

VILNIUS UNIVERSITY
INSTITUTE OF FOREIGN LANGUAGES

STUDY PROGRAMME
ENGLISH AND ANOTHER FOREIGN LANGUAGE (Russian)

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BACHELOR THESIS

**A COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS OF THE IMPACT OF SLANG ON THE
EVOLUTION OF LANGUAGE OF THE BABY BOOMER, X, Y AND Z
GENERATIONS**

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Registration No. _____

VILNIUS
2017

ASSESSMENT SHEET

Academic Supervisor's evaluation:

Reviewer's evaluation:

Final Mark for the Thesis:

(date of Paper evaluation)

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INTRODUCTION

In 1991, historians William Strauss and Neil Howe conceived the theory of generations, which is known as “the Strauss–Howe generational theory”. As a result of this theory, the topic of generations became a talking point which led to further studies. As stated in the book “Generations: the history of America’s future”, every two decades there is a new generation of humankind, which forms a distinctive period that is marked by various aspects, such as: political crises, cultural changes or technological breakthroughs, which can influence people’s point of view on particular things, or even make an influence on their personality. (Howe & Strauss, 1991). This theory built a fundamental basis for other authors to keep analysing the changes between generations, and today we can find a variety of books that introduce the generations to us, such as N. Howe’s “Millennials Rising”, E. Foley’s “These Are the Generations”, D. Stillman and L.C. Lancaster’s “When Generations Collide” and others.

How the “mechanism of generations” works attained a lot of attention in the past from language specialists and sociologists, as difference between generations can be noticed not only in the change in language but also in the change of people’s behaviour. Until now the main target of most works was to describe how people’s behaviour differs from the previous generations and why. The works that were written on the generational issue were: N. R. Nichols “The Effects of Generational Differences on Workplace Motivation”, A. Axelson and S. Bokedal “Reward Systems – Motivating Different Generations”, A. Moss “Generation Y: An Exploratory Study of Worker Experiences, Values and Attitudes in the Federal Government” and others. As was mentioned before these works were targeted at the behaviour and attitudes of the members of different generations.

The main concern of this work is comparison of language, particularly usage of slang words, of the: Baby Boomer, X, Y and Z generations. The language will be viewed using the diachronic approach. Even though there are a few works that analysed the differences between the generations or just focussed on explaining one chosen generation, none of them particularly compared the lexicons of generations. This work will not only compare the lexicons of these generations, but will also give a brief overview of them, as generations had and still have an impact on one another.

Joel Stein, in May 2013, wrote the article “Millennials: The Me Me Me Generation”, where he characterised the people from Generation Y. Stein provides statistical information that shows differences between him and his parents and grandparents’ generations. However, the article does not provide any data on how the lexicons of the generations differ.

When talking about generations we must mention the differences between them. The reason for it is that we cannot compare them if we do not know the difference and the impact each generation has made on younger generations. As the main concern of this work is the usage of slang words of generations: Baby Boomers, X, Y and Z, we cannot fully rely only on behavioural differences as it is only a small part that might or might not change our lexicon. What is more important is the influence of the environment we live in, improvements in technology and other general changes within the world.

The subject of this research paper is the lexicon of the language of the youth from generations: Baby Boomers, Generation X, Generation Y and Generation Z. **The aim** of the thesis is to compare how the representatives of these four generations use slang words and how slang words were formed. To reach this aim, the work will be based on previously published articles and books that analysed the changes of generations, by authors, such as W. Strauss and N. Howe, R. Crokey, E. Epstein and L. Epstein, C. Combi, J. Van Den Bergh and M. Behner, Y. Stein.

The objectives of the paper are as follows:

1. To define the notion of slang and its formation groups.
2. To establish the differences between the chosen generations.
3. To collect and analyse examples of slang words of the chosen generations and establish differential patterns of these linguistic expressions;
4. To find out the most productive slang formation groups.

The relevance and importance of the research work:

This work is important and at the same time interesting, because defining the difference between generations, the slang words they use and their influence on younger generations helps to predict the future of slang usage. This work touches on the evolution of slang words across generations, so it will be interesting and helpful for language students and people who are interested in the changes of language.

Structure of the research work:

This work consists of the following parts:

Introduction: the aim, the problem, its importance and relevance, the subject and objectives of this work.

Theoretical part: literature review, assessment of the material on the subject and terminology.

Methodology: theoretical guidance upon which the empirical survey is based, the steps and methods used.

Analytical part: analysis of the slang words of the chosen generations.

I. THEORETICAL PART

1. Formation of Slang

The main target of this work is to compare how *slang* words affected the lexicon of different generations; therefore, this chapter will give a brief overview on the formation of *slang* words and the difference between *slang* words and *jargon* words will be provided. The purpose of doing this is to see which *slang* formation group dominates in each of the chosen generations and how the lexicon of generations differs.

