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# PATTERNS OF ENGLISH SLANG USED BY TIKTOK CONTENT CREATORS: A SEMANTIC ANALYSIS



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## Abstract

This study aimed to identify different patterns of English slang used by TikTok content creators. It also examined how TikTok content creators influence slang usage patterns. The research employed a qualitative descriptive method and followed Allan and Burridge's (2006) framework for categorizing slang, such as Fresh and Creative, Flippant, Imitative, Clipping, and Acronym. Semantic analysis was used to explore the meanings and usage patterns of selected slang. The sample included 25 instances of slang collected from TikTok. Findings indicated that TikTok plays a vital role in propagating slang within digital communication, with each slang type reflecting its unique features, emotions, and usage patterns. Slang helps users stay connected and learn new words; however, it also has both positive and negative effects, as some users struggle to understand its meanings and applications. The study concludes that slang functions as both cultural and social symbols, forming an essential part of informal digital communication. It recommends further research involving comparative analysis across platforms such as TikTok, Instagram, and Twitter, as well as across different age groups, cultural contexts, and genders.

**Keywords:** English Slang, Semantic Analysis, Slang Categorization, Informal Language, Digital Communication

### Introduction

Social media has become an essential tool for communication and information sharing, particularly on platforms like TikTok, Facebook, and Instagram. TikTok is a key platform where slang is commonly used to communicate. According to Saputra and Marlina (2019), slang words are a type of informal language that is usually temporary. Slang is defined as informal language or short forms of phrases that people use to describe themselves and communicate with each other in casual settings. Slang has gained popularity among teenagers as a way to build social connections and express themselves, and is frequently used in informal and online communication (Cheer & Augustin 2020).

According to Brown et al. (2020), slang is an informal and colloquial form of language that is popular and contemporary. It is widely used in informal settings and

social groups to establish new grammatical norms. They also examined how language is subject to change over time and how humans develop language. Many people use slang in their daily conversations, and it is also commonly used on social media platforms. These platforms, including social networks, blogs, wikis, forums, and virtual worlds, enable users to interact, share, and create content with ease. Social networks have become a popular type of social media.

Slang plays an essential role in promoting content, particularly on TikTok, and helps creators connect with their audience by speaking the same language. According to Sari et al. (2021), TikTok content creators who are attractive to viewers and align with their brand and identity are created to fulfil various purposes, such as education, entertainment, promotion, or informational objectives. They also produce content for multiple platforms and assess existing live content. Content that encourages product promotion to a significant following undoubtedly impacts viewers. Such promotional content aims to increase sales of the product. Slang is used in informal settings where individuals from specific groups communicate casually with each other and describe themselves (Putrawan et al., 2020; Saputra & Marlina, 2019). Slang refers to phrases teenagers commonly use during interactions, and it involves more than just perfect grammar and accurate pronunciation (Trimasturi, 2017). Allan and Burridge (2006) identified seven reasons for using slang in conversations, such as the ability to bring people together, reflect personal identity, express humour, facilitate informal discussions, adapt language to suit the audience, show personal bonding, and make conversations more memorable and impactful.

Slang is a complex and powerful part of language that reflects various aspects of culture, society, and history. It also involves creative and informal uses of language, with features like humour used for playful and catchy expressions such as "bestie". Slang tends to be concise, shortening long phrases into brief forms like "fav" (for favourite). Its originality enables speakers to create new words to express their identity or trendiness, such as "sparkler" (diamond). However, slang is also unstable, evolving quickly as old words take on new meanings, like gay, which was once slang but is now widely used.

### **Problem Statement**

Although slang is commonly used in everyday conversation, understanding how to

classify and interpret English slang, especially in the context of TikTok, is essential. While slang often appears in informal communication, many of its meanings and usage patterns remain unexplored. This research investigates the categorization of different types of English slang on TikTok, as well as how these patterns influence language in digital interactions.

## **Objectives**

- 1. To categorize and recognize the different types of English slang employed by TikTok content creators
- 2. To investigate how TikTok content creators influenced slang usage patterns

## **Research Questions**

- 1. What types of English slang are used by TikTok content creators, and how are they categorized into different groups?
- 2. How do TikTok content creators shape the usage patterns of slang?

