

1920s slang <a href="http://home.earthlink.net/~dlarkins/slang-pg.htm">http://home.earthlink.net/~dlarkins/slang-pg.htm</a> <a href="http://www.theatlantic.com/entertainment/archive/2012/10/how-sound-bees-knees-dictionary-1920s-slang/322320/">http://www.theatlantic.com/entertainment/archive/2012/10/how-sound-bees-knees-dictionary-1920s-slang/322320/</a> <a href="http://local.aaca.org/bntc/slang/slang.htm">http://local.aaca.org/bntc/slang/slang.htm</a>		
English	English definition	Deutsch
Abe's Cabe:	\$5 bill (rhyming slang)	
ace	\$1 bill	
<b>all wet</b>	erroneous idea; full of it, full of shit, way off, on Planet Epsilon	irrtümlich
And how!	Absolutely!	Und wie!
ankle	to walk (hoof it)	zu Fuß laufen
applesauce	bullshit	Quatsch, Quark, blanker/barer/lauter Unsinn
<b>Attaboy!</b>	Well done!	gut gemacht
<b>baby</b>	sweetheart	Schatz
baby grand	heavily built man	untersetzter Mann
baby vamp	attractive woman (students)	hübsches Weib
balled up	confused, messed up	durcheinander
bank's closed	no kissing or making out	kein Küssen und keine Knutscherei!
barrel house	illegal distillery	Schwarzbrennerei
bearcat	hot-blooded girl, tigress	Zankteufel, Mannweib, Xanthippe
<b>beat it</b>	scram or get lost	hau ab!
<b>beat one's gums</b> <b>flap one's gums</b>	chat idly, gas, babble, ramble, prattle (UK), yak, shoot the breeze/shit	faseln, plaudern, labbern, quasseln, plappern
bee's knees elephant's adenoids cat's meow ant's pants tiger's spots, bullfrog's beard, elephant's instep, caterpillar's kimono, turtle's neck, duck's quack, duck's nuts, monkey's eyebrows, gnat's elbows, oyster's earrings, snake's hips, kipper's knickers,	the best, the shit, da bomb Note: most of these are virtually unknown today.	spitze, usw.

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elephant's manicure, clam's garter eel's ankle, leopard's stripes, tadpole's teddies, sardine's whiskers, canary's tusks, pig's wings, cuckoo's chin, butterfly's book		
<b>beef</b>	a complaint, to complain (today especially prevalent in the context of complaints at a workplace, particularly those initiated by a labor union: "a union beef.")	Beschwerde, meckern, nörgeln, motzen
bell bottom	sailor (gob)	Matrose
<b>belt</b>	drink or shot of liquor	Schuss Schnaps
berries	something attractive or cool, e.g., bees' knees	geil, super, toll, fantastisch etc.
<b>Bible Belt</b>	Bible Belt!	„Bibelgürtel“ – Region mit starker (fundamentalistischer) religiöser Prägung
big cheese	most important or influential person; big shot	hohes Tier, Bonze
big six	strong or tough guy (from six-cylinder engines)	knallharter Bursche, Schlägertyp
bimbo	tough guy (different meaning today; now refers to an attractive but stupid young woman)	abgebrühter, jäher Typ
bird	person (odd bird)	Typ
<b>blind date</b>	blind date	
blotto	drunk	blau besoffen bezecht berauscht behopft beschickert

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		beschwipst Bierzeltzombie breit wie ein Rathaus sein breit wie ein Überseekoffer sein breit wie eine Natter sein bumsvoll butterwach dicht wie ein U-Boot dicht wie eine Raumkapsel die Brille beschmiert haben einen Affen im Eimer haben einen Dulli haben einen im Tee haben einen sitzen haben Granaten dicht sein hacke hackedicht hart wie ein Koffergriff sein knattersatt knülle Kurvenschuhe anhaben Lampe an haben lattenstramm maddo Pilsvergiftung rabenvoll rattendicht rattenhart Restblut im Alkohol haben rotzedicht rotzevoll runde Füße haben Schlagseite haben storno sein stracke stramm

