"CYBERSLANG" OR THE LANGUAGE USED BY THE INTERNET USERS (A-L)

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Abstract: Our article aims at focusing on different slang expressions connected with the Internet. With the advent of the Internet, we are witnessing the development of a new type of slang, namely the "cyberslang". This particular type of language gains ground by continually incorporating new words and expressions, from the point of view of their spelling. These words or expressions, each one more intriguing than the other, have worried the linguists who are struggling with the usage in order to maintain a literary language, as normal as possible. This is because, due to the pressure of the speakers, there have been many situations in which the usage has established the linguistic rule, regardless of different scientific situations.

Keywords: slang, Internet, abbreviation, syllable, number.

The Internet is more than a range of information which one can access, just like in a library. People create their own web pages, they are sending each other e-mails, they are talking to strangers in chatrooms, keep in touch with their friends through Messenger, subscribe in mailing lists, interact in virtual worlds, etc. The main characteristic of this kind of discussions is the abbreviation accomplished through different combinations of letters, which stand for certain syllables or numbers. The domain of the English slang words used by the Internet users is bountiful, so this article comprises terms, arranged alphabetically, from A to L. The rest of the expressions, from M to Z, will be the topic of our next survey. We have tried to render a list, as comprehensible as possible, comprising a variety of slang expressions. Each expression is explained and the explanation of the abbreviated word is given between brackets. We have had as a reference book "Dicţionar de argou englez-român". Here are some examples:

- aamorf(abr. from as a matter of fact) = actually.
- *absnt* (*abr.* from *absent*) = not present.
- abt / abwt (abr. from about) = regarding.
- acc / acct (abr. from account) = account (on the internet).
- addy = address.
- admin (abr. from administrator) = webmaster, network manager.
- afaik (abr. from as far as I know) = to my knowledge.
- afc (abr. from away from computer) = I am not on the computer.
- agn (abr. from again) = once more.
- aight (abr. from alright) = OK!
- a/l (abr. from age and location) = age and place.
- anlsx (abr. from anal sex) = buggery.
- *anon (abr. from anonymous)* = unknown.
- anw (abr. from anyway) = however.

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¹ Volceanov, George, Nicolae, Raluca, Volceanov, George Paul, *Dicţionar de argou englez-român*, Niculescu Publishing House, Bucharest, 2015

- any1 (abr. from anyone) = anybody.
- *apprece8/appreci8* (*abr.* from *appreciate*) = value.
- *appt (abr.* from *appointment)* = meeting.
- *agap* (*abr.* from *as quick as possible*) = immediately.
- *arnd* (*abr.* from *around*) = about, approximately.
- *ashl/ashole* (*abr.* from *asshole*) = fool, dumb, idiot.
- a/s/l, asl (abr. from age, sex and location) = age, gender and place.
- aslo (abr. from age, sex, location, orientation) = age, gender, place, sexual orientation.
- aslop (abr. from age, sex, location, orientation, picture) = age, gender, place, sexual orientation, photo.
- a/s/l/p, aslp (abr. from age, sex, location, picture) = age, gender, place, photo.
 - *atb* (*abr*. from *all the best*) = best wishes.
- a3 (abr. from anyplace, anywhere, anytime) = at any location, any place, whenever.
 - *attn* (*abr.* from *attention*) = consideration, concern.
- avie/avvie/avy (abr. from avatar) = a custom image, representative of each Internet user.
 - *awes (abr.* from *awesome*) = really good.
 - awk (abr. from awkward) = embarrassing, unpleasant.
 - ayk (abr. from are you kidding?) = are you joking?
 - aykm (abr. from are you kidding me?) = you are mocking me.
 - ayl (abr. from are you listening?) = are you paying attention to me?
 - ayok (abr. from are you okay?) = are you alright?
 - *ays* (*abr.* from *are you serious?*) = really?
 - *ayst (abr. from are you still there?)*
 - *ayt* (*abr.* from *are you there?*)
 - ayte (abr. from alright!) = OK!
 - bak/bakk (abr. from back) = backwards.
 - b&/b@ (abr. from banned) = not allowed.
 - bb! (abr. from by bye!) = good bye!
 - bbe (abr. from baby) = honey, sweetheart.
 - *bbf* (*abr*. from *best boyfriend*) = the best friend.
 - bbiam/bbim (abr. from be back in a minute) = I will return in a minute.
 - bbias (abr. from be back in a second) = I will return in a second.
 - *bbl/bbl8a* (*abr.* from *be back later*) = I will come back later.
 - *bbs* (*abr.* from *be back soon*) = I will be right back.
 - bbt (abr. from be back tomorrow) = = I will return tomorrow.
 - bc/b-cuz/bcuz/cos/cuz/cuzz (abr. from because) = due to the fact that.
 - bch (abr. from bitch) = mutt.
 - bck/bk (abr. from back) = backwards.
 - b'day/b-day/bday (abr. from birthday) = birth date.
 - *be4* (*abr.* from *before*) = previously.
 - *bettr/btr* (*abr.* from *better*) = greater, finer.
 - bf(abr. from boyfriend) = pal, friend.