## Significance of This Research

This research aims to uncover valuable insights into how English slang is used on social media platforms, with a focus on TikTok. It seeks to clarify how TikTok content creators employ slang in informal and digital settings. The findings help to classify slang and illustrate how language is utilized in online interactions. Additionally, it is beneficial for researchers aiming to understand the relationship between social media and language, especially within the context of communication and linguistics. The study demonstrates how emerging language trends on TikTok influence our approaches to digital communication.

## **Literature Review**

Key Terms

## **Categories of Slang**

According to Allan and Burridge (2006), slang is classified into five categories: fresh and creative, flippant, clipping, imitative, and acronym.

## **Fresh and Creative**

This slang category has developed a new vocabulary used to describe things in informal contexts. For example, 'sis' is used informally or among friends to prevent misunderstandings.

## Flippant

Words that have no apparent relation in denotative meaning and are composed of two or more words. For example, 'breaking a leg' is an expression used to wish good luck to an actor.

## Clipping

It is a shorter form of a word or a way of removing part of a longer word, but the meaning remains the same. For example, an advertisement is called an ad.

## Imitative

Imitative originally derived from Standard English. It is a combination of two words used in various contexts of Standard English. For example, *"wanna" is a slang derived from the phrase "wants to."* 

### Acronym

The meaning of an acronym is derived from the initials of each word in a phrase or from words or syllables, which are then pronounced as a new word. For example, NATO stands for the North Atlantic Treaty Organization.

## **Related Studies**

Slang is an informal word or phrase commonly used in casual settings, such as with family and friends. It is not used formally and often evolves over time. Although it is not taught in schools, it remains widely used, especially among young people. Slang forms part of language variation because people need to express themselves and sometimes to display their social status.

Budiasa et al. (2021) argue that the use of social media slang among teenagers has become increasingly prevalent, contributing to the trend in youth culture. The popularity of his phenomenon points to the way language is used in online spaces. Nuraeni and Pahamzah (2021) found that modern and trendy expressions, considered less formal than standard or even polite informal language, are slang. They help people feel more comfortable, break some writing rules, and give them a way to be part of a group. Slang results highlight the inventiveness of how people communicate and contribute to the evolution of language. In today's world, teenagers and young people frequently use slang.

According to the study by Putra, Bahar, and Fauzi (2024), the impact of TikTok slang on language use and communication styles was examined, including the regional

development and dissemination of slang, and the sociolinguistic effects of slang on intercultural interaction, identity formation, and interpersonal communication through a qualitative descriptive approach.

Ugoala (2024) observed that colloquial speech has diversified in recent years, introducing new words, phrases, numerals, and acronyms that have gained new meanings within the TikTok community, thereby influencing the English lexicon. This semantic shift confirms the platform's role as a hub of linguistic innovation.

Ifarisy (2022) collected written and spoken slang from TikTok comments and videos, applying qualitative methods to identify and describe slang expressions. The study found that slang on TikTok functions as a medium for social change, artistic expression, and a catalyst for the evolution of new language. TikTok slang significantly impacts users' lives, influencing how they shape their social identity and interaction styles.

According to Jeresano and Carretero (2022), around 5,400 new words are created each year. However, only 1,000 of those deemed sufficiently popular are published in print, showing that social media platforms like TikTok play a vital role in shaping the lexicon.

Turunovich (2024) investigated the various ways slang is used, including to identify individuals and their cultural backgrounds, demonstrating that slang serves different functions in English today. He states that slang reflects language trends emerging from cultural shifts, primarily driven by digital forums where young people play a key role in shaping language use. Thus, learning about slang on social media reveals significant changes in language and society as a whole.

