

VOCABULARY · EPISODE 22

Slang Expressions Episode 2

Key words & expressions · English + Español

10 words

Your English Toolbox

1

to be gutted

estar destrozado · llevarse un chasco enorme**DEF**

to feel deeply disappointed or upset, especially about something that did not go as hoped

*Gutted is vivid British slang — like having your insides removed. It is stronger than 'sad' and more sincere than 'disappointed'. Very common in British everyday speech.***ES**

Sentirse profundamente decepcionado o molesto, especialmente por algo que no salió como se esperaba.

Gutted es jerga británica vívida. Es más fuerte que 'triste' y más sincero que 'decepcionado'.

She was absolutely gutted when she failed her English exam after months of preparation.

She was absolutely gutted when she failed her English exam. -> Estaba destrozada cuando suspendió su examen de inglés.

We were gutted to hear the event had been cancelled — we had been looking forward to it for weeks.

We were gutted to hear the event had been cancelled. -> Nos llevamos un chasco enorme cuando nos enteramos de que el evento se había cancelado.

2

to be knackered

hecho polvo · reventado**DEF**

to be completely exhausted, worn out from physical or mental effort

*Knackered is informal British English for total exhaustion. More colourful than 'tired', it comes from the old word for a horse slaughterer — a horse too exhausted to work was sent to the knacker.***ES**

Estar completamente agotado, desgastado por el esfuerzo físico o mental.

Es inglés británico informal para el agotamiento total. Más colorido que 'tired'.

After four hours of English lessons back to back, I was absolutely knackered.

After four hours of English lessons back to back, I was absolutely knackered. -> Después de cuatro horas de clases de inglés seguidas, estaba hecho polvo.

Don't study when you are knackered — a short nap will do more for your English than forcing yourself to read.

Don't study when you are knackered — a short nap will do more for your English. -> No estudies cuando estás reventado — una siesta corta hará más por tu inglés.

3

to be chuffed

estar encantado · estar muy contento

DEF

to be very pleased or delighted about something

Chuffed is warm, informal British slang for genuine happiness or pride. The opposite of gutted. Often used to express pride about someone else's achievement too.

ES

Estar muy complacido o encantado con algo.

Jerga informal y cálida británica para la felicidad o el orgullo genuino. Lo opuesto de 'gutted'.

I was so chuffed when my English teacher said my pronunciation had improved dramatically.

I was so chuffed when my English teacher said my pronunciation had improved. -> Estaba encantado cuando mi profesor de inglés dijo que mi pronunciación había mejorado.

She was chuffed to bits when she understood a whole TV episode in English without subtitles.

She was chuffed to bits when she understood a whole TV episode in English. -> Estaba muy contenta cuando entendió un episodio entero de televisión en inglés sin subtítulos.

4

to take the mickey

tomar el pelo a alguien · burlarse con cariño

DEF

to make fun of someone in a light-hearted way, to tease or mock gently

Take the mickey is quintessentially British — gentle mockery that is meant affectionately. If someone is taking the mickey, they are joking, not being cruel. Knowing this prevents many misunderstandings.

ES

Burlarse de alguien de forma desenfadada, bromear o mofarse suavemente.

Es típicamente británico — una burla suave que se entiende con afecto.

Are you taking the mickey? You cannot possibly have learned all that vocabulary in one day!

Are you taking the mickey? You cannot possibly have learned all that vocabulary in one day! -> ¿Me estás tomando el pelo? ¡Es imposible que hayas aprendido todo ese vocabulario en un día!

My British colleagues always take the mickey when I make grammar mistakes — it is their way of being friendly.

My British colleagues always take the mickey when I make grammar mistakes. -> Mis compañeros británicos siempre me toman el pelo cuando cometo errores gramaticales.

5

to suss something out

descifrar algo · averiguar algo

DEF

to figure out or understand something by thinking it through carefully; to investigate and reach a conclusion

Suss out is informal British English — to investigate a situation and arrive at an understanding. Learners can suss out idiomatic expressions by paying attention to context.

ES

Comprender o entender algo pensándolo detenidamente; investigar y llegar a una conclusión.

Es inglés informal británico — investigar una situación y llegar a comprenderla.

I couldn't suss out what she meant at first, but the context made it clear.

I couldn't suss out what she meant at first, but the context made it clear. -> Al principio no pude descifrar qué quería decir, pero el contexto lo aclaró.

It took me a while to suss out the difference between British and American slang.

It took me a while to suss out the difference between British and American slang. -> Me llevó un tiempo averiguar la diferencia entre el argot británico y el americano.