Slang words are the development of a particular language within a certain community. Usually *slang* words have a secondary meaning and they are not meant to be taken literally by the listener (Literaly Devices Editors, 2013). All the speakers of English language usually understand each other, however, they do not use the same phrases or words, so the style of the language is not alike. While looking at the language of a particular group of people, it can show that the style differs from the language style of another group of people. The reason for that is that members of one social group will use different language codes of the same language than the members of another social group (Liaw, Dani, & Johari, 2013). “Routledge Dictionary of Language and Linguistics” defines *slang* as “British or American variant of carelessly used colloquial language with explicitly social and regional variants. Corresponding to the French argot, slang is characterized by the innovative use of common vocabulary as well as newly coined words. Slang corresponds to the older designation “cant”, which originally referred to secret languages and sublanguages” (Bussmann, Trauth, & Kazzazi, 1996, p. 1084). Miscommunication happens when people who do not belong to the same community are introduced to these new *slang* words, as they do not know the secondary meaning of a *slang* word or phrase. One reason why people have *slang* words in their lexicon is simply because this is a way of showing that they belong to some kind of community. *Jargon*, on the other hand, is associated with a particular subject, business or occupation and it is used for a specific section of people, but its purpose to prevent outsiders from understanding is the same as that of slang words (Literaly Devices Editors, 2013). Mattiello explains the difference between *slang* and *jargon* like this: “slang may be used within a particular group like musicians, doctors, soldiers or seamen, but it does not exactly deal with status or reputation.”. According to her, the *jargon* is being used to show your status in the

society and *slang* to show that you belong to some kind of group of people (Mattiello, 2008, p. 36).

Slang words appear in language with every new generation. Even though they are not used in formal language they are a part of spoken language that later on transits into a written communication. Coleman (2012) provides information on how slang words are formed. The author introduces seven groups of slang formation. The definition of each group will be provided below and the information will be compared with the information provided by the authors: Ferreira & Abraham (2011), Runblad & Kronenfeld (1998) and Mattiello (2008).

1. Combining. It is one of the word formation groups. A new word is formed by combining two or more words into one (*compounds*). Most of the time, while combining two or more words to create a slang word, the jokes and insults are usually incorporated or combined in a humorous or irrelevant way (Coleman, 2012). For example, another way to refer to a *head* is to call it a *knowledge box*, a *helicopter* is called *egg-beater*, a *farmer* is called a *redneck*, a *person wearing glasses* is called *four-eyes*, a *very talkative person* is called *big mouth* (Mattiello, 2008). This category has two sub-groups that are: *Suffixation* and *Prefixation*.

a) *Suffixation* is a word formation group, which allows adding a suffix to an already existing word in order to create a new word. For this formation group, bound morphemes are joined with unbound morphemes. Recently the suffix *-io*, became one of the most productive suffixes of slang word formation. This suffix was and is being added to words, such as *cool* (*coolio*) and *deal* (*dealio*) (Coleman, 2012).

b) *Prefixation* is a word formation group, which also joins bound morphemes with unbound morphemes, but in this group prefixes are being used. Compared to suffixes, prefixes are less common in slang word formation. The prefix *super-* is widely used to create standard English words, however, with the addition of this prefix some slang words were created, for example, *superfatted* (*very fat*), or *super-cool* (*very cool*) (Coleman, 2012).

According to Ferreira and Abraham (2008), *suffixation* and *prefixation* are the categories of *affixation*. The *affixation* is the word formation group that has multiple sub-groups, but the most popular ones are *suffixation* and *prefixation*. Mattiello (2008) provides information about other sub-groups of *affixation* that are *infixation* and *conversion*. The slang words that fall into the *infixation* sub-group are created by adding an infix into the middle of the word. This slang formation group is not popular and not many slang words are created while using *infixation*. For example, *abso-blooming-lutely* stands for ‘emphasised absolutely’, *no-bloody-*

body stands for ‘nobody’ (Mattiello, 2008, p. 123). *Conversion* is a word formation group, with the help of which new words are being created by adding a so called ‘zero-affixation’. In other words, a new word is created by changing its grammatical meaning, for example, the adverb ‘down’ shows direction, but the slang word ‘down’ means that someone is sad, so it stands for an adjective (Mattiello, 2008, p. 123-124).

2. Abbreviation. It is another word formation group presented by Coleman (2012). The author describes this formation group as a group of words that were omitted or shortened in order to create a new word. Usually the beginning of a word (or a phrase) or the end are being omitted. For example, the slang word ‘sup’ forms the abbreviation of the phrase ‘what’s up’ by omitting the beginning of this phrase ‘what-’. Omitting the ending can be seen in words like ‘leg’. The meaning of this slang word is ‘legend’, but by omitting the end of the word ‘-end’ the slang word is created. Sometimes the combination of two words that were abbreviated creates new words that are not only slang words but also standard English words, for example, ‘blog’ is made from the phrase ‘web log’ (Coleman, 2012).

The authors Ferreira and Abraham (2011) state that the category of abbreviation includes two processes that are *clipping* and *blending*. The process of *clipping* is used to create new words by removing a few syllables from a word or a phrase, for example, the word ‘pop’ came from the phrase ‘popular music’; ‘phone’ from the word ‘telephone’. The process of *blending* can be seen as the compounding of clipped words. It takes segments from words and joins them together in a new word that retains the characteristics of the meaning from the original word. For example, ‘brunch’ (*breakfast + lunch*), ‘smog’ (*smoke + fog*) (Ferreira & Abraham, 2011).

According to Coleman (2012), this combining category has two sub-groups – *initialisms* and *acronyms*. Both sub-groups consist of initial letters of phrases they represent.

a) *Initialisms* are abbreviations that are pronounced as separate letters, for example, ‘CNN’ or ‘BBC’. These two initialisms represent words of standard English language and words like ‘NAAFI’ represent slang that means ‘Navy, Army and Air Force Institutes’ (Coleman, 2012). The authors Ferreira & Abraham (2011) present initialisms as “words that are pronounced by the name of the letters that compose them.” (Ferreira & Abraham, 2011, p. 92)

b) *Acronyms* are abbreviations that are pronounced as a word, for example, ‘AIDS’ (acquired immune deficiency syndrome) and ‘laser’ (light amplification by stimulated emission of radiation) that represent standard English words, while ‘lol’ is a slang word that means

‘laughing out loud’ (Coleman, 2012). The authors Ferreira & Abraham (2011, p. 91) present acronyms as words that were created by “using the initial letters of a sequence of words or morphemes to form a new word.”

