

8 British Expressions



Episode #4

1. **play a blinder** (*verb*)

(to do something extremely well)

Examples:

"John really **played a blinder** in the meeting today; his presentation was perfect."

"The goalkeeper **played a blinder** during the match, saving every single shot!"

"In the job interview, she **played a blinder** and impressed all the bosses with her knowledge."

"I couldn't believe how well the band performed; they really **played a blinder** last night."

2. **botch job** (*expression*)

(a poorly done task or repair, where the work is of bad quality)

Examples:

"When Dave tried to fix the sink himself, it ended up leaking even more. What a **botch job!**"

"I got my bike fixed, but the gears aren't working well. It was a **botch job** repair."

"Mum attempted to cut my hair last night. Everyone at school laughed because it's an absolute **botch job.**"

3. **cheeky** (*adjective*)

(something or someone being playful, funny in a naughty or teasing way, or not showing the expected respect)

Examples:

"I can't believe you took a biscuit from the tin before dinner. That's very **cheeky** of you!"

"He gave the teacher a **cheeky** wink after answering the question correctly."

"Going on holiday and sending your colleagues a postcard from the beach? That's a **cheeky** thing to do!"

"She's got such a **cheeky** sense of humour, always playing pranks on her friends."



4. **clanger** (*noun*)

(a big mistake, often one that is embarrassing or causes trouble)

Examples:

"I just realised I sent that cheeky email to the entire office. What a **clanger**!"

"In the middle of his speech, he completely forgot the name of the country he was in. It was a real **clanger**."

We often say "drop a clanger":

"He dropped a **clanger** during the meeting by calling the boss by the wrong name."

"She accidentally spilled red wine on the bride's dress. She really dropped a **clanger** at the wedding!"

5. **fit** (*adjective*)

(physically attractive, good-looking)

Examples:

"Did you see the new bloke in accounting? He's really **fit**!"

"My mate set me up on a blind date, and I was pleasantly surprised – she was absolutely **fit**!"

"We were watching a film last night, and my partner kept going on about how **fit** the lead actor was."

6. **gaff** (*noun*) (a home)

Examples:

"We're having a party at my **gaff** this Saturday, you should come over!"

"His new **gaff** is just around the corner, it's a really nice flat with a great view."

"I don't want to go out tonight, let's just chill at your **gaff** and watch films."

"Sarah's **gaff** is so cosy, she's decorated it with loads of plants and fairy lights."

"After the match, we're all heading back to Dave's **gaff** for a few drinks."

7. whinge (verb)

(to complain or express dissatisfaction in an annoying way)

Examples:

"He won't stop **whinging** about the weather; it's British weather, what does he expect?"

"Instead of offering solutions at the meeting, she just **whinged** about all the problems."

"Mum's going to **whinge** when she sees the mess the dog's made in the living room."

"I can't hang out with them anymore; their **whinging** about work is exhausting."

8. **pants** (*adjective, expression*) (something that is not very good or is disappointing)

Note: This time, it doesn't mean clothes!

Examples:

"The ending of that film was absolutely **pants**; I can't believe I sat through the whole thing."

"He was so excited about the new game, but I've played it, and it's pretty **pants**."

"The party last night was a bit **pants**, so we ended up leaving early and grabbing a takeaway instead."

"I had high hopes for the new restaurant, but the food turned out to be **pants**—such a shame!"

