

**British slang vs American slang
with Hugh Laurie on the Ellen DeGeneres show**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wYmrg3owTRE>

I. What do you think these words mean? Discuss the meaning of the words with your partner.

Use modal verbs, for instance:

It might be....

It could mean...

It can't be....

1. flossing –

2. chin wag –

3. ba-donka-donk –

4. chuffed to bits –

5. shawty -

II. Watch the video and check if you were right. Then, fill in the gaps with the correct answers.

	Hugh's/Ellen's guess	Slang meaning
1. flossing		
2. chin wag		
3. ba-donka-donk		
4. chuffed to bits		
5. shawty		

III. Are you surprised by any of the answers? Did you manage to guess any words?

IV. Work in pairs. Student A fills in the table for American slang, student B fills in the table for British slang. (You may want to check the meaning of the slang expressions in the dictionary/the Internet). Don't show the answers to your partner.

STUDENT A (AMERICAN SLANG)

	Meaning
1. for the birds	
2. to take a rain check	
3. to be busted	
4. epic fail	
5. to go Dutch	

STUDENT B (BRITISH SLANG)

	Meaning
1. to know your onions	
2. blinding	
3. laughing gear	
4. odds and sods	
5. tosh	

V. After you have filled in your table, play the game from 'The Ellen Show' – guess your partner's slang words.

Use modal verbs, for instance:

It might be....

It could mean...

It can't be....

***FOLLOW-UP 1**

Use the Internet or a dictionary to prepare your own set of slang words for the next lesson!

***FOLLOW-UP 2**

Can you find the origin of some of the expressions from this handout?