3. *Spelling.* This is another way to create new slang words. The main purpose is to change the spelling of a word to make it unique. Usually it is used in written language, but it can also affect the pronunciation of the word. For example, the slang word ‘m8’ – stands for the word ‘mate’ or the slang word ‘CU’ stands for the phrase ‘see you’ (Coleman, 2012).

4. *Folk etymology.* There are many slang words that do not fall into any of the above-mentioned categories according to their formation, as they do not have any relationship with standard English words. However, some associations of slang word and a standard English word, can be made. For example, the slang word ‘pot’ (*marihuana*) can be associated with the standard English word ‘pot’. The slang word ‘pot’ belongs to the Folk etymology group as it is similar with the standard English word ‘pot’. The reason it falls into this category is, because marihuana is a plant, and pot is a container where people grow plants. However, there are many slang words that do not have any similarities and associations with standard English words, such as ‘clever’, ‘gravy’, etc. (Coleman, 2012). Runblad & Kronenfeld (1998) claim that there are two types of Folk etymology: Folk etymology Class I and Folk etymology Class II.

a) *Class I* - According to the authors Runblad & Kronenfeld (1998), it is the most common type of Folk etymology that can explain how a word was actually created. This group of etymology consists of the words that changed their meaning or form. For example, the slang word ‘rock’ stands for the word ‘diamond’. The meaning of the slang word can be explained, as diamonds can be associated with rocks by their shape and usually they are found within rocks. Another example is ‘rocket’, this slang word stands for a ‘fast car’. As both the slang and the object are types of transportation, this slang falls into this category. (Runblad & Kronenfeld, 1998 pp. 19-35)

b) *Class II* consists of the words which did not change their form or meaning, “but function mainly as some popular, though false, etymological explanation of the word”. For example, the word ‘bonkers’ meaning ‘crazy, mad’, the origin of which has no accurate explanation. (Runblad & Kronenfeld, 1998, pp. 19-35)

5. *The influence of other words.* In some the process of Folk etymology and assimilation can make two different words come together, in other words when the origin of a word has

two explanations that are different, but all of them are correct. For example, the slang word ‘shamus’ stands for ‘policeman’, and the origin of this word is the Irish name ‘Seamus’. However, there is evidence that this word might have come from the Hebrew word ‘shomus’. In the Hebrew language, the meaning of this word is ‘caretaker’. The Oxford English Dictionary states that both explanations of the word ‘shamus’ are correct. (Coleman, 2012, pp.44-43)

6. Slang loans. Not all slang words originally appeared from standard English words. Some of them were borrowed from foreign languages. Usually people pick foreign language words and use them in their mother-tongue language and immediately a foreign word falls into the Slang loans category. For example, the German preposition ‘über’ (*above*) now in the English language is used as an adjective that stands for ‘awesome’ as well as the name of a taxi company (Coleman, 2012).

7. Slangs from sound. Sound imitative words create new slang words, for example ‘zap’ – to shoot with a gun or ‘barf’ – to vomit (Coleman, 2012).

This chapter gave a brief overview of the most productive slang formation groups. Seven groups and sub-groups, according to J. Coleman (2012), were presented. The definitions of Coleman and other authors were compared. Only the main, most productive groups and sub-groups will be used in this work.

1.1 The impact of slang on the evolution of language across generations

Language is the process of communication. Language is never static as it is always changing throughout time. There are various types of changes in language change and there are many reasons for these changes. One of the main reasons for the evolution of language is the development of technologies, as new technologies, products, and experiences require new words to describe them and refer to them clearly (Birner, 2012). Schulz, Wyeth & Wiles (2010) state that the creation of new words and the modification of existing words are the main characteristics of the evolution of language (Schulz, Wyeth, & Wiles, 2010).

Another reason for language change is people’s experience with language. We might notice that some people use different sets of words and constructions, and that might depend on their age, job, education or areas they live in. People tend to pick up new lexicon from the people around them who are using different words than the ones they are used to. Then this process

continues if they use this new lexicon with other people. Of course, language change can be noticed in the communication of people who are from different generations, as the older generation sometimes do not understand the language of the youth and vice versa. One reason for that is that people of the younger generations tend to use short, new, slang and jargon words that never existed before, while people from previous generations tend to use more standard English (Birner, 2012). The culture and environment in which a person is living influences how he speaks, as it affects how words and concepts are exposed by the culture and how they are perceived by a person (Schulz, Wyeth, & Wiles, 2010).

An interesting question is how and if slang words affect the way we speak. Kolowich (2014) in her article states that new slang words appear every day and after some time they might be adapted by the speakers into their lexicon that leads to a definition in the dictionary. However, not all slang words exist long enough to get a place in the dictionary, but the ones that do change the way we speak. The author's opinion is not to blame the Internet for the effect of slang words made on the language, as slang words existed before the Internet and the Internet is not the only device that helps slang words exist. However, due to access to the Internet and the usage of social media, slang words are spread across the country and the world more easily (Kolowich, 2014). In her article, Kolowich introduces us to the research that was made by Eisenstein and his colleagues. The purpose of this research was to track how slang words spread throughout America. For this research, "Twitter" users and their tweets were used. To sum up the results, Eisenstein created a map that shows how slang words migrated from one part of the country to another as well as their direction.

This chapter gave a brief review of the evolution of language across generations that is still happening. Also, the most common factors that influence this process, such as the development of technologies and the need for new words were mentioned. It gave information about the specific word groups that separate one community from another. The following chapter will be centred on the generation issue, as communication across generations is the field in which the evolution of language and usage of words from specific word groups are most noticeable.