- b.f.f. (abr. from best friends forever) = pals forever.
- bf+gf (abr. from boyfriend and girlfriend)
- b/g (abr. from background) = vocational training.
- *bigd* (*abr.* from *big deal*) = big whoop!
- *bion* (*abr.* from *believe it or not*) = trust me or not.
- *bizi/bz/bzy/bzzy* (*abr.* from *busy*) = occupied, preoccupied.
- bl(abr. from bad luck) = bad fortune.
- *blg* (*abr*. from *blog*)
- bn (abr. from been) = the past participle of the verb to be.
- bng (abr. from being) = the continuous form of the verb to be.
- *bol* (*abr.* from *burst out laughing*) = burst into laughter.
- *bord* (*abr.* from *bored*) = tired of.
- br(abr. from bathroom) = toilet.
- *brb* (*abr.* from *be right back*) = I will return soon.
- brgds (abr. from best regards) = greetings.
- b.s./bs (abr. from bullshit) = nonsense, rubbish.
- b/s/l (abr. from bisexual, straight, lesbian) = bisexual/heterosexual/gay.
- bstrd (abr. from bastard) = jerk, creep.
- bsx (abr. from bisexual)
- *btfl* (*abr*. from *beautiful*) = handsome, pretty, nice.
- b2u (abr. from back to you) = I am back.
- b2w (abr. from back to work) = I came back on the job.
- btw (abr. from by the way) = apropos.
- btwn (abr. from between) = among.
- bzns (abr. from business) = matters, affairs, issues.
- c (*abr*. from *see*) = watch, look.
- c2c (abr. from cam to cam) = from camera to camera.
- cbi (abr. from can't believe it) = I can't imagine.
- *celly* (*abr.* from *cell phone*) = mobile phone.
- *cg!/grats* (*abr.* from *congratulations*) = greetings!, well done!
- *char/chr* (*abr.* from *character*) = figure, personage.
- *chat* = have a conversation on the Internet.
- ch@ (abr. from chat) = have a conversation on the Internet.
- *chk* (*abr.* from *check*) = verify, search.
- cihyn (abr. from can I have your number) = can you give me your phone

number?

- cm (abr. from call me) = give me a call.
- *cml*, *cml8r* (*abr*. from *call me later*) = give me a call later!
- *cmplcdd* (*abr.* from *complicated*) = difficult, hard, sophisticated.
- *cmplte* (*abr.* from *complete*) = total, whole.
- *cmptr/comp/compy (abr.* from *computer)*
- *cmt* (*abr*. from *comment*) = remark.
- cn (abr. from can) = be able to.
- cnt (abr. from can't) = not being able to.
- col (abr. from crying out loud) = cry one's heart out.
- *convo* (*abr.* from *conversation*) = small talk, chit-chat.

- c-p (abr. from sleepy) = dozed off.
- cpy(abr. from copy) = duplicate.
- cr(abr. from can't remember) = I can't recall.
- csl (abr. from can't stop laughing) = I can't help not laughing.
- ct (abr. from can't talk) = I am busy.
- *ctrl* (*abr.* from *control*) = checking, inspection.
- cts (abr. from change the subject) = talk about something else.
- cu!/cya!/cyu! (abr. from see you) = good bye!
- *cu2nit* (*abr.* from *see you tonight*) = we will meet tonight!
- cu46 (abr. from see you for sex) = next time I see you, we are having sex.
- *cubi* (*abr.* from *can you believe it*) = can you imagine?
- cw2cu (abr. from can't wait to see you) = I am looking forward to seeing

you.

