding me, right? |
 That sucks bad. | What a load of garbage. | Whatever, dude. |
 It's like, totally, *totally* wild and awesome. | You must be joking! |
 It won't make any difference to me.

Think of more situations and ask your classmates to find good reactions.

Informal English

1. We're **gonna** be late.
2. I **gotta** go now.
3. I **wanna** be famous.
4. Let's get **outta** here.
5. I **woulda** called **ya** if I'd had **ya** number.

Can you find the standard forms of the words in bold?

Across cultures



In informal English (especially informal American English), some words are often joined and/or pronounced in a different way. You can find these forms in song lyrics for example, but not usually in other types of writing.

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