Situmorang et al. (2024) analyzed how teenagers on TikTok use slang and its effects on their communication practices. Comments on TikTok were examined through descriptive research to understand the meaning of slang in these contexts. The findings indicate that slang strengthens relationships and helps people express emotions more effectively. Speaking in plain language with a touch of slang often captures people's attention more effectively, the authors explain. The results suggest that slang facilitates emotional expression and enhances social bonds, though it can also reduce clarity and lead to misunderstandings. Their research highlights the role of social media in language change, understanding digital communication, and the link

between language and social identity among youth.

Furthermore, Mahardika (2023) states that social media has influenced English slang beyond linguistic evolution, incorporating broader sociological trends as individuals with formal education and the internet community understand the language change in the digital era. The effect of language use in society is influenced by Gen Z's development of slang and its impact on how communication technology, primarily TikTok videos, frequently share content from uploaded songs on social media platforms. Qualitative techniques, such as user interviews on TikTok, were also employed to analyze the meanings, context, and language variations used in their content. The significance of these slang variations was investigated, shedding light on their function in both online and offline communication.

Similarly, Syafa'ah and Haryanto (2023) explored the use of slang across various social media platforms, with a strong focus on TikTok among Generation Z. They conducted their research using semantic analysis and adopted a qualitative descriptive approach. The data was collected through observation, recording of events, and the use of questionnaires. Slang was frequently employed in how Generation Z communicated with their friends and followers, as well as in their interactions with them.

Mukhtar et al. (2023) employed semantic and lexical methods, as well as stylistic analysis, to examine data selected from TikTok. It analysed figurative devices and the meanings of phrases and sentences used by TikTok content creators. A qualitative approach was used to conduct the stylistic analysis, which included semantic variation, code-mixing, and lexical deviation in the selected content. The lexical stylistic analysis focused on terminology, lexical deviation, and code-mixing. For this study, five videos were selected from both content creators for analysis. Both creators employed specific stylistic devices in their videos to effectively highlight concepts and convey societal messages, thereby contributing to their popularity.

Additionally, Sulistiyaningsih and Muttaqiyah (2022) analyzed slang in TikTok videos and comments. This study aimed to examine slang on TikTok and determine its meanings. It also adopts a descriptive qualitative approach. The authors gathered information by focusing on slang-filtered community criticism. Data analysis revealed that slang was funny, casual, contemporary, and obligatory in all speech and

light-hearted forms of satire. It is also used for entertainment. As a result, studies on slang are expected to continue emerging, as evidenced by the evolving nature of the language.

### **Research Methodology**

The study employed a qualitative descriptive approach to categorize the meaning and usage of slang. This approach helps answer questions effectively by providing detailed information based on the collected data. It offers a comprehensive understanding for researchers to explore how language is used in digital and social contexts, such as the study of slang. The study used Allan and Burridge's (2006) theoretical framework for analysis, which classifies slang into five categories: Fresh and Creative, Imitative, Clipping, Flippant, and Acronym. This framework provides a thorough method for examining the data gathered from TikTok. All slang is categorized into these groups after applying semantic analysis to investigate meanings, usage patterns, and how language develops and is used informally on social media platforms.

The sample size for this research consisted of 25 slang words collected from TikTok content creators. The population of this research was TikTok content creators who frequently used English slang in their videos, hashtags, and captions. The purpose of sampling was to identify widely used and evolving slang in digital communication. Slang was selected based on its popularity, verified creators' status, and engagement metrics. TikTok was the primary tool for collecting data. Data were gathered for this study through observation, after viewing TikTok videos and reading their hashtags and captions. It also ensured that TikTok content creators were verified and used English slang.

Data was collected through a comprehensive procedure, which began by searching for a random slang on TikTok. The second step involved verifying the accounts. The final step was to save the videos, hashtags, and captions from TikTok. Each slang term was analyzed based on the research framework. The analysis revealed how slang is popular on TikTok and reused within its digital context. This study is limited to English slang used by TikTok content creators within the specified timeframe. It also aims to provide a better understanding of how slang is used in the English language. This study only collected data from TikTok and did not consider the

impact on language or other platforms. The focus is solely on analyzing English slang used by TikTok content creators, categorized into different groups, and then explaining their meanings and usage patterns.