- cwot (abr. from complete waste of time) = a huge waste of time.
- *Cyal/cyl/cyl8* (*abr.* from *see you later*) = meet up later!
- *cybl* (*abr*. rom *call you back later*) = let me get back to you.
- *cyt* (*abr*. from *see you tomorrow*) = I will meet you tomorrow.
- dat (abr. from that)
- d8 (abr. from date) = appointment, rendezvous.
- db (abr. from database) = system.
- dbm (abr. from don't bother me) = don't give me a hard time.
- dc (abr. from don't care) = it doesn't matter to me.
- dc'd (abr. from disconnected) = no connection.
- *dctnry* (*abr.* from *dictionary*) = thesaurus.
- *deets* (instead of *details*) = particulars.
- *deez* (instead of *these*)
- $\frac{def}{defs}$ (abr. from $\frac{definitely}{defs}$) = certainly.
- *dem* (instead of *them*)
- *der* (instead of *there*)
- dey (instead of they)
- *diff (abr.* from *difference)* = distinction.
- din/din't (abr. from didn't) = the negative form of the past tense of the verb to do.

- dis (instead of these)

- diy (abr. from do it yourself) = you're on your own.
- dju (abr. from did you)
- dk/dn/dno (abr. from don't know) = I have no idea.
- dkdc (abr. from don't know, don't care) = I couldn't care less.
- dl (abr. from download) = unload.
- d/m (abr. from doesn't matter) = never mind.
- dmaf(abr. from do me a favour) = humor me.
- dmi (abr. from don't mention it) = you are welcome.
- dmn! (abr. from damn) = for God's sake!
- dnd (abr. from do not disturb)
- dnt (abr. from don't) = the negative form of the present tense of the verb to do.

- dnw (abr. from do not want) = I do not wish.
- *dob* (*abr.* from *date of birth*) = anniversary.
- dprsd (abr. from depressed) = sad, upset.
- dsu (abr. from don't screw up) = don't mess it up.
- dts (abr. from don't think so) = I don't really believe that.
- *dugi* (*abr.* from *do you get it?*) = do you understand?
- *duk/dyk* (*abr.* from *did* you know?)
- dw! (abr. from don't worry) = don't bother!
- dwai (abr. from don't worry about it) = don't bother!
- *dwbh* (*abr.* from *don't worry*, *be happy*) = don't bother, be glad!
- dwi (abr. from deal with it) = get used to it!
- dwn (abr. from down) = below.
- dym (abr. from do you mind) = does it bother you that ...?
 - e4u2s (abr. from easy for you to say) = you can say so, it's all very well

for you.

- *eil* (*abr.* from *explode into laughter*) = burst into laughter.
- *emm* (*abr*. from *email me*) = send me an e-mail.
- *emo* (*abr*. from *emotional*) = excited, thrilled.
- *enat* (*abr.* from *every now and then*) = from time to time.
- *eoc (abr. from end of conversation)*
- *eod (abr.* from *end of day)*
- *eof (abr.* from *end of file)*
- *eom (abr. from end of message)*
- *eos* (*abr.* from *end of story*)
- ev1/every1 (abr. from everyone) = everybody.
- *eva/evaa/evar/evr* (*abr.* from *ever*) = someday.
- evn(abr. from even) = right, really.
- evry(abr. from every) = each.
- ex-bf (abr. from ex-boyfriend) = former boyfriend.
- ex-gf (abr. from ex-girlfriend) = former girlfriend.
- exp (abr. from experience)
- ez/ezi (abr. from easy) = slow, simple.
- f&e (abr. from forever and ever) = for eternity.
- f2f/ftf (abr. from face to face) = in private.
- f2t (abr. from free to talk) = ready to discuss.
- f8 (abr. from fate) = destiny.
- f9/fi9 (abr. from fine) = good, OK.
- f@ (abr. from fat) = overweight.
- fam (abr. from family)
- faq (abr. from frequently asked question)
- *f.b./fbk/fcbk* (*abr.* from *facebook*) = Facebook, a social network.
- fcfs (abr. from first come first served)
- *fio* (*abr.* from *figure it out*) = visualize, stay and watch.
- fnny/fny (abr. from funny) = hilarious, amusing.
- *fnpr* (*abr.* from *for no particular reason*) = without a reason.
- foaf(abr. from friend of a friend) = a mutual friend.

