

NAVIGATING THE DIGITAL WORLD

Know more. Stress less.

Speaking Gen Z

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2021 Teen Slang Meanings Every Parent Should Know

AF	As f*ck
A mood	A relatable feeling or situation (often shortened to the single word, "mood")
And I oop	Used when something is really surprising or provocative
And that's on [something]	Used to indicate that you've just shared a truth that needs no further discussion
ASL	Age/sex/location
Bae	Significant other or crush
Basic	Someone who is viewed as boring or a conforming person
Bet	A response indicating agreement. Example: "Wanna go to the store?" "Bet."
Bih	Short form of b*tch
Body count	The number of people someone has slept with
Bruh	"Bro"; can be used to address anybody
BTS	A Korean boy band popular with tweens and teens
Bussin'	Awesome. Example: "These tacos are bussin'."
Cappin'	Lying
CEO of [something]	To be a representative of some activity or thing. Example: "Taylor is the CEO of sleeping in late."
Cheugy	Used to describe someone or something that is basic, out of date, or trying too hard
Cursed	Used to describe something (usually an online image) that is unsettling or creepy
Cringe	Causing feelings of embarrassment or awkwardness
Daddy	An attractive man, usually older, who conveys a sense of power and dominance
Ded	Used when something is really funny or embarrassing. Example: "OMG that meme has me ded!"

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cont'd.

Dope	A way to describe something as cool or awesome
DTF	Down to f*ck
Egirl/Eboy	A young person with emo-inspired, punk-rock style
Facts	An emphatic way to acknowledge the truth of someone's statement
Fam	Friends
FBOI	F*ck boy; a guy just looking for sex
FINSTA	Fake Instagram account
FOMO	Fear of missing out
Fire	Amazing
FWB	Friends with benefits
Gas	Can refer to marijuana, be used to describe something that's cool, or be used as a verb to mean "hype someone up"
Ghosted	Ending a relationship by completely disappearing with no further communication
Goals	Something you want or aspire to
GOAT	Greatest of all time
GTG	Got to go
Gucci	Something good or cool
Hentai	Graphic anime pornography
High key	Very interested in; actively spreading information
Hits different	When something is better than it normally is because of different circumstances. Example: "A cold soda just hits different when it's super hot outside."
ISO	In search of

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IYKYK	"If you know you know"; meant to imply that there's an inside joke
Juul	Type of e-cigarette that is small and discreet; 'pods' are used for smoking
Karen	Used to refer to an entitled mom
KMS	Kill myself
KYS	Kill yourself
Lit/turnt/turnt up	Something that's active or popular; can also refer to being stoned or drunk
LMAO	Laughing my ass off
LMP	A term that means "like my pic"; sometimes stands for "lick my p*ssy"
LOL	Laugh out loud
Low key	Somewhat interested in; keeping information secret
Meal	Someone who looks good enough to eat. See also: "snack" or "snacc"
Netflix and chill	Getting together and hooking up
No cap	Used to indicate that someone is not lying
NP	No problem
OFC	Short for "of course"
OK, Boomer	Calling out an idea that is outdated or resistant to change
OMFG	Oh my f*cking god
Plug	Term used to refer to someone who can "connect" you with drugs; a drug dealer
PMOYS	Acronym that stands for "put me on your Snapchat"
ROTFLMAO	Rolling on the floor laughing my ass off
Salty	To be bitter or cranky about something

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Same	"I can relate"
Shading	Where teens gossip about another party without naming them; also "throw shade" means to talk about someone
Ship	Short for "relationship"; also used as a verb to indicate a desire to see two people together. Example: "I ship Taylor and Jamie."
Sis	Short for "sister" but can be used to address anybody; usually used to express that drama has occurred
Skeet	To ejaculate
Smash	Means to have casual sex
SMDH	Shaking my damn head
SMH	"Shaking my head," meaning "I don't believe it" or "that's so dumb"
Snack/snacc	Describes an attractive person
Snapstreak	Created when friends send snaps every day, creating a streak
Snatched	On point, very good, or well styled
Spam	A fake social media account
Squad	Close friend group
Stan	A slang term meaning an overzealous or obsessive fan of a particular celebrity
STFU	Short for "shut the f*ck up"; can be used as an expression of disbelief or to cyberbully
Swoop	To be picked up in an automobile
TBH	To be honest
Tea	Gossip or interesting news shared between friends
Thicc	Having an attractive, curvy body

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cont'd.