## **Data Analysis / Discussions**

Within the scope of this study, 25 slang terms were selected for analysis. These slang terms were gathered from TikTok videos, hashtags, and captions. After collecting the slang, the classification framework proposed by Allan and Burridge (2006) was used. Five categories of slang were examined: Fresh and Creative, Imitative, Clipping, Flippant, and Acronym. The selected slang overlapped between these categories—such as 5 from Fresh and Creative, and Imitative; 6 from Fresh and Creative, and Flippant; 3 from Imitative and Flippant; 8 from Clipping and Acronym; 1 from Clipping and Acronym; and 2 from Flippant and Acronym. Subsequently, a semantic analysis was conducted to identify the meanings and usage patterns of each slang in digital interactions.

Sr No.	Slang	Categories
3.	Crashing out	
4.	Obsessed	Fresh and Creative
5.	Ghosted	&
6.	NPC	Imitative
7.	Beat the Face	
8.	Delulu	
9.	I'm Dead	Fresh and Creative
10	). Bruh	&
11	. Pop off	Flippant
12	2. Mid	
13	B. Girls Math	
14	Sheesh	Imitative
15	5. Zapped	&
16	5. Pick me Girl	Flippant
17	7. OOTD	
18	3. IDK	

19. FYP	
20. TBH	Clipping
21. BRB	&
22. ASAP	Acronym
23. IMHO	
24. OTW	
25. FTW	Clipping & Flippant
26. S.I.M.P	Flippant & Acronym
27. IJK	

## **Semantic Analysis**

The semantic analysis focuses on words, meanings, and usage patterns in a specific context and how language reflects social behaviors and cultural trends. Or semantic analysis studies meaning in language (linguistic signs or symbols) concerning how different words and phrases combine to form meaningful sentences. It examines the relationships between the elements in a sentence and their meanings, revealing the subtleties of communication. Studying how languages develop and are used in different environments is crucial, especially in more colloquial contexts such as social media.

Canon Event

## Meaning

*Canon Event* Meaning: Derived from movie jargon, this describes a major, inevitable life event that shapes a person into who they are today; it is often interpreted as fate.

## **Usage Pattern**

Spider-Verse allusion films popularized it; this is used when someone makes a mistake or learns a difficult lesson. It is commonly used in captions and videos.

## Crashing Out

## Meaning

*Crashing out* means falling asleep suddenly or due to exhaustion, often without planning to do so. It can also refer to someone so dizzy that they fall asleep during an activity or in an unexpected location.

## **Usage Pattern**

Crashing out is used in video captions showing someone sleeping on a couch in the

middle of a party, in class, or even during a Zoom call. It often seems amusing to pay attention to someone who is incredibly bored or tired. It also describes emotional burnout, such as when someone becomes mentally or physically exhausted after a long day.

#### Obsessed

### Meaning

*Obsessed* means strong affection or connection to something, usually humorously or exaggeratedly. It shows how much someone loves or is impressed by something rather than necessarily implying literal obsession.

#### **Usage Pattern**

Obsessed is frequently used on Twitter, Instagram, and TikTok to express admiration for style, music, trends, and personalities. Comments or captions like 'I'm obsessed with this look' or 'Obsessed, not even kidding' are commonly used. It may be intended to be dramatic, humorous, or beneficial.

Being ghosted

#### Meaning

The Meaning of *being ghosted* defines a circumstance in which someone suddenly and without cause stops communicating with you, often in friendships, dating, or online interactions. The other person is left confused or wondering what went wrong.

### **Usage Pattern**

*Being ghosted* is frequently used in confessional posts, Storytime, and skits on Instagram, Twitter, and TikTok. To explain the experience, people use phrases like "I got ghosted" or "he ghosted me after the second date. Additionally, it can be found in hashtags like #ghosted or #ghosting, and depending on the situation, it can be used humorously or sympathetically.

#### NPC

### Meaning

A non-playable character, or NPC, is from video games that refers to background characters that players cannot control. It's used frequently to characterize people who appear robotic, unimaginative, passive, or lacking in self-awareness as though they're merely "going through the motions" without any true originality or thought.