2. The notion of generation

To begin with, we need to define the notion of *generation*. This chapter will overview how different language and sociology specialists define this notion in their work and the most suitable definition for this research work will be chosen.

Nash (1978) in her article described *generation* as society's age grouping in order to locate people within historical time, in other words, she said that generational grouping is the device that helps to 'label' people according to the time they were born. Nash's (1978) definition matches with the definition of Mannheim (1952, p. 367). He states that "'generation' represents nothing more than particular kinds of identity location, embracing related 'age groups' embedded in a historical-social process". Mannheim (1952) claimed that there are two types of classification of generations - generation as location and generation as actuality. Generation as location, according to the author, is a group of people who were born at the same historical time. Talking about generation as actuality, it is a group of people who share the same feelings and experience (Mannheim, 1952). In 1991, American authors Strauss and Howe came up with the generations theory ("the Strauss–Howe generational theory"). They defined a generation as a social group of all people who were born over a period of twenty years. In their theory, they managed to trace 25 generations starting with the Arthurian Generation (1433) and the last generation mentioned in their theory is the Homeland Generation (Generation Z) (Strauss and Howe, 1991). Comparing how different authors define the notion of *generation*, we can see that the only difference in the definition of this notion is in the theory created by Strauss and Howe (1991), because they tracked the time when different generations began and when they ended, while Mannheim (1952) stated that there are two classifications of generational groups and only one of them can be tracked within time.

As was mentioned in the previous chapter, the evolution of language can be noticed in the process of communication between members of different generations. Communication between the members is successful as long as older generations understand the manner of speaking of newer generations (Schulz, Wyeth, & Wiles, 2010). Misunderstanding between two different generations is called the *Generational Gap*. It can also be defined as a conflict amongst younger and older people (Prasad and Damle, 1992).

This paper is concerned with the language of the generations: Baby Boomers, X, Y, and Z. To see if the creators of the latest generational theory were right that the lexicon of different generations influence one another, four consecutive generations were selected. The reason for choosing four generations is to see if an older generation made an impact on the language of younger generations.

This chapter gave a brief summary on how different authors defined the notion of generations. Concluding the descriptions, the only difference between the authors' opinions is that Mannheim (1952) classifies generations into two types, whereas Strauss and Howe (1991) into 25 generations. In this work, we will be using the definition of Strauss and Howe, as it is the latest generational classification. From the 25 generations that were presented by the authors, we will talk about Baby Boomers, Generation X, Generation Y, and Generation Z.

2.1 The language of Baby Boomers

The Online Oxford dictionary defines the Baby Boomer generation as the people who were born after World War II. No information on a particular time frame of this generation was provided (Oxford, 2016). The article “American Generation Fast Facts” that was found in the CNN library gives the period of time when this generation started and when it ended, and according to the information provided in this article, Baby Boomers were born between 1946 and 1964, after WWII. The origin of the name of this generation came from the baby boom, the process of the increasing birth rate after WWII. However, the beginning of this generation is arguable, as Howe and Strauss (1991) describe it as a social and cultural phenomenon in 1943 (CNN Library, 2016).

Discussing the language of the Baby Boomer generation, it is important to note that the members of this generation were born after WWII and before the computer era, so the influence of technologies was not as strong as on the later generations. However, the influence of war might have changed the lexicon of this generation. The members of this generation were participants in social changes such as the Civil Rights Movement and the Women's Movement, which might also have influenced the language of people (Value Opinions, 2016).

Many slang words Baby Boomers used originally came from war themes. Dickson (2004) presents the slang words from the front line of World War II. Even though this generation was born after the war and they did not participate in the war, they picked up these slang words from their parents. War-themed slang words include phrases like ‘Bite the Dust’ – to be killed or wounded; ‘Blanket Drill’ – to take a nap, ‘Hawk’ – war supporter. (Brett & McKay, 2016). A few slang words appeared from the Vietnam War, and were and still are being used by members of the Baby Boomer generation. For example, the abbreviation ‘Nam’ originally came from the name of the country, Vietnam, but was shortened by

members of the Baby Boomer generation. Also, the initialism 'VC' stands for the military forces of North Vietnam (Viet Cong).

The feminism and racism movements also influenced the creation of slang words by this generation. The word 'afro' stands for an African American person, but it is also used to refer to a hairstyle (the hairstyle was also known as "afro"). Later on, the slang word 'afro' was replaced with the slang word 'black'. Other slang words such as 'burnt toast', 'choco' or 'coloured' were used instead of the word 'black' to refer to a dark-skinned person. The phrase double A (AA) was also used to refer to an African American person. Such words as 'chick' (woman), 'creeper' (strange person who you strongly dislike, used by feminism supporters) appear from the feminism movements. The phrase 'Double Standards' was created to refer to a different treatment of men and women.

Many slang words appeared from pop culture, mainly from music. Words like 'fab four' was a reference to the pop group, The Beatles. Other words such as 'bird' (*a girl*), 'comfy' (*comfortable*) were widely used in the songs of The Beatles, and gained popularity (Rich, 2015). TV programs also influenced the language of this generation as the members of the Baby Boomers tended to pick up words or phrases from TV series and use them in their daily life, for example, the phrase 'meanwhile back at the ranch'. This phrase was widely used in TV western series in the early 50s-60s. This phrase was used by members of the Baby Boomer generation to change the topic of the conversation (Urban Dictionary, 2015). Another slang word that came from TV series is 'Five-O'. This slang word came from the TV series "Hawaii Five-O" and was used by members of the Baby Boomer generation as a reference to the police (Rich, 2015).

