**Internet Slang**

**Internet Slang** is the popular shorthand language used for easy communication through internet based emails and SMS. Internet Slang is also known as **Net speak** or **Chat speak**. The internet slang was originated to save time and key stroke. Most people use the internet slang abbreviations in **texting**, messaging and writing in **social networks**. The word **Slang** means the use of informal words and expressions which are not considered standard in the dialect or standard. The origin of the word slang is uncertain but it has some connection with the word **Thieves’ cant** which is a secret language used by thieves. Some popular internet slangs are **LOL** meaning “laughing out loud” and **ROFL** meaning “rolling on the floor laughing”. The SMS language called **Textese** is the most common internet slang used in text messaging.

**Advantages of Internet slang**

Internet slang became popular due to its heavy use by internet and mobile phone users. It has the advantages like

1. It lowers the task of formal speech or writing.
2. The users are familiar with such code words so that it reduces the key strokes.
3. It replaces the conventional synonym.
4. It is a tattoo term used by people of higher status and responsibility.
5. Slangs create novel meanings for the existing words.
6. It uses least number of characters needed to convey a message.
7. Punctuations, grammar and capitalizations etc can be avoided.

**Confusion in Internet slang**

Usually the users of Internet slang avoid using the **vowels** so the reader is forced to read the message by adding these letters. For example the slang word “**kybrd**” represents keyboard and the reader must interpret the meaning of the slang by matching with the situation. Another confusion is the word” **LOL**” which has two meanings like **Laugh Out Loud**” and **“Lots Of Love”.** So the reader must interpret the meaning of the slang by comparing with the remaining slang words to know the meaning. Other confusing slang word include:

1. cryn – Crying , Cryon
2. ttyl lol – talk you later , lots of love not talk to you later
3. omg lol – oh my god, laugh out loud not oh my god lots of love

**Use of Pictograms**

Pictograms are also used in SMS messaging. For example I <3u - ‘<3’ means love, ‘u’ means **you**. That is the pictogram represents I Love You.
SMS texting

Short forms, codes and symbols are very convenient in SMS text messaging. This reduces the time, key stroke and space but the recipient can know the matter in simple language. SMS language is known in different forms like Textese, Textese, txt, txto, texting, txt lingo, SMSish, txt talk etc. The SMS language is mainly used in Mobile phone communication (Short Message Service) but also popular in internet messaging like emails, instant messaging, chats etc.

**Some popular Internet Slangs**

1. IEDC – I don’t even care
2. TBMS – to be more specific
3. DWMT – don’t waste my time
4. GUTI – get used to it
5. JFY – just for you
6. IDLT – I don’t like that
7. AFK – away from keyboard
8. B4 – Before
9. BAK – Back at keyboard
10. BBL – Be back later
11. BCNU – Be seeing you
12. BRB – Be right back
13. BTW – By the way
14. L8R – Later
15. MOF – Male Or Female
16. NM – Never mind / Not much
17. NP – No problem
18. TTFN – Tata for now
19. UR – Your
20. CUL – See you later
21. F2F – Face to face
22. GA – Go ahead
23. IRL – In real life
24. OIC – Oh I see
25. RUOK – Are you OK
26. TIA – Thanks in advance
27. TNX – Thanks
28. TVM – Thanks very much
29. YHM – You have mail
30. WRT – With regard to