- frgt (abr. from forgot) = to forget (in the past tense).
- *fri* (*abr*. from *Friday*)
- frk (abr. from freak) = crazy, creepy.
- *frm* (*abr*. from *from*)
- *frnd* (*abr*. from *friend*) = companion, pal.
- fs (abr. from for sure) = certainly.
- fst (abr. from fast) = quick, quickly.
- ft2t (abr. from time to time) = every now and then.
- *fttp* (*abr*. from *for the time being*) = for now, at the moment.
- *fwd* (*abr*. from *forward*) = ahead; to send out a message.
- fwm (abr. from fine with me) = it suits me.
- *g*(abr. from grin) = to smirk.
- g1 (abr. from good one) = nice one.
- g2 (abr. from go to) = get to ...
- g2cu (abr. from glad to see you) = nice to see you!
- g2g (abr. from got to go) = I have to go.
- g2g2w (abr. from got to go to work) = I have to go to work.
- g9 (abr. from good night)
- ga (abr. from go ahead) = go on, get going.
- gaalma (abr. from go away and leave me alone) = beat it and let me alone.
- gaj(abr. from get a job) = just find a job.
- *gb* (*abr*. from go back)= I will return.
- gb2 (abr. from go back to) = I am going back to ...
- gbu (abr. from god bless you) = May God keep you safe!
- gby! (abr. from good bye) = bye-bye!
- gd (abr. from good)
- gd4u!/gfy! (abr. from good for you) = well done.
- gded (abr. from grounded) = punished, sentenced.
- gf (abr. from girlfriend)
- gfx/grfx (abr. from graphics) = artwork.
- gj(abr. from good job) = great, nice job.
- *gl* (*abr*. from *good luck*) = good fortune!
- gl hf (abr. from good luck, have fun) = good luck and have a great time!
- gm (abr. from good morning)
- *gmab* (*abr*. from *give me a break*) = spare me!
- *gn/gn8/g'nite/gnight (abr.* from *good night)*
- gng2 (abr. from going to) = on the way to ...
- gol (abr. from giggle out loud) = to amuse oneself.
- *gp* (*abr*. from *good point*) = point well taken!
- gr8/gr8t (abr. from great) = awesome, terrific.
- grl (abr. from girl)
- gtty (abr. from good talking to you) = nice talking to you.
- gy(abr. from gay) = homosexual.
- h&k/h+k (abr. from hugs and kisses) = kisses and cuddles.
- h8/h8t (Abr. from hate) = detest.
- h8u/i8u (abr. from I hate you) = I detest you.

- hagd (abr. from have a good day) = have a nice day!
- hayd (abr. from how are you doing) = how are you?
- *hbd* (*abr*. from *happy birthday*)
- *hbu/hby* (*abr.* from *how about you*) = and you?
- *hcihy* (*abr*. from *how can I help you*) = what can I do for you?
- hf(abr. from have fun) = enjoy yourself!
- *hght/hiet* (*abr.* from *height*) = altitude.
- hll (abr. from hell) = inferno.
- *hlo!* (*abr.* from *hello*)
- *hlp* (*abr*. from *help*)
- h/mo (abr. from homo) = gay.
- hmw/hmwk/hmwrk (abr. from homework)
- hngry(abr. from hungry) = famished.
- h.o. (abr. from hold on) = hold up!
- hoas (abr. from hang on a second) = just a minute!
- *hppy/hpy (abr.* from *happy)*
- *hpybdy* (*abr.* from *happy birthday*)
- *hr* (*abr*. from *hour*)
- *hre* (*abr.* from *here*)
- hru (abr. from how are you) = how are you doing?
- hun (abr. from honey) = dear, darling.
- *hv/hve* (*abr.* from *have*)
- hvnt (abr. from haven't)
- iab (abr. from I am bored) = I am tired of.
- iai (abr. from I am interested) = I want to know.
- ians (abr. from I am not sure) = I am uncertain.
- *iaspfm* (*abr.* from *I am sorry*, *please forgive me*)
- iawy (abr. from I agree with you) = I am with you.
- ib/imb (abr. from I'm back) = I've returned.
- *ibt* (*abr*. from *I'll be there*)
- *ibw* (*abr*. from *I'll be waiting*)
- i c!/ic! (abr. from I see) = I understand.
- *icb* (*abr*. from *I can't believe*) = I can't wrap my brain.
- *icbi* (*abr.* from *I can't believe it*) = I can't wrap my brain around this.
- *icbu/icby* (*abr.* from *I can't believe you*) = that's not possible.
- *icr* (*abr*. from *I can't remember*) = I do not recall.
- *ictrn* (*abr*. from *I can't talk right now*) = I am busy.
- icty (abr. from I can't tell you) = I cannot tell.
- idc (abr. from I don't care) = it doesn't matter to me.
- *idk/idno/ionno/iono (abr.* from *I don't know)* = I have no idea.
- idkwym (abr. from I don't know what you mean) = I have no idea what you are talking about.
 - idl (abr. from I don't like) = I dislike.
 - *idli* (*abr.* from *I don't like it*) = I dislike it.
 - *idlu/idly* (*abr.* from *I don't like you*)
 - *idm* (*abr*. from *I don't mind*) = it doesn't bother me.

