

# A to Z English



## A to Z Quick Chat 53: Generation X Slang

Website: <http://atozenglishpodcast.com/episodes>

Email: [atozenglishpodcast@gmail.com](mailto:atozenglishpodcast@gmail.com)

### Full Transcript

**00:00:00**Xochitl

Hello it is the English.

**00:00:01**Xochitl

Listeners welcome to another podcast.

**00:00:04**Xochitl

Today, we're going to be doing a fun episode called Gen.

**00:00:07**Xochitl

Slang for Jack teaches me about some damn explaining, and I try to get some meetings.

**00:00:16**Xochitl

Jack, you wanna kick us off?

**00:00:18**Jack

Yes, I would.

**00:00:19**Jack

I would like to.

**00:00:20**Jack

So I have 3 expressions or three words that were very common about, I don't know, 30 or 40 years ago.

**00:00:28**Jack

This is I'm a generation X person, and so the first one that I want to share with you is.

00:00:38 Jack

The expression go postal.

00:00:42 Jack

What does it mean to go postal?

00:00:47 Xochitl

Gosh, no idea.

00:00:52 Xochitl

Like OK, like, which isn't fair, but the first thing the first three, like, go to mine like I go lazy to like go on a trip or like go go.

00:01:07 Xochitl

Or anything or.

00:01:09 Xochitl

Three the UM the postal, I thought, would mean like UM.

00:01:15 Xochitl

Go like, well, how we use ghosting now, like, ghosted.

00:01:19 Jack

Ohh, ghosting.

00:01:19 Jack

Like ignoring somebody completely to go.

00:01:23 Xochitl

Isn't disappearing, disappearing.

00:01:24 Jack

To disappear, OK.

00:01:25 Jack

OK.

00:01:26 Jack

Well, you're close on one of them.

00:01:28 Jack

So it it is a verb, right?

00:01:30 Jack

Obviously to go postal is to do some.

00:01:34 Jack

And so the I'll I'll give you the background information.

00:01:39 Jack

OK.

00:01:40 Jack

So in the 80s and 90s, there was this phenomenon where people who worked in the post post offices went crazy and started shooting and killing people.

00:01:54 Jack

Just kind of like, uh, you know how, like, UM, in America, we have a big problem with school shootings.

**00:02:02**Jack

Before school shootings, there were posters, office shootings and it was thought that there the mail never stops coming.

**00:02:10**Jack

It's just always, never stops, never stops.

**00:02:13**Jack

And so people that were working there just went crazy and just started shooting people.

**00:02:19**Jack

And so there were maybe there were several.

**00:02:22**Jack

Like quite a few.

**00:02:24**Jack

Shootings of people working in post office and so the expression to go crazy or to go mental is to go postal.

**00:02:35**Jack

And so that is an expression that became so.

**00:02:39**Jack

If you're talking to your friends and.

**00:02:40**Jack

Your friend is kind of getting too.

**00:02:43**Jack

Excited or too, too angry or something you say?

**00:02:47**Jack

Oh, you're going postal.

**00:02:49**Jack

That person is going to post.

**00:02:51**Xochitl

That is weird.

**00:02:53**Xochitl

I was like.

**00:02:54**Xochitl

I've never heard about this phenomenon of of people and paid at the post office.

**00:03:00**Jack

Yeah, if you asked your your mom and dad, they would totally know what I'm talking about.

**00:03:04**Xochitl

OK, I'm going to ask me that next time I talk to him.

00:03:06Xochitl

My mom probably won't know.

00:03:09Xochitl

Because she didn't move to the US until, like.

00:03:11Xochitl

The 90s and.

00:03:14Xochitl

I'm not sure what her like.

00:03:19Xochitl

How much of the news she like understood at that point?

00:03:22Xochitl

She didn't really speak fluent English.

00:03:23Jack

Yeah, that's true.

00:03:24Jack

I mean, slang is is kind of the last thing you you learn when you're you know, second language learner slang is not the first thing you start with.

00:03:35Jack

You know, it's kind of it's kind of the the end game is is slang but.

00:03:40Jack

Yeah, that's.

00:03:41Jack

That was the first one.

00:03:42Jack

I I didn't mean to start us off.