### **Usage Pattern**

*NPC* is used in voiceovers, memes, and captions on TikTok and Twitter to mock actions that appear simple, overly staged, or emotionless. It's frequently used ironically or humorously to draw attention to poor social manners or someone mindlessly following trends. The "NPC energy" and "acting like an NPC" are commonly used in reaction videos and comment sections.

Beat The Face

### Meaning

*Beat the Face* refers to a drag and makeup culture that involves applying makeup professionally and flawlessly, typically resulting in a polished, dramatic, or bold look. *Beat* is a positive verb in this sense, meaning to highlight facial features with an experienced technique.

### **Usage Pattern**

Beat the Face is frequently used in drag performance communities, Instagram tutorials, and beauty-focused TikTok videos. *She beat her Face!* It's *time to beat my Face for this party*! The expression, which is frequently used as a compliment or declaration of glam transformation, recognizes makeup artistry.

### Delulu

### Meaning

*Delulu* is a short form of delusional, which means someone's belief in unrealistic or overly idealistic fantasies. It is widely popular on social media when someone shows romantic situations, impractical ambitions, or private imaginations as fact.

### usage pattern

*Delulu,* commonly used on TikTok as a form of amusement, refers to fans who imagine their favorite celebrities, crushes, or ideal situations. It is frequently in captions (how delulu I am), hashtags (#delulu, #delulu is the new soul), and comments. Self-aware escapism is reflected in this, as users adopt their unrealistic behaviors for pleasure and emotional comfort.

## I'm Dead

## Meaning

*I'm dead* is a humorous way to say something is so funny or outrageous that it figuratively "killed" the speaker with laughter. It's not used literally, but it is common

among internet users to show extreme amusement.

### **Usage Pattern**

*I'm Dead* is often used in comment sections or video captions, particularly when people react to humorous content. It's frequently paired with emoji's like O (skull) or O (laughing Face) to exaggerate the humor. Bruh

## Meaning

*Bruh* conveys expressions of disbelief, frustration, amusement, or disappointment. It has evolved into a standalone reaction word used in various emotional situations, particularly when words cannot adequately express the unexpected nature of something.

## **Usage Pattern**

*Bruh* is commonly used in TikTok videos, captions, comments, and hashtags when something funny, awkward, or ridiculous happens for comedic effect. It is a joke response with a long pause and comedic effect.

Popped off

## Meaning

Popped off means that someone is doing exceptionally well at something or has come out of nowhere to have a significant impact. It could be dazzling performances, brave transformations, or a cheeky line.

## Usage pattern

Popped off is frequently used in TikTok captions, comments, or reactions to spotlight something extraordinary, such as a fierce dance, a bold outfit, or a dramatic clapback. It is also used in hashtags to spotlight the unexpected moments of success or high energy.

Mid

## Meaning

*Mid*-slang refers to describing something as unexceptional or exaggerated. It points to the fact that something falls short of expectations and is only inadequate rather than excellent. It frequently conveys a tone of direct criticism.

### Usage pattern

*Mid* is frequently used in reviews, comments, or reactions to emphasize shows, songs, trends, or even individuals, and it is a popular on TikTok and in online culture.

Informal words like "It was mid," "she's mid," "unimportant," and "mid" are frequently used, sometimes humorously or ironically, to initiate discussions within communities.

Girls Math

### Meaning

*Girl Math* is a playful slang and TikTok trend that refers to humorous, illogical justification or spending money based on an original or exaggerated idea. It's used in jest to make purchases seem financially responsible, even though it's not actual math.

#### **Usage Pattern**

*Girls' Math* is often seen on TikTok in humorous outbursts and skits where women (and occasionally men) defend their budgeting or shopping decisions. Users may say things like, "I made money because it was on sale," or "I have extra money to spend if I return something—it's girl math."

Sheesh

#### Meaning

Sheesh means to surprise, evoke curiosity, inspire amazement, or evoke shock. The word "sheesh" is often used to emphasize a reaction, especially for something outstanding, dramatic, or exaggerated.