- idr (abr. from I don't remember) = I do not recall.
- idtkso/idts (abr. from I don't think so) = I doubt it.
- iff(abr. from if and only if) = when and only when.
- igs (abr. from I guess so) = I think so.
- ihni (abr. from I have no idea) = I don't know.
- *ik* (*abr*. from *I know*)
- ilcul8r (abr. from I'll see you later) = meet up later.
- ili (abr. from I love it) = I really like it.
- ilu2 (abr. from I love you too) = I also love you.
- *im* (*abr.* from *instant message*) = quick text.
- *imo* (*abr.* from *in my opinion*) = as far as I am concerned.
- impov (abr. from in my point of view) = as far as I am concerned.
- imsry(abr. from I am sorry) = I regret.
- imu/iwmu/iwmy/imy (abr. from I miss you)
- in2 (abr. from into) = in, inside.
- *inet (abr.* from *Internet)*
- *ive* (*abr.* from *I have*)
- j/a (abr. from just asking) = it was just a question.
- *jas* (*abr*. from *just a second*) = just a moment.
- jbu (abr. from just between us) = it stays between us.
- *jc* (*abr.* from *just curious*) = I'm just wondering.
- ifu (abr. from just for you) = only for you.
- jic (abr. from just in case) = in any case.
- jj/jj/k (abr. from just joking) = it was a joke.
- j/k (abr. from just kidding) = it was a joke.
- jks (abr. from jokes) = funnies.
- *jlma* (*abr.* from *just leave me alone*) = get off my back.
- *jom* (*abr*. from *just one minute*) = just a second!
- *k!/kay!* (*abr.* from *OK!*)
- *kah* (*abr.* from *kisses and hugs*) = kisses and cuddles.
- *kis* (*abr*. from *keep it simple*) = get to the point.
- *kno/knw (abr.* from *know)*
- kss (abr. from kiss)
- kt (abr. from keep talking) = go on.
- *kthz/ktnx* (*abr*. from *OK*, *thanks*)
- *kyfc* (*abr.* from *keep your fingers crossed*) = wish me luck!
- *LOL* (*abr.* from *laughing out loud*) = laughing hard.

The English slang words used by the Internet users are often problematic for a lay person in the internet chatrooms. The reasons why the internauts are using this encoded language are totally understandable: time saving, communication speed, the desire to conceal the meaning of certain messages, etc. If we can run through the virtual medium of communication, we could encounter tens of words which are totally unknown for an habitual speaker. Nevertheless, this online language tends to invade our everyday life. For example, South Korea is seriously considering introducing the Internet slang as a subject of study in schools, instead of the second foreign language which the children should learn. This initiative has also attracted a lot of

criticism on the part of the linguists who believe that, on the Internet, the language seems to be changing much easier than offline.

In conclusion, we believe that "cyberslang" can jeopardize the evolution of language, since it leads to the violation of any rules of spelling and punctuation. More often than not, these words are even used by pupils in their compositions. And this is because the younger generation is the category that is most using the Internet slang. That's why we should tell them that to communicate means not only to speak a language that is known by everyone, but also to follow the expression, spelling and punctuation rules.

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