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		strudeldicke strulli sein Tagesvollster überhopft voll wie ein Amtmann sein voll wie'n Eimer Zirkus im Kopf haben schließen
blow	1) crazy party 2) leave (blow town, etc.) (Warning: today it means 'cocaine.')	wilde Party, abhauen, verschwinden
<b>bluenose</b>	prude, puritanical person	Tugendbold, sittenstrenger Mensch
bohunk	Eastern European immigrants (insulting)	
<b>bootleg</b>	illegal liquor (today: illegal music recordings taken at concert, or illegally copied)	schwarz gebrannter Schnaps
breezer	convertible car	Cabrio
Bronx cheer	raspberry (sputtering noise or "unvoiced linguolabial trill")	ein mit den Lippen geäußertes lautloser Triller
brown	whisky	Whisky
brown plaid	Scotch	Scotch
bubs	knockers!	Titten
bug-eyed Betty	unattractive girl (student)	unansehnliche Frau
bull	cop; nonsense; to chat idly	quasseln, faseln, plaudern, labbern
bull session	male talkfest, gossip	informelles Gespräch (bes. unter Männern im Studentenheim usw.)
<b>bum's rush</b>	ejection by force from bar, restaurant	Rausschmiss
<b>bump off</b>	murder, kill	abknallen, umlegen
bushwa	bullshit	Quatsch, Quark, Nonsens
busthead	homemade liquor	schwarz gebrannter Schnaps
butt me	give me a cigarette, I'll take a cigarette	Hast du 'ne Zigarette?

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cabbage, kale	money	Mäuse, Kohle, Knete
cake-eater	1920s: ladies' man: later: homosexual!	Frauenheld
cancelled stamp	shy, lonely woman; wallflower	Mauerblümchen
canned	drunk (today, 'canned' means 'fired')	s. oben
caper	criminal act, robbery	Gaunerei, Streich, Eskapade
<b>carry a torch (for)</b>	to have a crush on someone	verehren, nach jemandem schmachten
cash	a kiss	Kuss
cash or check?	Do you kiss now or later?	Küssen wir jetzt oder später?
cast a kitten have kittens	to have a fit, get upset about something (today: get your bowels in an uproar)	toben, sich ausrasten
cat's pajamas	cat's meow	der Hammer, die Mode
celestial	derogatory slang for Chinese or East Asians ("oriental")	
chassis	female bod	Figur ("Fahrgestell")
cheaters	eyeglasses	Brille
chewing gum	double-speak, ambiguous talk	doppeldeutiges, doppelzüngiges, zweideutiges Gerede
Chicago typewriter chopper	Tommy gun	Thompson-Maschinenpistole
choice bit of calico	a desirable woman	etwa: begehrtenswerte Frau
chunk of lead	unattractive woman (students)	unattraktive, unschöne Frau
ciggy	cigarette	Zigarette
clam	dollar	schwarz gebrannter Schnaps
coffin varnish	bootleg liquor	schwarz gebrannter Schnaps
copacetic	wonderful, fine, swell, everything's great	ausgezeichnet, hervorragend, super, picobello, tutti, paletti, fein, in Ordnung, es geht glänzend, vorzüglich, vortrefflich, großartig
corked	drunk	s. oben

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<b>crasher</b>	crasher (party)	ungeladener Gast
<b>crush</b>	infatuation	Verliebtheit, Vernarrtheit, Verblendung, Betörung
cuddler	someone who likes to make out	jemand, der gerne knutscht
<b>daddy</b>	a young woman's boyfriend or lover, esp. if rich (today: sugar daddy; a "Daddy's little girl" is a woman spoiled and doted on by her father.)	Sugar-Daddy
dame, broad	female (considered offensive today); <i>chick</i> today (also considered offensive)	Tussi, Braute
dapper	a flapper's dad	
darb	excellent person or thing	s. oben
<b>dead soldier</b>	empty beer or liquor bottle	ausgeleerte Flasche
<b>deb</b>	debutante	Debütant
Debbie Downer	buzzkill, wet blanket	Spielverderber, Spaßverderber
dewdropper lollygagger	young unemployed man who sleeps all day	Faulenzer
dick	private investigator/detective (Today, 'dick' means 'penis' or 'unfriendly, unpleasant (male) person.')	Detektiv, Privatschnüffler
dogs	feet	Füße
doll	attractive woman	hübsche Frau
<b>dolled up</b>	all dressed up	aufgedonnert, aufgetakelt
Don't give me the high-hat!	Don't snub me.	brüskieren
don't know from nothin'	don't have any information	keine Ahnung haben
Don't take any wooden nickels!	Don't do anything stupid.	Sei nicht verblödet.
dope	1. drugs, esp. opium 2. information, the low-down	Drogen, Rauschgift jdn. ins Bild setzen (Engl: put someone in the picture)