### **Usage Pattern**

Sheesh is frequently used in duets, comments, and reaction videos on TikTok. When someone is excited or reacts to something outstanding, such as an outfit, makeover, or daring move, it's often used with a finger-pointing gesture and a high-pitched delivery. Zapped

#### Meaning

*Zapped* means being suddenly knocked out, mentally exhausted, or drained of energy. It can also refer to feeling overburdened or emotionally spent, as if your body or brain has just hit a wall.

### **Usage Pattern**

*Zapped* is frequently used in serious situations, intense work, or after a long day of mental exhaustion, but it can also be used humorously, depending on the situation. Content creators use it in TikTok video captions, tweets, or vlogs. Sometimes, 'zapped' is used when describing the effect of excessive screen time.

Pick Me Girl

## Meaning

*Pick Me Girl* refers to a girl or woman who seeks male validation by stereotyping other women, portraying herself as different from other girls. It means that she chooses to act in a way that attempts to stand out to men by being completely agreeable, self-critical, or critical of femininity.

## **Usage Pattern**

*Pick Me Girl* is widely used in skits, TikTok videos, memes, and commentary content, where creators often portray exaggerated Pick Me behavior (e.g., saying they only hang out with guys or sneering at makeup trends) to highlight internalized misogyny or gender stereotypes.

## OOTD

## Meaning

*OOTD* means outfit of the day. It is popular to show one's current outfit, particularly on social media. It reveals the person's style, fashion trends, or sometimes their moods.

## **Usage Pattern**

*OOTD* is commonly used in captions, hashtags (#OOTD), or video titles—most notably on TikTok, Instagram, and Pinterest. Creators use it to promote daily fits, thrift hauls, or fashion styles, commonly in mirror selfies or rapid outfit clips.

### IDK

### Meaning

*IDK*, or "I Don't Know," is an informal slang that means uncertain or lacking knowledge about something.

### **Usage Pattern**

*IDK* is commonly used in captions and comments on TikTok, Instagram, and messaging apps. It often appears with the emoji to indicate that someone has less knowledge about the person or thing.

### FYP

## Meaning

*FYP*, abbreviated from *For You Page*, is a key feature of TikTok, facilitating personalized browsing for users to showcase content based on their interests and activity. Using FYP in the hashtag is a way to link a video with trending topics to go

viral.

### **Usage Pattern**

FYP started first on TikTok hashtags (#FYP, #foryou, #foryoupage) because creators wanted their videos on the *For You Page* so they could get views and engagement. It is also used in comments like. It used to show appreciation for good content, then became a TikTok slang and trend for viral content.

TBH

#### Meaning

*TBH* stands for '*To Be Honest*' and is used to introduce a personal opinion, confession, or truth, typically to convey sincerity or emphasis. It can mean anything from an abrasive form of honesty to emotional naivety.

#### **Usage Pattern**

Usually used in texting, captions, and comments on TikTok, Instagram, and Twitter. Usually, the first line of a statement is used to soften verbal or insincere statements. It is also used in TBH teen posts, where users share kind and eloquent messages about others.

### BRB

#### Meaning

*BRB* stands for *Be Right Back*, which informs someone that you are taking a break or pause for a little while but will return soon. It was used early in internet chat and is still used in texting, gaming, and live streaming.

## **Usage Pattern**

*BRB* is commonly used in digital communication, particularly in texts, video games, chat rooms, live streams, and TikTok videos, as well as hashtags and captions. It provides an informal tone and implies a momentary pause in speech, debate, and videos.

ASAP

#### Meaning

ASAP means As Soon As Possible. It is a more generic abbreviation for requesting or asserting urgency in the sense of encouraging the performance of action in an expeditious fashion.

## **Usage Pattern**

It is used in both casual and professional situations, including texting, emailing, work chats, and social media. It can convey urgency, but the tone varies depending on the problem and can be polite, neutral, or assertive.

### IMHO

## Meaning

*IMHO* is abbreviated from *In MY Humble Opinion*, which is commonly used to express one's opinion. Although humble generally means modest, the tone can be genuine, sarcastic, or even passive-aggressive, depending on the situation.