00:03:43Jack

So it was such a dark example. It's kind of a kind of kind of a sad, sad expression #2. This one is grody.

00:03:48Xochitl

Not a good plan.

00:03:56Jack

GRODY.

00:03:57Xochitl

I'm thinking inequality.

00:03:58Xochitl

I believe you still use it today.

00:04:00Xochitl

It's like OK, it can have like 2, meaning well, you know that's not right.

**00:04:07**Xochitl

It's like I think it's like.

**00:04:11**Xochitl

That's great.

**00:04:15**Xochitl

Use it that way like now.

**00:04:18**Xochitl

That's girl. You are gross.

**00:04:21**Jack

It's another it's a synonym for gross.

**00:04:24**Jack

Like, that's disgusting, eh?

**00:04:26**Jack

Grody like that.

**00:04:28**Jack

We used to say that.

**00:04:29**Xochitl

We still use that sometimes, and especially because there was a guy at my high school named Brody and people called him Brody.

**00:04:36**Xochitl

OK, that he's alright.

**00:04:37**Jack

His name was Brody Brody Brody.

**00:04:42**Xochitl

You know, when people are savaged that we could do a whole nother episode about, like, high school nicknames, those we're just worried to kids are savage.

**00:04:50**Jack

Well, you're talking to a guy named Jack.

**00:04:52**Jack

I mean, Jack and the Beanstalk.

**00:04:54**Jack

Jack and Jill.

**00:04:54**Jack

Jack jumped over the, you know, whatever.

**00:04:56**Jack

It's it's there's a whole litany of Jack nicknames that that can be can be made so.

**00:05:05**Jack

I know all about that. All right, #3, the last one. This one, I think you'll know this one, but I what? I'm I'm curious about is if you know the the meaning behind it. So the the third one is yuppie.

00:05:19 Xochitl

Remind me.

00:05:21 Jack

Yuppie YUPP i.e.

00:05:26 Xochitl

Isn't it? Isn't it Yiddish?

00:05:29 Jack

It's it's not Yiddish.

00:05:32 Xochitl

OK.

00:05:32 Jack

Like what? What?

00:05:33 Jack

Do you what?

00:05:34 Jack

Part of speech.

00:05:34 Jack

Do you think yuppie is?

00:05:36 Xochitl

It's a noun.

00:05:37 Xochitl

A person is a yuppie.

00:05:39 Xochitl

Yeah, I know.

00:05:42 Xochitl

I've heard it I.

00:05:43 Xochitl

Think like when I watched the rollback movie, like when I watched like an.

00:05:46 Xochitl

80s or 90s movie.

00:05:48 Xochitl

But I it's like I know it's like on the tip of like the rain tongue.

00:05:53 Xochitl

Like, I I can't place it.

00:05:57 Xochitl

Like uh oh, yes, I do.

00:05:59Xochitl

Uh, it's like.

00:05:59Xochitl

The preppy kind of.

00:06:01Jack

Right.

00:06:02Jack

It's actually an acronym.

00:06:04Jack

It's an acronym and uh, it stands for uh.

00:06:07Xochitl

OK.

00:06:09Jack

Young urban professional person in everyday society.

00:06:17Jack

So a yuppie would be like a kind of white collar, uh, upper class person.

00:06:24Jack

Not super rich, but you know, definitely like upper middle class is kind.

00:06:29Jack

Of a yuppie.

00:06:31Xochitl

With what we call like a profession, I guess in living in the city.

00:06:36Jack

PMC, right, a professional managerial class type person.

00:06:41Jack

Uh yeah, PMC.

00:06:42Jack

The OR, yeah, but back in the old days, when when I was a a youngster, we called them yuppies.

00:06:52Xochitl

Like it's an acronym, just like Bay.

00:06:54Xochitl

Our viewers may remember Bay the acronym before anyone else, so.

00:06:58Jack

Before anyone else, right.

00:06:59Jack

Right.

00:07:00Xochitl

Hello. Hello.

00:07:03 Jack

So I don't know.

00:07:04 Jack

I'm trying to think like did I?

00:07:05 Jack

Did I stop you?

00:07:06 Jack

Not really.

