

Title:

Aston, West Midlands

Shelfmark:

C1190/42/04

Recording date:

13.02.2005

Speakers:

Ahmed, Sheraz, b. 1982 Aston; male

Kazi, Ajaz, b. 1978; male

Kazi, Javid, b. 1977 Aston; male

Shaikh, Taahir, b. 1983 Aston; male

The interviewees are all young footballers from Aston.

PLEASE NOTE: this recording is still awaiting full linguistic description (i.e. phonological, grammatical and spontaneous lexical items).

A summary of the specific lexis elicited by the interviewer is given below.

ELICITED LEXIS

- see English Dialect Dictionary (1898-1905)
- ▲ see Dictionary of Jamaican English (1980)
- see Dictionary of Caribbean English Usage (1996)
- △ see New Partridge Dictionary of Slang and Unconventional English (2006)
- ◇ see Green's Dictionary of Slang (2010)
- ◆ see Urban Dictionary (online)
- ◊ no previous source (with this sense) identified

pleased *fulfilled*¹; *heavy*[△] (“*that was heavy*”, used by young speakers as “*street word*” term of approval); *bad*, *sick* (used frequently by young speakers for “*good*”)

tired (not discussed)

unwell *feeling bad*; *sick*; *poorly*; *hangover*; *mash up*[●]

hot *boiling*; *baking*

also supplied *ugra*² (Urdu for “*really hot and stuffy*”)

¹ *Collins English Dictionary* (online edition at <http://www.collinsdictionary.com/>) includes ‘fulfilled’ in this sense.

² *Shabdkosh English Hindi Dictionary* (online at <http://shabdkosh.com/>) includes ‘ugra’ in this sense.

cold	<i>freezing; thandi³; harsh^o</i> (of weather)
annoyed	(not discussed)
throw	<i>dash</i> (most common); <i>phenk³</i> (Urdu for ‘to throw’); <i>chuck; throw</i>
play truant	<i>wag; skive; skiving; on a mission⁴</i> (frequently used with friends as pretext for truanting); <i>do one</i> (“let’s just do one” used with friends)
sleep	(not discussed)
play a game	(not discussed)
hit hard	<i>smack, whack, drill^Δ, smash, deck</i> (“deck him” used for to knock someone to ground), <i>mash, trash</i> (of hitting person); <i>have^o</i> (“have him” used when playing football for “get him”)
clothes	<i>garms^Δ</i> (used by young speakers of “quality clothes”, “street slang” abbreviation of ‘garments’); <i>kappre³</i>
trousers	<i>patlun³; combats</i>
child’s shoe	(not discussed)
mother	(not discussed)
gmother	<i>gran; nani^Δ; me old lady⁵; “granny Smith”; dadi³</i>
m partner	(not discussed)
friend	<i>bredrin^Δ</i> (extremely common, thought to be “Rasatafarian”/related to “breadwinner”, used of close friend); <i>bro; blood; dost^Δ; yar^Δ; homie</i>
gfather	(not discussed)
forgot name	(not discussed)
kit of tools	(not discussed)
trendy	<i>fake^Δ; frauder^Δ; fraud^Δ; chav; standard^Δ; average^Δ</i>
f partner	<i>missus; catty⁶; yattie^Δ; moll; babe; item⁷</i>
baby	(not discussed)
rain heavily	(not discussed)
toilet	<i>loo; doghouse^Δ; bogs; shithouse; shitter</i> (“going on the shitter”)
walkway	(not discussed)
long seat	<i>settee</i> (suggested by interviewer); <i>throne^Δ; hot spot^Δ</i>
run water	(not discussed)
main room	<i>living-room; remote control-wallah room^Δ</i> (suggested jokingly); <i>cotch; bazooka⁸ room^Δ</i> (suggested jokingly)
rain lightly	(not discussed)
rich	<i>minted; royalty^Δ; loaded; mint up⁹; pukka cash¹⁰; bling-bling^Δ; wealthy</i>
left-handed	<i>talented^Δ, gifted^Δ</i> (used of e.g. left-footed footballer/left-handed snooker player)

³ Transliteration of lexical items based on *Digital Dictionaries of South Asia* (<http://dsal.uchicago.edu/dictionaries/>).

⁴ *New Partridge Dictionary of Slang and Unconventional English* (2006) records ‘mission’ in sense of ‘assignment given to youth gang member’.

⁵ *OED* (online edition) records ‘old lady’ in sense of ‘mother’.

⁶ *The Caribbean Dictionary* (online at <http://wiwords.com/>) records ‘catty’ in this sense.

⁷ *OED* (online edition) records ‘be an item’ in sense of ‘pair of lovers/couple’.

⁸ *New Partridge Dictionary of Slang and Unconventional English* (2006) records ‘bazooka’ in sense of ‘cigarette laced with cocaine’.

⁹ *New Partridge Dictionary of Slang and Unconventional English* (2006) records ‘mint’ in sense of ‘very large sum of money’; *Dictionary of Jamaican English* (1980) records ‘up’ as ‘frequently added to participles/adjectives with incremental/intensifying effect’.

¹⁰ *OED* (online edition) records ‘pukka’ in sense of ‘[e]sp. in South Asian contexts: full/good/largest possible’.

unattractive	<i>minging; sketel[♠]; minger; duff¹¹; nasty; sub-standard¹²</i>
lack money	<i>skint; bruckers^{▲13}; waste; bruck up^{▲14}; P45¹⁵</i>
drunk	<i>pissed; piss-up; dhut¹; wrecked; wreckers¹⁶; lagging[▲]; tipsy; good night out; on a level^{▲17}</i>
pregnant	(not discussed)
attractive	(not discussed)
insane	<i>mad; nutty; crazy</i>
moody	(not discussed)

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¹¹ *OED* (online edition) records 'duff' in sense of 'worthless'.

¹² *OED* (online edition) records 'sub-standard' in sense of 'inferior'.

¹³ *Dictionary of Jamaican English* (1980) records 'bruck' in this sense; *OED* (online edition) records '<-ers>' as productive suffix used 'to form familiar/humorous nicknames'.

¹⁴ *Dictionary of Jamaican English* (1980) records 'bruck' in this sense & 'up' in sense of 'frequently added to participles/adjectives with incremental/intensifying effect'.

¹⁵ *OED* (online edition) records 'P45' in sense of 'reference to employee's dismissal'.

¹⁶ *OED* (online edition) records 'wrecked' in this sense & '<-ers>' as productive suffix used 'to form familiar/humorous nicknames'.

¹⁷ *New Partridge Dictionary of Slang and Unconventional English* (2006) records 'on the level' in sense of 'high', i.e. under the influence of drugs.