

# DICTIONARY OF *SLANG*

Here we've got some examples of how to say things in different situations.

|  Situation  | Formal  | Relaxed  | Informal  |
|--|--|--|--|
| <i>You have a problem, but don't know what to do. You talk to a friend about it.</i>   | I am <b>at a loss</b> with regards to how to proceed.                                    | I really don't know what to do.  | I'm stumped; I'm stuck; I'm bugged if I know; I haven't got a <b>clue</b> what to do.        |
| <i>You have just told a joke to a friend. Your friend doesn't like the joke and gets angry. You tell him to stop being so serious.</i> | Please refrain from being so humourless.   | Come on, it's only a joke.   | Oh lighten up; take it easy; <b>chill</b> out.   |
| <i>It's late at night and you invite a friend to come to your house.</i>   | Would you like to accompany me to my place of residence.                                 | Do you want to come back to my place.  | <b>Fancy</b> coming back to my <b>pad</b> ; wanna come back to mine?                         |
| <i>You are very tired. You tell a friend that you are going to bed.</i>  | I am going to retire for the night.  | I'm going to bed.  | I'm gonna hit the <b>sack</b> ; I'm going to turn in; I'm gonna hit the <b>hay</b> .         |
| <i>You and your partner are going to the cinema. It's late, but your partner is still getting dressed. You tell him to hurry up.</i>   | Please make haste as we are pressed for time.  | Come on! We're in a hurry.   | Get a move on; get your <b>skates</b> on.  |
| <i>You are talking with a friend and explaining how situation A is completely different from situation B.</i>                          | It differs greatly.  | It's completely different; there's no comparison.  | It's a whole different <b>kettle</b> of fish; it's a whole different ball game.              |
| <i>You are telling a friend about an exam and how you did very badly.</i>  | I failed to perform to the best of my ability.   | I did really badly.  | I fluffed it; I messed up big style; I screwed up; I had a <b>nightmare</b> .                |

## GLOSSARY Please note that the words in this glossary box are literal translations of parts of idiomatic expressions.

**a clue** *n*  
advice that helps you solve a mystery  
**chill** *n*  
if there is a "chill", it is cold  
**(do you) fancy...** *exp*  
would you like...  
**a pad** *n*  
a thick piece of material used to clean or

protect things  
**a sack** *n*  
a cloth container for potatoes, etc  
**hay** *n*  
dried grass  
**wto shake** *vb*  
to move up and down or from side to side

**skates** *n*  
shoes with wheels on them for sport  
**a kettle** *n*  
an electrical device (or metal container) for boiling water  
**a nightmare** *n*  
a terrible and frightening dream