00:07:06 Jack

Only on, like, go postal.

00:07:08 Jack

That was it.

00:07:08 Jack

You put you knew the other the.

00:07:10 Jack

The other two pretty much.

00:07:11 Jack

But uh.

00:07:12 Xochitl

I don't have.

00:07:12 Xochitl

The weird idea of what yuppie meant because I don't have a vague idea.

00:07:14 Jack

OK.

00:07:18 Xochitl

Because I'd heard it before my dad had used it.

00:07:22 Xochitl

So, like, a lot of these things, the goods interaction, almost as my parents were younger than my dad but and my but you still similar generation wise, I mean like even me, I'm the cusper between millennials and Gen.

00:07:38 Xochitl

And like, Kevin is technically still.

00:07:39 Xochitl

Millennial, you know, he's a lot older than me.

00:07:43 Jack

Right. And your dad?

00:07:44 Jack

's probably like A is probably a a Gen.

00:07:47 Jack



more Gen.

**00:07:47**Jack

X than than.

**00:07:48**Jack

Boomer, then a baby boomer, and I'm just a young Gen.

**00:07:50**Xochitl

Yes, he was a first.

**00:07:53**Jack

Xer, and he's probably an older Gen.

**00:07:56**Jack

But yeah, we we share a lot of probably similar cultural touchstones.

**00:08:04**Jack

You know, things that we associate with the culture are probably similar.

**00:08:09**Jack

With your your parents, yeah.

**00:08:11**Xochitl

Yes, I have heard them of these things and stuff like music or movies that they wanted me to.

**00:08:16**Xochitl

Watch from there.

**00:08:16**Xochitl

Like time period means that I'm like cultural awareness of this stuff, but I still think it's interesting.

**00:08:23**Xochitl

I had never heard about like that.

**00:08:25**Xochitl

I didn't know about the etymology of yuppie.

**00:08:28**Xochitl

Which I think is interesting.

**00:08:29**Xochitl

I definitely didn't know about that.

**00:08:31**Xochitl

Go postal and then.

**00:08:32**Jack

Yeah, I mean that one.

**00:08:34**Xochitl

Yeah, I think.

**00:08:34**Jack

It's really sad.

00:08:35 Jack

It's a go postal is is a very it has a a bad a sad history.

00:08:40 Jack

But yeah, it's definitely something we used to use, you know.

00:08:45 Xochitl

I mean, I hope that doesn't sound, you know, no sense to to victims of tragedies or anything like that.

00:08:50 Xochitl

It's just fascinating cause.

00:08:51 Xochitl

I've never like.

00:08:52 Xochitl

Heard about this and I wonder what reforms have been made in post offices to prevent this kind of?

00:08:58 Jack

Yeah, it's weird.

00:08:59 Jack

Oddly enough, it just kind of stopped and went away.

00:09:02 Jack

It was like a it was a thing and then it.

00:09:03 Xochitl

And we have we fixed this now.

00:09:05 Jack

Wasn't a thing anymore.

00:09:06 Jack

Yeah, I mean, thank God.

00:09:07 Jack

But then, you know, now we have a whole new thing.

00:09:10 Jack

So you know that would that would be lovely.

00:09:11 Xochitl

Yeah, I hope that thing goes away too.

00:09:15 Jack

If that went away before.

00:09:15 Xochitl

Yeah, yeah, right. Well.

00:09:18 Jack

I'll close this off here before it gets too dark, but go to if you want to listen to the podcast, you can go to our website that is A-Z englishpodcast.com. You can listen to.

**00:09:31**Jack

The episodes right there, you can make a comment if you want to send us an e-mail, you can write us at A-Z englishpodcast@gmail.com that is A-Z, englishpodcast@gmail.com.

**00:09:45**Jack

If you go to our website, you can join our WhatsApp group first. You can join world English and then we will invite you into the A-Z English podcast WhatsApp group.

**00:09:56**Jack

Once you join.

**00:09:57**Jack

The World English group with Shaw English.

**00:10:00**Jack

So with that said, we'll see you next time.

**00:10:02**Jack

☐

☐

Thanks everybody.

**00:10:03**Jack

Bye bye.

**00:10:16** 발표자

In the budget.