The combination of the war theme, social movements and popular culture influenced another social trend – the drug culture, also referred to as the hippies' movement. This movement started in the 60s. Usually hippies were viewed as society's dropouts. The members of hippie movements considered themselves as 'peace makers' or 'flower children' with 'flower power'. Some hippies used drugs, such as lysergic acid diethylamide (LSD), marihuana, methamphetamine and cocaine, even though it was and partly still (marihuana is now legal in some states in America) is illegal in America ("Drug Culture", n.d). To avoid being caught, people decided to create new names for these drugs, and that is how new slang words appeared. The members of the hippies' movement not only created new slang words for drugs, but also for the side effects that drugs created. Slang words used with smoking

marihuana are ‘joint’ (marihuana cigarette), ‘toke’ (a pull on a cigarette or pipe, typically one containing cannabis), ‘hemp’ (plant, from which marihuana is made), ‘hit’ (inhaling the drug, for example marihuana cigarette smoke), ‘papers’ (cigarettes paper, into which marihuana or tobacco are warped), ‘pot’ (marihuana), ‘roach’ (remains of a marihuana cigarette), ‘weed’ (marihuana). Other drugs: ‘Jelly Roll’ (heroin), ‘LSD’ (a hallucinogenic drug). The side effects of using drugs are ‘munchies’ (the feeling of hunger after smoking marihuana), ‘stoned’ (under the influence of alcohol and/or drugs), ‘zonked’ (under the influence of alcohol and/or drugs), ‘high’ (being under the influence of alcohol and/or drugs). Other words that are connected with drugs are ‘head shop’ (a shop where the implements and accessories for drugs are being sold), ‘narc’ (undercover police that investigate drugs), etc. (Rich, 2015)

This chapter gave a brief overview of the slang of the Baby Boomer generation. The origin and meaning of this term were explained. From the information given, it is clear that members of the Baby Boomer generation used the slang words that appeared from the war theme, social movements, pop culture, music and TV.

2.2 The language of Generation X

The Online Oxford Dictionary gives a brief definition on the origin of the term Generation X. According to the dictionary, the first person to use the term Generation X was Douglas Coupland. After the novel “Generation X: Tales from an Accelerated Culture”, the term Generation X gained attention and was adopted into the language as a term that names people who were born between the early 1960s and the middle of the 1970s (Oxford, 2016). Wolner (2016) not only gives a definition of this generation, but also provides some statistical information such as the population of the people who were born between 1965 and 1980 in America. The statistic shows that Generation X is the smallest generation between Baby Boomers and Millennials. Also, it provides information that shows what percentage of people got a higher education (18% of men and 20% of women had at least a Bachelor’s degree) and the median income of Generation X in America. Generation X is described by various authors and sources as lacking the ability to adapt and not being able to see how they can be a part of society (Wolner, 2016).

Discussing the language of Generation X, what is important to note is that this generation was the first to be born in the computer era, so that means technologies have had an influence on the language of this generation as the word ‘computer’ gained new meaning which was

adopted into the language. This generation started creating web pages, and here we have another new word – ‘web-page’ (Loehr, 2010). Looking at the slang words that Generation X used, we can sense the influence technologies made on their language as many slang words have a connection with computers, for example, the term ‘404’ describes a person who has no clue of particular things. ‘404’ still appears on computer screens when a connection problem appears or a web-page cannot be found, however, for that reason most people would not consider it as a slang word. Another example of a slang word that came from Generation X and is connected with computers is ‘uninstalled’. The meaning of this slang word is to get fired from a job. PC is the abbreviation that stands for personal computer. Later on, this abbreviation was also used to refer to a political correctness. (Gen X terms, 2016)

Talking about political correctness, the members of Generation X created new slang words and phrases to change existing words in order to be politer. These words are: ‘visually impaired’ (blind person), ‘hard of hearing’ (deaf person), ‘adult female’ (woman), ‘male parent’ (father). However, later on political correctness was turned down as it was not practical to use a few polite words instead of one neutral word. The consequence of that was more slang phrases that mock political correctness, such as ‘socially challenged’ (antisocial), ‘intellectually challenged’ (stupid), ‘vertically impaired’ (short), ‘horizontally challenged’ (fat) (Miranda, 2009).

The war theme was also a popular source for slang words for the members of Generation X due to the end of the Cold War. Slang words that were created as a result are: backfire (a Soviet bomber), silent service (the submarine service), etc. Other slang words based on the war theme were borrowed from previous generations (Dickson, 2004).

Popular culture also made a huge influence on Generation X. Music and TV programs helped to create and to spread new slang words. Slang words that came from popular culture during the 80s are: ‘bad to the bone’ (very bad, came from the group George Thorogood & the Destroyers), ‘boy toy’ (male who is being used; Madonna used this phrase in her 80s album), ‘couch potato’ (a person who is always watching TV; it came from the TV channel MTV), ‘dipstick’ (not an intelligent person; it came from the TV show “The Dukes of Hazzard”), ‘eat my shorts’ (a comment often used by the character Bart Simpson from the TV series The Simpsons), ‘eurofag’ (the way Americans called British singers in the 80s), ‘hoser’ (a loser; it came from the TV show "Bob and Doug McKenzie"), ‘house music’ (Disco type dance music, now considered as a genre of music), ‘new wave’ (heavily synthesized pop music,

now rarely used), ‘paninaro’ (people who are into fashion; this slang word became popular due to the Pet Shop Boys song “Paninaro”) (Triplets and Us, 1993).