6

to be over the moon

estar en el séptimo cielo · estar radiante de alegría

DEF

to be extremely happy and excited about something

Over the moon is a vivid idiom for pure joy — beyond happiness, floating above everything. It is always sincere, never ironic. Often used for personal achievements or good news.

ES

Estar extremadamente feliz y emocionado por algo.

Es un modismo vívido para la alegría pura — más allá de la felicidad, flotando sobre todo.

She was over the moon when she passed her Cambridge English exam with distinction.

She was over the moon when she passed her Cambridge English exam with distinction. -> Estaba en el séptimo cielo cuando aprobó su examen de Cambridge con distinción.

He was over the moon to discover he could follow the whole podcast without stopping once.

He was over the moon to discover he could follow the whole podcast without stopping once. -> Estaba radiante de alegría al descubrir que podía seguir todo el podcast sin parar una sola vez.

7 a doddle

pan comido · algo tirado

DEF

something very easy to do, requiring little or no effort

A doddle is cheerful British slang for an easy task. Calling something 'a doddle' feels more energising than 'easy' — it has the flavour of confidence and lightness.

ES

Algo muy fácil de hacer, que requiere poco o ningún esfuerzo.

Jerga británica alegre para una tarea fácil.

Once you know phrasal verbs well, the reading test is a complete doddle.

Once you know phrasal verbs well, the reading test is a complete doddle. -> Una vez que conoces bien los verbos frasales, el examen de lectura es pan comido.

He said the speaking exam was a doddle — he had practised every day for three months.

He said the speaking exam was a doddle. -> Dijo que el examen oral estaba tirado — había practicado todos los días durante tres meses.

8 to nip out

salir un momento · escaparse un ratito

DEF

to leave briefly for a short time to do something quick, and then return

Nip out is delightfully British — very informal and implies you'll be back very soon. It's the opposite of a planned outing. Perfect British slang for everyday conversations and understanding native speech.

ES

Marcharse brevemente durante un tiempo corto para hacer algo rápido, y luego volver.

Muy británico e informal — implica que vuelves muy pronto. Perfecto para conversaciones cotidianas.

I'll just nip out to the shops and be back in ten minutes — do you want anything?

I'll just nip out to the shops and be back in ten minutes — do you want anything? -> Solo voy a salir un momento a las tiendas y vuelvo en diez minutos — ¿quieres algo?

He nipped out during the break to grab a coffee and missed the most important part of the lesson.

He nipped out during the break to grab a coffee and missed the most important part of the lesson. -> Se escapó un ratito durante el descanso a por un café y se perdió la parte más importante de la clase.

9

to be gobsmacked

quedarse boquiabierto · quedarse sin palabras de asombro

DEF

to be completely shocked, astounded, or speechless with surprise — usually in a positive way

Gobsmacked is wonderfully expressive British slang — 'gob' is informal for mouth, and 'smacked' means hit. So you're so surprised your mouth is hit shut. Use it for pleasant surprises, amazing news, or impressive moments.

ES

Estar completamente sorprendido, asombrado o sin palabras — normalmente de forma positiva.

Modismo británico muy expresivo — 'gob' es argot para boca, 'smacked' significa golpeado. Tan sorprendido que se te cierra la boca.

I was absolutely gobsmacked when I understood the whole English movie without subtitles for the first time.

I was absolutely gobsmacked when I understood the whole English movie without subtitles for the first time. -> Me quedé boquiabierto cuando entendí toda la película en inglés sin subtítulos por primera vez.

She was gobsmacked to discover that all the slang she had learned was from twenty years ago.

She was gobsmacked to discover that all the slang she had learned was from twenty years ago. -> Se quedó sin palabras de asombro al descubrir que todo el argot que había aprendido era de hace veinte años.

10

blimey

¡vaya! · ¡caramba! (exclamación británica de sorpresa)

DEF

a British exclamation used to express surprise, shock, or admiration — a very typical British informal interjection

Blimey is quintessentially British — you won't hear it much outside the UK. It's exclamatory and conversational, used when something unexpected happens. Learning interjections like this makes your English sound genuinely natural, not textbook.

ES

Exclamación británica que expresa sorpresa, shock o admiración — una interjección informal muy típica del inglés británico.

Quintaesencialmente británico — raro fuera del Reino Unido. Aprenderlo hace que tu inglés suene genuinamente natural.

Blimey, I didn't expect to pass my English exam with such a high score!

Blimey, I didn't expect to pass my English exam with such a high score! -> ¡Vaya, no esperaba aprobar el examen de inglés con una nota tan alta!

Blimey, that's brilliant news — you've been accepted into the English course!

Blimey, that's brilliant news — you've been accepted into the English course! -> ¡Caramba, qué noticia tan brillante — te han aceptado en el curso de inglés!