

## QUESTION TIME

### Slang

#### Slang statement

Wotcha

Respect

We're gonna have a stab at learning some Pommie lingo and getting the message as to its handle.

Cheers

(see over for translation)

**Slang** individual words or phrases that are informal spoken language

- Not usually written down, so spelling can vary
- Developing all the time – new expressions all the time
- May give words a totally different meaning from that in the dictionary e.g. *wicked*
- Context/setting/situation important for understanding meaning
- May involve imports from other situations, languages or cultures e.g. *he's cheesed off*
- Often spoken quickly and so tends to shorten words/phrases e.g. *brilliant* becomes *brill*
- Often used with particular group of people to show membership of group e.g. teenagers
- Key thing is understanding when you hear slang; OK to speak yourself provided hearers know the slang e.g. with friends
- Avoid use with new contacts and in formal situations
- Need to differentiate from 'swearing' (see below)

#### Swearing

**Correct use:** In a law court or in a religious setting; is an agreement between people, using a higher authority as confirmation or guarantor of agreement e.g. *'I swear by Almighty God that I shall tell the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth.'*

**Incorrect use:** Much more often today used in everyday spoken language as a way of making a strong statement, often using the name of God or Jesus inappropriately. E.g. *'Oh, my God'* *'By Christ'* *'Bloody hell'* *'Fuck off'*. They can be offensive to those listening. They are often used in hard or difficult or extreme situations, showing shock, horror, concern, bravado.

**They are all expressions that are better avoided in any situation, formal or informal.**

## Statement in formal English

Hello

Welcome to this group.

We're going to try to learn some English slang and find out what it means.

Thank you

### 20 examples of slang or idioms

Can you guess what they mean?

1. Cheers
2. She's got cold feet
3. It's raining cats and dogs
4. I'm snowed under with work
5. She got a second wind after a few minutes
6. It was just a storm in a teacup
7. He felt under the weather.
8. She took the wind out of my sails.
9. That cuts no ice with me
10. Give them a big hand!
11. An old banger
12. That's on the right lines.
13. The cop shop
14. He dropped a real clanger
15. Down in the dumps
16. She's in the driving seat.
17. It cost a bomb
18. Let's jack it in.
19. It's really cool!
20. He's in bits.