This chapter gave a brief overview on Generation X. The origin and meaning of this term were covered, some statistical information was provided and the source of the majority of slang words of this generation was named. From the information given, the conclusion that the computer era, pop culture, and war theme brought new words and helped to create new slang words can be drawn.

2.3 The language of Generation Y

The Oxford Online Dictionary gave a brief description of Generation Y. According to the description provided in this dictionary, Generation Y is the people who were born in the 1980s and 1990s. The parents of this generation tend to be members of the Baby Boomer generation. As this is the first generation after the computer creation era and Generation X, they are familiar with the improvements of technologies (Oxford, 2016). The Business Online Dictionary widens the Oxford Online Dictionary’s definition. It shows that members of Generation Y also can be named Millennials, Echo Boomers, Internet generation, iGen, or Net generation. It provides some information as to why this generation is considered to be more ‘successful’ than previous ones. The members of Generation Y had access to computers and mobile phones since they were young, and this skill was widely required by employers. (Business Dictionary, 2016).

The article “Word to the wise: If you want to attract millennials, speak their language” introduces five sources that influenced the members of Generation Y to create new slang words that are understood by members of the same generation. (Associated Press, 2014) These sources include:

1. Social networking, which is a part of an everyday ritual. Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and other social networking sites inspire Generation Y to create new words. For example, while scrolling through Facebook or Instagram there is a good chance to see the slang word ‘TBT’. This abbreviation stands for ‘throwback Thursday’. If you are not a member of the Generation Y, you would want to look up what ‘TBT’ means. The Online Urban dictionary gives a detailed explanation of this slang word: “Originally throwback Thursday but now often used on other days. Can now stand for throwback to, to indicate an old photo, thought, idea, etc. Often used in social media to reminisce, as usually social media is supposed to

show the here/now/recently.” (Urban Dictionary, 2012). Another slang word that can be seen from time to time in the posts of the Generation Y on social media is ‘catfish’. Originally catfish for older generations means simply ‘a kind of fish that lives in the ocean’, but since the members of this generation are so creative with words and they basically live online, the original meaning of this word (type of fish) takes second place behind the slang word for the members of Generation Y. The slang word catfish in ‘Millennial’ language means “someone who pretends to be someone they’re not using Facebook or other social media to create false identities, particularly to pursue deceptive online romances.” (Urban Dictionary, 2010).

2. Original language. Sometimes the members of Generation Y use the words that are basic English words, but they shorten them to make them more ‘Millennial’. For example, the word ‘bae’. Even though it does not look like a proper English word that was shortened according to the rules, originally this word is well known by everyone. The origin of this word is the word ‘baby’, however, Generation Y wanted to create a word that will be a part of their slang language and instead of ‘baby’ they decided to use the word ‘bae’. Another good example of creating new words while using a standard English word is ‘cray’, originally came from the word ‘crazy’, the meaning of both words is the same. (Associated Press, 2014)

3. Gaming. Since the members of Generation Y spend a lot of time playing computer games, some of their slang words come from games and they are used in non-gaming situations. For example, the word ‘owned’, originally means that something belongs to somebody, but in ‘Millennial’ language this word gains another definition which is ‘getting or being defeated’. Another example of a slang word that came from gaming is ‘woot’. It originally came from the expression ‘woo-hoo’. The meaning of both expressions is ‘showing excitement’. (Associated Press, 2014)

4. Music. Music had a big influence on the lexicon of Generation Y. The words that were used in songs became slang words for this generation. For example, ‘YOLO’ is the abbreviation of the phrase ‘you only live once’, widely used in social media, especially in situations when a person is doing something out of his/her comfort zone, in other words, something spontaneous. One more example is ‘turnt’. The meaning of this slang word is ‘turned up’- excited for something (Associated Press, 2014).

5. Desire to be funny. The Millennial generation is the generation that likes attention and they do not want to be “left behind” (forgotten). That is the reason for creating words that will express the desire to be funny and to be accepted. For example, ‘bible’, the original

meaning which is a ‘holy book’, however, Millennials use this slang word for expressing their honesty, as a ‘bible’ is a ‘holy book’. Another example is ‘just saying’. The phrase gained the meaning of disapproval or disagreement, for example, “You will regret what you did, just saying” (Associated Press, 2014).

This chapter gave an overview of Generation Y (Millennials), people who were born in the 80s and 90s, and explained how Millennials tend to create and use their own language in everyday life. The main sources of inspiration to create new words are social networks, computer games, music, desire to fit in and desire to be original.

2.4 The Language of Generation Z

The Centre for Generational Kinetics defines Generation Z, also known as Generation Centennials, as people who were born between 1996 and the present. The parents of Generation Z are the members of Generations X and Y. The article “Top 10 Gen Z and IGen Questions Answered” which is posted on the official webpage www.genhq.com provides the information on what kinds of social networks Generation Z are more likely to use. According to the information given, members of this generation think that Facebook is a social networking platform for older generations. As this generation wants more digital freedom, they tend to use apps like Snapchat, various Messenger types, Instagram or Vine (The Center for Generational Kinetics, 2016).

The article “How to speak Gen Z: the alphabet of Generation Z on flip cards” posted on the official McCrindle blog page (2012), provides information on how Generation Z speaks. According to this blog post, Generation Z can be described as “digital integrators” – people who were exposed to technologies from a very young age and integrated them into their everyday lives. The parents of this generation can be described as “digital transactors” – people who use technologies as a tool to help do structural things, but this ‘tool’ is not fully integrated into their lives. Not only does this article provide some background information about the parents of this generation, but also gives information about the grandparents who are members of the Baby Boomer generation. The information provided shows that Baby Boomers used slang words such as ‘cool’, ‘man’, ‘dude’, however, Generation Z is the generation which tends to pick up words from songs, movies, viral YouTube videos and use them in their daily conversations, for example, such phrases as ‘eyebrows on fleek’, ‘rickrolled’ (‘rickrolling’).

