

## Goodbye to *hi* and hey to *catch ya* and beyond

**Level:** Intermediate

**Age:** Teenagers

**Time needed:** 25 minutes

**Lesson aim:** To help students increase their vocabulary with words with different definitions.

**Skills:** Study skills, speaking, writing

**Materials needed:** Worksheet, Macmillan Online Dictionary

### Warmer

Ask students to look at the title of the article and ask them what greetings and farewells they use in emails and instant messaging. Ask students to read the text and not to worry about the meaning of every word. You could ask a few comprehension questions to check understanding and to help explain meaning. For example:

*Which are the most popular greetings according to the text?*

*What are the origins and associations of Yo and Wassup?*

*Which are the most popular farewells according to the text? Why is a lot of Internet language shortened and abbreviated?*

*Why is this 'new' language becoming so popular?*

### Activity 1

Ask students to re-read the lines where the words appear and discuss with a partner the possible meaning of each word. Then give students time to check their ideas against the Macmillan Online Dictionary and answer Activity 1 in pairs. At the end of the activity, you could ask students to provide a few examples of jargon, slang and patois.

#### Key:

- a** type of (spoken) language used by people in a particular area that is different from the main language used in a country
- b** words or expressions that are very informal and are not considered appropriate for more formal situations

**c** special words and phrases that are only understood by people who do the same kind of work

**d** Students' own answer

### Activity 2

Allow class discussion to answer the question given in the rubric. Encourage them to try random words with *high* in the Macmillan Online Dictionary and share their results. Then give students time to find the words given in Activity 2 and complete the activity in pairs.

#### Key:

1f, 2e, 3b, 4c, 5a, 6d

### Activity 3

Ask students to discuss in pairs and infer the meaning of each word by reading the paragraphs again. Give them time to search the meanings in the Macmillan Online Dictionary and answer Activity 3. If time allows, elicit some example sentences to use the words given according to their meaning.

#### Key:

- a** Students' own answer / to move or push someone or something forward
- b** Students' own answer / considered ordinary or normal and accepted or used by most people
- c** Students' own answer / ordinary and not interesting or exciting, especially because of happening too regularly

### Activity 4

Ask students to re-read the paragraphs where the mentioned words appear. Have them work in small groups to discuss the possible meanings and then check their answers in the Macmillan Online Dictionary before writing their examples. Elicit some examples to discuss as a class.

#### Key:

Students' own answers