

Smileys and Chat-Room Lingo

When we talk to people face-to-face, our body language, the tone of our voice and our facial expressions impart great meaning to what we say. When we 'chat' on the Internet, we personalize messages by using **smileys** or **emoticons**. You create smileys by typing characters from your keyboard. Most smileys must be read by tilting your head sideways.

Chat-room lingo is the language used by people in chat rooms. The ones listed are but a few. Some are quite vulgar and students who use chat rooms may know them. I limit the students to the ones that I have given them!

Both are quite interesting and can be used in a variety of ways. Here are but a few:

- In Elements of Literature, First Course, the short story *Three Skeleton Key* appears. One of the activities under **A Creative Response** involves writing a radio script. The students could write a chat room conversation between one of the characters in the story and someone else, telling them of the problem.
- We also have *Flowers for Algernon* in our text. The students could log chat room conversations between Charlie and one of the characters over a period of time, beginning after the operation and continuing until he was no longer able to use a computer.
- Any activity where a phone conversation is written could be adapted to a chat room conversation.
- Use chat room lingo and smileys to construct poems.

Smiley's

:) or :-)	Smiling/Happy	5:-)	Elvis Presley
:> or :->	Devious Smile	:-)B	Dolly Parton*
:(or :-(Sad	:-O	Mick Jagger
:<	Very Sad	:-.)	Madonna
>:-(Angry	:/7)	Cyrano de Bergerac
:&	Tongue-tied	O-)	Cyclops
:c	Bummed	= ;-)	Abe Lincoln
:l or :-l	Grin	:'	Richard Nixon
:D or :-D	Laughing	:(=)	Jimmy Carter

:o or :o	Shouting	7:^	Ronald Reagan
:-O or :O	Shouting very loud	V=//	George Bush
:-p	Stick your tongue out	=:0	Bill Clinton
:-*	Kissing*	8(:-)	Mousketeer
:-x	Quiet	3:-)	Bart Simpson
:-()	Talking too much	:-X	my lips are sealed
;-) or *_~	Winking	c=:-)	chef
8-)	Wearing Glasses	:-9	yummy
B-)	Wearing Shades	:-'	has a cold
o	Yawning	:/)	not funny
^o	Sleeping/Snoring	:-#	has braces

Chat Room Lingo

* k*	kiss	*g*	giggle
h	hugs	*w*	wink
<bg>	big grin	<g>	grin
<vbg>	very big grin	AFk	as far as I know
AFK	Away from keyboard	AKA	Also Known As
AOL	America Online	asap	as soon as possible
BAK	Back at keyboard	BEG	big evil grin
BF	boy friend	BRB	be right back
BTW	By the way	C	see
C&G	chuckle and grin	CID	crying in disgrace
CIS	Compuserve	CU	See you
CWYL	chat with you later	CYA	see ya
DLBBB	don't let the bed bugs bite	f2f	face to face
FAQ	Frequently asked question	FLAF	feel like a fool
FWIW	for what it's worth	FYA	For your amusement
FYI	For your information	GF	gone for now
GIWIST	gee I wish I'd said that	GMTA	great minds think alike
GTSY	glad to see you	HHIS	hanging head in shame
HHOK	ha ha only kidding	HHOS	Ha ha, only serious
HP	Home Page	HTH	hope this helps

HTHBE	hope this has been enlightening	IAC	In any case
iae	in any event	IMHO	in my humble opinion
IMNSHO	in my no-so-humble opinion	IMO	In my opinion
IOW	in other words	IRL	in real life
ITRW	in the real world	JMO	just my opinion
JTLYK	just to let you know	KISS	keep it simple, stupid
KIT	keep in touch	KOC	kiss on cheek
KOL	kiss on lips	L8ter	Later
LHM	Lord help me	LHU	Lord help us
LOL	Laughing out loud	LSHMBH	laughing so hard my belly hurts
LTNS	long time no see	LUWAMH	love you with all my heart
MOTD	Message of the day	NRN	No response necessary
OIC	oh, I see	OL	old lady (wife, girlfriend)
OM	old man (husband, boyfriend)	OMG	Oh, my gosh!
OTF	on the floor	OTOH	On the other hand
OTP	on the phone	OTTOMH	off the top of my head
PC	Politically correct or portable computer		
PDS	please don't shoot	PI	Politically incorrect
PM	private message	PMFJI	pardon me for jumping in
PMP	peed my pants *	POAHF	put on a happy face
POOF	has left the chat room	POV	Point of view
POV	point of view	QSL	reply
QT	cutie	RL	Real life
RL	rolling on the floor laughing	RSN	Real soon now
RT	Real time	SETE	smiling ear to ear
SHID	slaps head in disgust	SO	significant other
STO	Sticking Tongue Out	TA	thanks again
tia	thanks in advance	TIC	Tongue in cheek
TOY	Thinking of us	TTFN	Ta-ta for now
TTYL	Talk to you later	tyvm	thank you very much
U	You	WB	Welcome back
WTG	Way to go	WTH	What the heck**
wymm	will you marry me	wysiwyg	what you see is what you get
Y	why	YBS	you'll be sorry

*** Use discretion with these!**