The examples provided in this blog post show the slang words Generation Z uses in their daily conversations. One example of a slang word used by the members of this generation shows that one does not need to raise one's intonation while asking a question, as one may as well add the slang word 'ay' at the end of the sentence. It is another way of identifying a question. While constantly being able to connect to a social network and expressing one's feelings by using smiling, sad or happy face icons and in that way giving the information one needs to, the members of this generation have created the word that describes the process of communication by using these icons, and it is called 'emoticon'. Talking about written text messages, one of the most widely spread trends is to write as short as possible. That is how other slang words appear. The slang words created by the members of Generation Z originally come from standard English words, but undergo some modifications in order to suit the creativeness and originality of Generation Z. For example, the slang word 'defs' originally meant 'definitely', but the members of Generation Z decided that it is easier to shorten this word. Other examples of basic English words or phrases modified by Generation Z are: 'jks' instead of the word 'joke', 'qt' instead of the word 'cutie', etc. (McCrindle blog, 2012).

This chapter provided some background information not only about Generation Z, but also about previous generations, the members of which are considered to be parents or grandparents of the members of Generation Z. The information provided in the articles and blog posts shows that technologies made a huge influence on the lexicon of Generation Z. The reason for that is the desire to express oneself in a quicker way, for example, by shortening basic English words while messaging, which is very common for this generation.

II. METHODOLOGY

This research is based on previously published generational and linguistic theories. The latest generational theory was chosen as a basis of this work. This theory was established by W. Strauss & N. Howe. The authors tracked 25 generations and according to them, generations change over a period of 20 years (Strauss and Howe, 1991). A previous generational theory was created by K. Mannheim. The author classified generations into two types and only one of them can be tracked within a period of time (Mannheim, 1952). As was mentioned before, the Strauss–Howe generational theory was chosen as many other authors, such as L.L. Nash, R. Prasad, Y.B. Damle, R. Schulz, G. Wyeth, J. Wiles, and A. Wolner agree that there are more than two different generations.

Overall, most of the authors - M. McCrindle, E. Wolfinger, A. Wolner - define different generations similarly. The basic definitions include the time frame and the origin of a generation's name. The definitions of different generations were taken from various online dictionaries such as Oxford Online Dictionary, Online Business Dictionary, and the Urban Dictionary. Furthermore, the articles and blog posts related to the topic of this research paper by Fifties Web, Value Opinions, CNN, Associated Press and Literaly Devices Editors were used.

As the aim of this research paper is the study of the impact of slang words on the evolution of youth language lexicon throughout the generations of Baby Boomers, X, Y and Z, the empirical part consists of the analysis of slang words that belong to these generations. To collect the data for analysis, Internet sources such as articles and blog posts, e.g., “How to speak so gen X will listen”, “How to speak gen Z: The alphabet of generation Z”, “Language Change across Generations for Robots using Cognitive Maps”, etc., were used, because no slang dictionaries dividing slang words by generations were found. The articles mentioned above provide information and examples of the most popular slang words of a particular generation. It is worth noting that the lists do not include all slang words. They include the most popular slang words amongst the members of the chosen generations.

During the analysis, it was decided to divide the examples into six groups: greetings, saying goodbye, naming a friend, referring to gender, expressing positivity and expressing negativity. The reasons for dividing slang words into these groups are: first of all, greetings

and saying goodbye are everyday rituals for most people; the group that refers to a male and female was chosen because of the influence social movements have had on the creation of slang; the other three groups - naming a friend, expressing positivity and expressing negativity - were chosen since most examples in the articles and blogs were concerning these three groups. To check the correctness of the slang words provided in the articles and blog posts, their meanings and origins were double checked against the Oxford Online Dictionary, Online Business Dictionary, and the Urban Dictionary.

The quantitative approach was used to collect the data for the empirical part and the qualitative to categorize the chosen slang words according to the chosen division groups and to provide the information on the tendency of modifications that were made to slang words and formation categories they belong to. The descriptive method was used to analyse the data (slang words), including their meaning, origin and formation group.

Overall, 246 slang words were found. However, the chosen division groups in this work (greetings, saying goodbye, gender related, expressions of positivity and negativity) do not provide an equal number of samples. The samples of slang words were placed in the tables, the tables show not only the slang word, but also its formation category. The analysis was provided below the tables. At the end of each chapter of the empirical part a brief conclusion was made to show the most productive formation category with the help of charts that illustrate the findings. The examples that were not shown in the empirical part of the analysis can be viewed in the appendices.

Finally, conclusions were drawn.

III. EMPIRICAL SURVEY

3. Comparative analysis of slang words of the Baby Boomer, X, Y, and Z generations

In this section, slang words and phrases used by the selected generations in everyday situations (greetings, saying goodbye, etc.), found in the previously mentioned dictionaries and Internet sources, are discussed and analysed. The time frame of this analysis is from the early 1950s up until today. It is expected that the analysis will provide the examples of slang words and slang phrases that were passed from earlier generations to later ones with or without modifications made.

3.1 Greetings

Greeting one another is a daily ritual for most people. This chapter of analysis will show slang words that replaced standard greeting words and phrases in the lexicon of young people. The tables in this chapter consist of slang words that fall into the group of greetings together with the slang formation category they belong to. More detailed analysis will be provided below the tables. It will show the meaning and the origin of a slang word or phrase together with the argument that supports the choice of the slang formation group. Even though the group of greetings at first seems to have a lot of examples of slang words that replaced standard English words, in this work only the most popular ones according to the chosen sources will be discussed. The most popular slang words were found according to its repetitions in various online sources. Overall, 16 slang words that fall into the group of greetings were found and analysed.