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		jdm. zeigen, wo's lang geht
<b>double-cross</b>	cheat, stab in back, betray	falsches Spiel mit jemandem spielen; Dolchstoß; Stich in den Rücken
dough	money (1960s: bread)	Mäuse, Kohle, Knete usw.
drugstore cowboy	guy who hangs around on a street corner trying to pick up girls.	
drum	speakeasy	illegale Kneipe der 1920er
dry up	shut up, get lost, get over it, „deal with it“	Halt die Klappe, Hau ab, Finde dich damit ab!
ducky	very good, peachy-keen, aces, copacetic	toll, super, etc.
dumb Dora	stupid woman	dumme Gans
earful	enough (have an earful of)	Das reicht schon!
edge	intoxication, buzz	der Kick, der Rausch
egg	man, dude	Kerl, Typ
embalmed	drunk	s. oben
Ethel	effeminate man	verweichlichter Mann
face stretcher	old(er) woman trying to look young	
fag	gay man (insulting today; in the UK, still acceptable to refer to cigarettes)	Schwul
<b>fall guy</b>	victim of a frame-up or setup	Sündenbock (siehe <i>Der Maltese Falke</i> )
fella	guy, dude	Kerl, Bursche
fire extinguisher	chaperone	Begleiter
fish	college freshman first-timer in prison, New Guy	neuer Student neuer Gefangene
flat tire	a bore	langweiliger Mensch
flour lover	woman with too much face powder	überschminkt
flyboy	aviator	Flieger, Pilot
foot juice	cheap wine	billiger Wein
<b>For crying out loud!</b>	For crying out loud! (still in use	Um Himmels Willen!

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	today)	
four flusher	someone who mooches off others' money to feign being wealthy	Schmarotzer, Blutsauger
<b>frame</b>	to set someone up, give false witness, falsely accuse	jemanden reinlegen jemanden fälschlich bezichtigen
fried to the hat	drunk	s. oben
<b>futz</b>	euphemism for 'fuck': "Don't futz around." (still in use)	fuchteln
gams	legs	Beine
gasper	cigarette	Zigarette
get a wiggle on	get a move on, get going	Dalli, dalli! Beeil dich!
get in a lather	get worked up, angry	sich ärgern, zornig werden, böse werden
<b>get-up</b>	outfit	Outfit, Kostüm
giggle water	alcohol, alcoholic drink	Drink, Getränke, Fusel, Besäufnis
gigolo	dance partner	Tanzpartner
gimlet	chronic bore	chronischer Langweiliger
gimp	cripple, person walking with a limp: "Gimpy" (insulting today)	verkrüppelt, hinkender Mensch
gin mill	bar, saloon, speakeasy	s. oben
glad rags	good clothes for going out on the town	Ausgehanzug
Go chase yourself	go fuck yourself	Leck mich am Arsch! Rutsch' mir den Buckel runter!
go chase yourself	scram, beat it, get lost	Verschwinde!
gold digger	woman who associates with or marries a man for money	Goldgräberin
goof	1) stumbling or bumbling person; 2) boyfriend, flapper	Stümper Freund
goofy	in love	verknallt
grummy	depressed	bedrückt
grungy	envious (today: dirty)	neidisch, missgünstig