TF	“The f*ck,” as in “who TF you think you are?”
Thirsty	Desperate for attention, usually sexual attention
Thot	Stands for “that ho over there” and is often used instead of “slut”
Trash	“Terrible,” “unacceptable”
V	“Very”
Vibing	Chilling out, having a good time, or identifying with a certain kind of energy
VSCO girl	A style characterized by Hydro Flasks, Crocs, and scrunchies
WAP	Wet-*ss p*ssy
Woke	Socially or politically conscious
WTF	What the f*ck?
WYA	Where you at?
WYD	What you doing?
YAAS	A very emphatic yes
YEET	A very strong word for yes; to throw something
Zaddy	A well-dressed, attractive man of any age

Less Frequently Used Teen Slang Terms

420	Marijuana reference
11:11	Popular time to make a wish
ASB	“As balls.” Example: “I’m high asb.”
Chad	A hyper-sexual young man
Chill	Relaxed or laid back
Coney	Slang for “penis”
CYA	“Cover your ass” or “see ya”
Dabbing	Refers to concentrated doses of cannabis; also a dance craze
Dongle	Slang for “penis”
HEAF	An acronym for “High Expectations Asian Father”
Hulk	A 2mg generic benzodiazepine bar, which is green
ILY	I love you
IRL	In real life
JK	Just kidding
OKURRR	Variation of “OKAY” made popular by rapper Cardi B, who defines it as something that is said to affirm when someone is being put in their place
School bus	A 2mg Xanax bar, which is yellow
SH	Sh*t happens
SUFF	An acronym meaning “Shut up, f*ck face”
TDTM	Talk dirty to me
WUF	Where you from?

2021 TikTok Slang: A Comprehensive Guide for Parents

If you've ever wondered why your teen or tween spends so much time on TikTok, you're not alone. TikTok is an incredibly popular app right now, and for Generation Z, it's an important part of their cultural landscape. While there's a ton of new content added every minute—and much of it has a flavor-of-the-week type of popularity—there's an entire collection of TikTok slang words kids regularly use on the app that has spilled over into everyday slang.

Here are some of the phrases you'll see over and over again on TikTok (and now other social media platforms)—with a translation for parents so you'll know what your kid is actually saying.

It's the _____ for me

This incredibly popular fill-in-the-blank phrase is used in two primary ways: a conversation where you go back and forth stating things you either love about something or can't stand about something. For example, if you're talking about why you don't like school, you could say, "It's the early mornings for me," and your friend would say, "It's the Zoom calls for me."

He on X Games mode

ESPN's X Games are the Olympics of extreme sports like skateboarding, BMX, snowboarding, and more. The phrase originated on the now-defunct video-streaming platform Vine—a guy films his friend doing a cool trick and reacts by saying, "He on X Games mode!" This audio is now played on TikTok over all

kinds of activities where someone does something impressive—but always with a heavy dose of sarcasm.

Say sike rn

Remember saying something false when you were growing up and then screaming "SIKE!" to indicate you were joking? Kids today have a similar TikTok slang version of it. "Say sike rn" translates to "please tell me you're joking right now."

You're wrong but go off

This is a sassy way to acknowledge that someone is incorrect about an idea, but that you know they're determined to keep spouting their opinion no matter what.

PERIODT

Need to add a definitive closer to something you're trying to say? Instead of saying "AND THAT'S FINAL, MISTER," like your mom would have said, try using "PERIODT." As in, there's nothing more to add to this sentence or conversation—it's over. The final T makes the word even more crisp and clear.

Vibe check

Want to ask how someone is doing? With your friends, you'd probably just ask, "How ya been?" But your kid may just use TikTok slang to ask their BFF: "Vibe check?" If your kid thinks you're easy-going, fun, and forgiving of small mistakes, they might say that you "pass the vibe check."

We stan a ____ queen/king

As you may know, to "stan" someone or something is to be a fan of that person or thing. When you say you "stan a ____ queen/king," that means you're supporting someone who truly deserves it—a compliment, as in: "Harry Styles was really cool about asking for permission before touching people while shooting the music video for 'Watermelon Sugar.' We stan a consent king."

It really do be like that sometimes

This simple TikTok slang saying is akin to "it is what it is"—an acceptance of life's ups and downs. It's also used to show that what someone is going through is relatable.

Simp nation

A "simp" refers to someone (usually but not always a boy) who goes out of their way to do things for the person they're attracted to in the hope that they'll start dating—but who ends up stuck in the "friend zone." Because of this, it tends to be used as an insult. Simp nation, then, refers to this collective group of people. It's often a warning, as in: "Don't become a part of Simp nation!"

Emoji Slang: A Guide for Parents

You probably know some of the slang terms your child uses while texting, but you may be completely baffled by all the emoji slang they use to chat with friends. Don't worry—we've unpacked some of the most common emojis teens and tweens use so you can know what they're actually saying. Warning: some of these can be a little 🌶️ (explained below).

	Penis
	Butt
	"Dump truck," which refers to a large and/or shapely bottom
	Vagina
	Used when getting caught in a mistake or when feeling like a fraud
	Indicates being "ghosted" (dumped with no explanation)
	Symbolizes a lie, which could also be called a "cap"
	Shy, nervous (usually in the context of flirting)
	Oral sex
	Ejaculation
	May indicate sexual activity, especially oral sex
	Used when someone has an "hourglass" body shape
	Feeling frisky or naughty
	A response that means, "It is what it is"
	Can be used in comments to denote a sarcastic, mean-spirited tone
	Marijuana/weed
	Desiring someone sexually (often used in response to nudes)
	Breasts/testicles/virginity
	Represents nudes, which are often called "noods"
	Used when sending or receiving nudes
	A stamp of approval; "I agree"
	Used to refer to sexual activity
	Indicates "spiciness," i.e., inappropriate or risqué content