



EGGHEAD

1) Charles can't order lunch without using an algebraic formula -- what an egghead!

2) Those eggheads in the media are always giving advice, but they don't know anything about real life.

Definition:

An overly intellectual person; someone who thinks too much.

Etymology:

Presumably, someone who thinks a lot must have a big brain, and their head must be large enough to hold their brain. A large head might be shaped something like a giant egg.



FEED THE METER

1) I've got to run and feed the meter -- I don't want to get a parking ticket!

2) When you park on the street, you have to feed the meter all day long.

Definition:

To put money in a parking meter; to pay for additional parking time.

Etymology:

This phrase compares a parking meter to an animal which must be 'fed' with a steady diet of coins.



GIBBERISH

1) The stranger sat on the bench speaking gibberish to himself.

2) Sometimes it sounds like the computer programmers are speaking in gibberish. I'm sure the code stands for something though.

Definition:

Speech that doesn't make sense; nonsensical words and phrases.

Etymology:

This comes from the Scandinavian words gibe/gipa/gape, which refer to joking or nonsensical talk. The '-ish' ending means 'from the place where they speak gibber (or nonsense)'.



GO BANANAS

1) I knew Joe would go bananas when he found out he's not getting a raise this year.

Definition:

To be irrational and wild; to lose control.

Etymology:

When apes are given a bunch of bananas, they eat them with tremendous enthusiasm, as though they've lost their minds.

go off the deep end



Slang of the Day

GO OFF THE DEEP END

1) My mom has always collected dolls, but I'm afraid she's gone off the deep end -- she buys 10 dolls a day on eBay!

Definition:

To go too far with something; to do something crazy.

Etymology:

The deep water, which is at the 'deep end' of a pool, is dangerous. You can get lost in the deep end. This phrase refers to that danger, but in an emotional rather than physical sense.

haywire



Slang of the Day

HAYWIRE

1) Jack lost all of his work when his computer went haywire.

2) The plane's engine was haywire so we had to drive to Chicago.

Definition:

Broken; in a state of chaos; not working.

Etymology:

Literally, 'haywire' is what holds a bale of hay (cut grass) together. It frequently breaks, however, and when it does it tends to move very quickly in several directions, like a whip. Now the term is used to describe anything that breaks in a crazy way.