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<b>hair of the dog</b>	alcohol in the morning as hangover remedy	similia similibus curantur
half seas over	drunk	s. oben
handcuff	engagement ring	Ehering
handcuff and manacle	engagement	Verlobung
hard-boiled	tough guy	abgebrühter Typ
Harp	Irishman, person of Irish origin	Ire
hayburner	gas guzzler horse you lose on	Sprittfresser beim Rennen verlierendes Pferd
heavy sugar (1929)	a lot of money	viel Geld
heebie-jeebies (1926)	the shakes	Delirium Tremens (auch im Englischen verwendet)
heeler	poor dancer	schlechter Tänzer
high style	ritzy, classy	üppig, teuer, Schickimicki
high-hat	to snub	brüskieren, rüffeln
hip to the jive	cool, trendy	cool, im Trend, modisch
hit on all sixes	perform 100 percent, hitting on all cylinders	gut leisten
hoary-eyed	drunk	s. oben
hooch	bootleg liquor	s. oben
hood	hoodlum, crook	Gauner, Dieb, Verbrecher, Rowdy
hooey	nonsense, bunkum	Quatsch, Nonsens, Unsinn, Quark, Unsinn, Geschnatter, Gefasel, Schwafel
hooper	dancer	Tänzer
hop	opiate or marijuana teen party or dance	Rauschgift, Cannabis
hope chest	pack of cigarettes	Zigarettschachtel
horse liniment	bootleg liquor	s. oben
horsefeathers	bullshit	s. oben
Hot dog! Hot socks!	great	s. oben
hot sketch	funny guy, joker, a card or cut-up	Witzbold, Spaßvogel

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hotsy-totsy	perfect	perfekt, toll
I have to go see a man about a dog.	buy whiskey go to the bathroom?	Ich gehe auf die Toilette.
icy mitt, to get the	rejection by object of one's affection	ablehnen, zurechtweisen
Indian hop	weed, grass, tea, pot, ganja	s. oben
insured	engaged	s. oben
iron one's shoelaces	go powder my nose (go to the restroom)	s. oben
ish kabbible	I couldn't care less—from the name of a musician in the Kay Kayser orchestra	Mir ist's scheißegal
It	sex appeal (hot)	Sexappeal, sexuelle Anziehungskraft
jack	money	Knete, usw.
jag juice	hard liquor	s oben
jake	okey dokey	Na schön! In Ordnung!
jalopy	old car	Klapperkiste
jane	woman	Frau
java	coffee	Kaffee
jazzed	drunk (today, means enthusiastic or excited about – gespannt)	s. oben
Jeepers Creepers!	Jesus Christ!	Jesus Maria!
jelly bean	boyfriend (of flapper)	Freund
jitney	car employed as a private bus	Sammeltaxi
joe	coffee	Kaffee
<b>john</b>	toilet (either the bowl or the room: He's in/on the john.	Toilette (Raum bzw. WC-Schüssel/Becken/Schale selbst)
joint	establishment, bar, restaurant	Lokal
jorum of skee	swig of liquor	kräftiger Schlag/Zug
keen	attractive, appealing	anreizend
kike	Jew (insulting)	Jude (sehr abwertend)
kisser	mouth	Fresse

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<b>knock up</b>	to get a woman pregnant	schwängern, einen Braten in die Röhre schieben
know one's onions	know your shit	Bescheid wissen, schlau sein
lay off	cut the crap (today: stop harassing me!)	Hör auf mit dem Quatsch! (heute: Lass mich in Ruhe!)
<b>left holding the bag</b>	cheated out of one's fair share; be blamed for something	in der Tinte lassen, im Stich lassen
let George do it	work evading phrase	TEAM: Toll, Ein Anderer Macht's!
let's blouse	We're out of here Let's bail, jam, split, get the fuck out of Dodge, let's make like a preacher and get the hell out of here	abhauen, verschwinden, usw.
<b>Level with me</b>	be honest	Lass uns im Klartext reden.
<b>line</b>	insincere flattery; false story ("feed someone a line")	unehrliche Schmeichelei, belügen
lit	drunk	s. oben
live wire	lively person	lebhafter Mensch
M	morphine	Morphium
Mac	dude, man fella, guy (as form of address)	Kumpel
manacle	wedding ring	Ehering
mazuma	cash, money	Bargeld, Geld
Mick, Harp	Irishman, person of Irish origin (insulting)	Ire
middle-aisle it	to get married	sich trauen lassen unter die Haube kommen
milquetoast (1924)	very timid person; a hen-pecked male (Casper Milquetoast)	Pantoffelheld, Weichei, Angsthase
mop	handkerchief	Taschentuch
Mrs. Grundy	a prudish type, bidy	alte Jungfer, Henne, alte Schachtel
mulligan	Irish cop	Polizist irischer Abstammung, bes. in New York und Chicago.
munitions	face powder	Gesichtspuder

