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# American Slang Dictionary, Fourth Edition (McGraw-Hill ESL References)





## Synopsis

For the 411 on American slang, this guidebook is the top banana From "head trip" to "foot in mouth," American Slang Dictionary gives you the complete definitions of thousands of uniquely American words and phrases, ranging from golden oldies such as "catch some rays" and "take the fifth" to more up-to-the-minute coinages like Wall Street's "jonx," the Internet's "ping," and the gangsta's favorite, "shizzle." Inside you'll find more than 12,000 words and expressions from a wide variety of sources, including gangsta rap, the blogosphere, and the U.S. prison system. In a New York minute, you'll be down with the colloquialisms, vulgarities, and substandard English that make everyday interactions in contemporary American life so colorful. BSOD or blue screen of death the blue computer screen that appears after a programming or operational error crunk wild; crazy; out of control kvetch to complain left-handed monkey wrench a nonexistent tool word of mouse a message spread by e-mail

## **Book Information**

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#### **Customer Reviews**

It took me forever researching books for american slang. Some books have 3 different editions each covering about a 100 or so words each and selling for over \$20.Not this. It has everything those books have and more. I ordered the hard cover at first which is just about \$3 more than this one but i decided to get this because 's listing says it's 1098 pages. Sorry folks, i think they listed the wrong info, probably the one for the american idioms dictionary for this book. This book is only 546 pages. It doesn't say in the listing but it is the paperback edition to "McGraw-Hill's Dictionary of American

Slang and Colloquial Expressions 4e" also sold here at . Which means they both contain the same info but different titles. Amazing how titles can be changed to sell books. Anyway, this is also the 4th edition and contains the same a little over 12,000 expressions as the hardcover. I looked in the copyrights page of this book and it states "previously published as McGraw-Hill's Dictionary of American Slang and Colloquial Expressions hc." I felt better knowing i saved money and got the same book as the hardcover. Plus, if you look inside both books online, you'll see they contain the same thing, doesn't list 'em together probably cuz they contain different titles but they are one and the same. This was published in 2006 compared to the hardcover which was published in 2005. If you want a hardcover, i guess you can get that but i'm just letting those who'd like to save money know that this is the paperback edition for the "McGraw-Hill's Dictionary of American Slang and Colloquial Expressions" and it says in the subtitle ultimate guide to colloquialisms....So, instead of buying all those other expensive books, get this. It contains every slang word you can and can't think of - the good, the dirty, and the not soo good ones. It shows you how each word is used in a sentence and it shows how different slang words mean the same thing. For some expressions it can show how that one expression can mean different things in different contexts and explains each little nuance between the contexts. So you'll see one or more exemplary sentences for each expression. For some words, it shows the origin, it also indicates if an entry is a noun, exlamation, whether it's ony used in a sentence or whatever. If an entry can mean more than one thing, it indicates it. Of course, it has it's short falls. An example is the slang "Eighty - six or 86." It only gives the meaning as to 'nix someone or something'. And it gives that meaning cuz it states it originated from tv where it meant to nix something. However, 86 in the restaurant setting can either mean to "refuse service" or it can mean the the restaurant is out of something in the kitchen such as the chicken is 86'd. I heard this meaning might have originated from a bar in new york so it might not be too common. It also doesn't have expressions like jaywalk or queer street among a few others. This book has slang expressions spoken in various parts of this country. I just got this book and still loking through it. i think it's muy bueno. Why spend \$20 or \$30 on a single book which has less expressions when you can get this for 10 bucks and get more bang for buck? Happy reading.

I grew up in Chicago. That's surely a place with a long history of people using slang in everyday conversation. I decided I wanted to take a look at those phrases we used back then (maybe, still do) and find those that are new to me. If you are an avid reader (and I am), you sometimes run into slang that the author uses to make his or her story more realistic. Thank you, , for helping me in this endeavor.

No worries, yo. This guide is tight as cheese, son. Mostly for peeps that come from other lands, who have lingual letdowns when it comes to slinging that slang. Just cuz' they they ain't fully jive to English, doesn't mean that they need that bouncing ball to tell'em what is going down. Then they be all, respect my fresh!

This book has been interesting and fun to check out, so I ordered a second copy for myself. My first copy was for a relative's friend for whom English is not their first language.

This book was purchased for a young lady in Poland (Europe) and upon receiving it she was very happy and said it would be of great assistance to her in her studies. Many idiomatic phrases and words used in our slang do not appear in a regular dictionary.

This was a great gift for a gift exchange game we had with family at the holidays. It was definitely one of the most popular/coveted items in our White Elephant/Yankee Swap.

Gave this as a git to a friend from China who was learning English and she reported it helped her understand so much of what she hears in general conversation

Exactly as expected, with propper content and just what my wife needed to carry her professional activities on english language teaching.

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