## **Usage Pattern**

In my opinion, it is often used on social media platforms like TikTok, Instagram, and WhatsApp group chats, as well as in debates. In My Opinion, it is a written text that provides a personal account of a particular topic or softens an opinion.

## OTW

### Meaning

*OTW* stands for 'On the Way,' which is a way to inform someone that you are on route or on your way to your destination.

### **Usage Pattern**

*OTW* is commonly used in text message captions to provide brief details about your travel or toward your destination. For conversation and speed, it is frequently used in messaging, such as 'OMW' for 'on my way' or 'OTW' for 'out to walk'.

### FTW

## Meaning

FTW stands for "For the Win", and it refers to the enthusiasm or support a person has for or against something perceived as the best or most favorable choice in a situation or at all times.

### Usage pattern

*FTW* is commonly used in comments, posts, memes, and to convey positivity about a subject. On the other hand, it can be observed in discussions about what people want to convey to show excitement or approval regarding a decision, person, or idea. In humor, it also emphasizes a win or victory with the illustration of FTW.

## S.I.M. P

## Meaning

*S.I.M.P* is a slang word meaning someone (usually a man) who takes a long time to praise, support, or do favors for anyone they have feelings for, and is usually punished or ignored. It can be a serious or playful way to refer to exuberant or submissive behavior in a relationship.

## **Usage Pattern**

*S.I.M.P.* is often used on TikTok, Twitter, in memes, and on gaming forums to mock someone for being too nice or trying too hard to impress someone (sometimes unfairly) romantically. It can be funny or aimed at attacking unhealthy relationships. IJK

## Meaning

IJK is an abbreviation used to clarify that an earlier message was a joke or to indicate that it was not meant to be taken seriously. Text messages where tone can easily be misunderstood may also be used instead of IJK.

## **Usage Pattern**

IJK is widely used in online communication, particularly in text messages. DMs and comments are commonly used after making a cruel or sarcastic comment to lighten the tone and show that it's all in good fun.

The present study offers an analysis of categories, meanings, and usage patterns of slang and how slang is used in daily conversations on social media platforms, particularly TikTok. After conducting a semantic analysis of slang, this research explored the influence of English slang on TikTok. These slang terms are used to engage the audience, express identities, and gain popularity among youth. The younger generation utilise slang in their videos, hashtags, and captions within their daily content. Using slang has become a trend and is often linked to specific events to update or connect with the audience. It also highlights modern forms of communication that blend entertainment, expression, identity, and community.

### Conclusion

This study illustrates how people use different slang to express their identities, daily routines, and new fashion trends, sharing their emotions, styles, and behaviours. TikTok has become increasingly popular, especially among the younger generation,

introducing fresh slang. The research groups are divided into five categories: Fresh and Creative, Imitative, Clipping, Flippant, and Acronym. Based on Tiktok captions, hashtags, and videos, 25 slang terms were selected for the study. The results highlight that slang helps people stay connected with current trends and actively engage in online communities, making interactions livelier and more enjoyable.

Additionally, this research shows that English slang on TikTok acts as both cultural and social symbols, which are important parts of informal communication in digital environments. Each slang term has its own features, including emotion, usage pattern, and trends. Moreover, slang affects users in both positive and negative ways. The positive aspect is that users can broaden their vocabulary and stay updated with the latest language trends, benefiting everyone involved in language learning. The negative aspect is that many users find it hard to understand TikTok videos and are unaware of the meanings of slang.

### **Gap For Further Research**

Although many previous studies have analyzed the use of slang on social media platforms, some specific research focuses on slang used by TikTok content creators, exploring how it can be classified and its effect on digital language evolution. However, there have been earlier studies on slang in more general use across different platforms or particular sociolinguistic effects related to localization. Nonetheless, examining slang from a different perspective reveals new avenues of analysis. This research also offers further exploration of slang, and the researcher conducts a comparative study between social media platforms such as Instagram and TikTok. It will also examine it from the viewpoint of age groups, based on gender and cultural context.

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