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neck	to kiss	küssen
necker	girl who wraps her arms around her boyfriend's neck	
Nerts!	Amazing!	Erstaunlich! Wahnsinn!
nifty	great, excellent	super, cool, usw.
<b>Nobody home</b>	describes someone who is dumb: The lights are on but nobody's home.	Er ist nicht allzu intelligent.
none of your beeswax	none of your business	Das geht dich nichts an.
noodle	head, melon, noggin	Kopf, Birne
noodle juice	tea	Tee
<b>nookie</b>	sex	sexueller Verkehr
Now you're cooking with gas Now you're on the trolley!	Now you've got it, now you're right.	Jetzt geht's los!
ofay	white people (insulting)	Weißer
off one's nuts	off one's rocker, crazy	verrückt, bekloppt, bescheuert, für die Klapsmühle bereit
Oliver Twist	good dancer	guter Tänzer
on a toot	on a bender	bei der Sauferei
on parole	divorced	geschieden
on the lam	fleeing from the police	auf der Flucht sein
on the level	legitimate, honest	ehrlich, legitim
on the up and up	on the level	astrein
orchid	an expensive item	ein teures Stück
ossified	drunk	s. oben
owl	a person out late	Nachtschwärmer, Nachteule
owled	drunk	betrunken
palooka	a below-average or average boxer; social outsider	Außenseiter, Ausgestoßener
panther piss	homemade whiskey, moonshine	s. oben

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pen yen	opium	Opium
percolate	boil over; (from 1925: run smoothly)	reibungslos verlaufen leichtgängig laufen
pet	make out, second or third base	knutschen
petting pantry	movie theater	Kino
petting party	one or more couples making out in a room or car	ein oder mehrere Paare im Auto am Knutschen
phonus balonus	nonsense (Küchenlatein)	Nonsens, Unsinn, usw.
piffle	baloney, nonsense	s. oben
piker	cheapskate, small-time person; coward	Memme unzuverlässiger Spieler
pill	a teacher; an unlikeable person (approx: dipshit, wanker, pain in the ass)	Nervensäge Ärgernis unsympathischer Typ
pinch	to arrest (nab)	verhaften, erwischen, schnappen, kaschen
pipe down	quiet, stop talking	Sei leiser, Schweige!
plastered	drunk	s. oben
pos-i-lute-ly	affirmative	Jawohl
<b>potted</b>	drunk	s. oben
primed	drunk	s. oben
prom-trotter	student who attends all school social functions	etwa: sozialer Schmetterling
pull a Daniel Boone	upchuck	sich übergeben, kotzen
punch the bag	make small talk	Smalltalk machen
pushover	a person easily convinced or seduced	jemand, der leicht zu überzeugen oder verführen ist
putting on the Ritz	doing something in style	sich fein herausputzen
quaff	slut, cheap prostitute (correct meaning: to drink something)	Schlampe, billige Nutte
quilt	a drink that warms its drinker	etwa: Toddy
ragamuffin	dirty or disheveled person	ungepflegter bzw. schmutziger

1920s slang <a href="http://home.earthlink.net/~dlarkins/slang-pg.htm">http://home.earthlink.net/~dlarkins/slang-pg.htm</a> <a href="http://www.theatlantic.com/entertainment/archive/2012/10/how-sound-bees-knees-dictionary-1920s-slang/322320/">http://www.theatlantic.com/entertainment/archive/2012/10/how-sound-bees-knees-dictionary-1920s-slang/322320/</a> <a href="http://local.aaca.org/bntc/slang/slang.htm">http://local.aaca.org/bntc/slang/slang.htm</a>		
English	English definition	Deutsch
		Mensch
razz	to make fun of, tease	veräppeln, aufhaben, umhaben, necken, verkohlen
real McCoy	the genuine article	das echte Ding
Rhartz!	How disappointing, bummer, buzzkill	Schade!
<b>ritzy</b>	elegant, posh	üppig, elegant
rub	dance party for college or high school students	Tanzgesellschaft
<b>rubes</b>	money (from Rubles?) <b>hicks, yokels, naive people</b>	Landeier Waldheini
sap	fool, chump, patsy	Narr, Klotz, Dummkopf, Trottel
sawbuck	\$10 bill	\$10-Note
Says you!	reaction of disbelief	Sagst du!
scram	get outta here!	Verschwinde! Verdufte! Nehme Reißaus! Zische ab!
scratch	money	Geld
screaming meemies	shakes, DTs	Delirium Tremens Säuferwahnsinn
screw	get lost, scram (vamoose—from Sp. <i>vamos</i> , 1820s-1830s)	Hau ab! Verschwinde! Verdufte!
screwy	crazy	bekloppt, bescheuert
scrooched	drunk	s. oben
sheba	woman with sex appeal	heiße Nummer
sheik	man with sex appeal (Valentino films)	Mann mit Sexappeal
shine box	bar or club for blacks (insulting)	Lokal für Schwarze
<b>shiv</b>	knife (today, especially refers to handmade knives and blades in prison)	handgemachtes Messer (bes. im Gefängnis)
simolean	dollar	Dollar
sinker	donut	Donut

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English	English definition	Deutsch
skee	Scotch	Scotch
skirt	attractive woman	attraktive Frau
smarty	cute flapper	attraktive Flapperin
smoke-eater	smoker	Raucher
smudger	close dancer	jemand, der beim Tanzen die Partner zu eng an sich halt
snort	drink or shot of liquor	Schuss
so's your old man	reply when irritated	etwa: Du auch!
sockdollager	event or action of great importance	wichtiges Ereignis
soup job	to crack a safe using nitroglycerin	einen Safe mit Nitroglyzerin knacken
spade	black person (insulting)	
spiffy	elegant in appearance	adrett
spill	talk, reveal (spill the beans)	verpetzen
splifficated	drunk	s. oben
spoon	to kiss, or talk of love	schmusen
strike-me-dead	bootleg liquor	s. oben
struggle	modern dance	moderner Tanz
struggle buggy	backseat of a car	Rücksitz des Autos
stuck on	having a crush on	in jemanden verknallt sein
swanky	ritzy, expensive, fashionable	schickimicki, modisch, protzig, mondän, schick
swell	wonderful rich man (Mae West: "Ah, meetin' the swells!")	wunderbar, ausgezeichnet, usw.
take for a ride	drive off to a deserted location with someone in order to bump them off.	jemanden im Auto entführen, um ihn vor einem abgelegenen Ort abzuknallen.
<b>tanked</b>	drunk	s. oben
tasty	appealing	appetitlich
tea	marijuana	s. oben
tell it to Sweeney	tell it to the Marines	Das kannst du deiner Großmutter

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English	English definition	Deutsch
		erzählen!
the goods	the right material, person who has it; the facts, the truth: „Make sure the cops don't get the goods on you.“	Der Beweis, die richtigen Infos
three-letter man	homosexual	Schwul
tight	attractive (later: drunk, close friends)	hübsch
Tin Pan Alley	music industry in NYC, betw. 48th and 52nd St.	
tomato	female (broad; insulting)	Tussi, Braute
torpedo	goon, hired thug, hit man	Schläger, Killer
trip for biscuits	wild goose chase	Metzgergang
unreal	special	
<b>upchuck</b>	vomit, esp. when drunk	sich erbrechen, sich übergeben, kotzen
upstage	arrogant, snobby (today a verb)	versnobt
vamp	seducer of men, aggressive flirt	Vamp
voot	money	Geld
water-proof	face good-looking enough not to require makeup	sehr schönes Gesicht
<b>wet blanket</b>	killjoy	Spielverderber Spaßverderber
What's eating you?	What's wrong? What's bothering you?	Was stört dich? Wo drückt es dich denn?
white lightning	bootleg liquor	s. oben
whoopee	to have a good time	sich amüsieren
wife	dorm roommate	Zimmergenosse
wurp	wet blanket	Spielverderber
yegg	safecracker, criminal	Geldschrankknacker Verbrecher
You slay me!	You're hilarious.	Du bist sehr geistreich, witzig!
zozzled	drunk	s. oben