Table 1. Slang used for greetings by the Baby Boomers

Baby Boomers	
Slang	Formation Group
Peace, Man!	Folk etymology Class I
Hey bean!	Folk etymology Class II
Sup	Abbreviation
Wassup	Abbreviation

Peace, Man! – This slang phrase stands for ‘hello’ or ‘goodbye’. This phrase is linked with the Hippies of the 60’s, but the phrase was also widely used in the 70’s. It comes together

with the peace sign (two fingers up “V”). Coming from Baby Boomers, this slang carried out through Generation X as well, but after that it stopped being used in younger generations. This slang phrase falls into the category of *Folk etymology Class I*. While attempting to track the origin of this slang phrase, an interesting fact was found. The slang phrase actually came from the logo of civil rights protector Bayard Rustin in America, however, previously it was used as a logo for the “Peace News” office of London in the late 60s.

Hey bean! – This slang phrase stands for ‘hello’. It was created in the 60’s by the Baby Boomer generation and it was not used in newer generations. While trying to track down the origin of this phrase, no results were found. Some connections might be made if both phrase words are analysed separately. Assumptions are that the word ‘bean’ in this slang phrase might embody – a small person (short), so the meaning of the whole phrase might sound as an offensive way to say hello. However, as was mentioned before, no information about the slang phrase ‘Hey bean!’ was found and only assumptions can be made, so this slang phrase falls into the category of *Folk etymology Class II*.

Wassup – The slang word came from the phrase ‘what is up?’. The meaning of the slang word is ‘hello, how are you?’. Later on, this slang word was shortened to ‘sup’, the meaning, however, stayed the same throughout all generations. This slang word falls into the category of *Abbreviations*, as the phrase was omitted. This phrase came from the cartoon “Bugs Bunny” (1940). However, the original phrase was “Eh, What’s up, Doc?”. Even though this phrase was used before the Baby Boomer generation, it kept its popularity throughout later generations.

Table 2. Slang used for greetings by the Generation X.

Generation X	
Slang	Formation Group
Peace, Man!	Folk etymology Class I
Wassup	Abbreviation
Wuddup	Abbreviation
Yello	Combining

The slang phrases ‘**Peace, Man!**’ and ‘**Wassup**’, were mentioned above. The phrase ‘**Peace, Man!**’ was taken into the lexicon of Generation X without any modifications, however, the phrase ‘**Wassup**’ was modified to ‘**Wuddup**’. Why these modifications were made is not clear, but the meaning of this slang word stays the same.

Yello – This slang word comes from the 80’s and is described as “a very 80’s way of saying hello”. It is formed from the words ‘yes’ and ‘hello’ and usually was used while answering a phone. However, this slang word stayed in the 80’s and has not been used by younger generations. This slang word falls into the category of *Combining* as it was formed using two different words.

Table 3. Slang used for greetings by the Generation Y.

Generation Y	
Slang	Formation Group
YO	Acronym
Yo, yo, homie Joe	Acronym + combining (prefixation)+ Folk etymology Class I
Sup	Abbreviation
Whassup G	Abbreviation + Initialism

YO – This slang word stands for a casual and informal ‘hello’. **‘YO’** came from a rap music, and the origin of it is the phrase ‘you’re’. This slang word went through some modifications and sometimes it was used in the phrase **‘Yo, yo, homie Joe’**. This slang phrase is basically saying ‘Hello, my good friend, what is happening with you? You look mighty fine today’. The slang word **‘YO’** falls into the category of *Acronyms*, while the slang phrase **‘Yo, yo, homie Joe’** falls into the categories of *Acronyms* (as it has the word ‘yo’ in it), *Combining* (home + ie) and *Folk etymology Class I* (as according to the predictions the name ‘Joe’ was chosen to rhyme the phrase).

The phrase **‘Sup’** has not undergone any modification since the Baby Boomer generation (see Table 1), but the phrase **‘Whassup G’** has. **‘Whatssup G’** originally came from **‘Wassup’**. The members of Generation Y slightly modified the phrase, not only by adding the letter ‘h’ from the original ‘what is up’ but also by adding ‘G’. In this phrase ‘G’ at the end states that this greeting is for a female, as ‘G’ stands for a girl.

Table 4. Slang used for greetings by the Generation Z.

Generation Z	
Slang	Formation Group
Whassup G	Abbreviation + Initialism
Sup	Abbreviation
Was good B	Abbreviation + Initialism
Waz good? Waz cracking?(these two phrases always stand together)	Abbreviation

Was good B – This slang phrase stands for a casual ‘hello’ to your close friends. The letter ‘B’ stands for ‘brother’. This slang word falls into the category of *Initialism* as it was formed from the initial letter of the word ‘brother’.

Waz good? waz cracking? – This slang phrase also stands for saying ‘hello’. This phrase came from a black English (black people’s English). Originally the phrase would sound as ‘*What’s good? What’s cracking?*’, but the members of Generation Z shortened the words ‘what’s, to make it sound more unique. This slang phrase falls into the category of *Abbreviations*.

Figure 1 shows that in the Baby Boomer generation the most productive slang formation groups (the ones that were used most often to form slang words) were *Abbreviations* and *Class I and Class II of Folk etymology*. In Generation X, the most productive slang formation groups were *Abbreviations*, *Combining* and *Folk etymology Class I*. In Generation Y, the most productive slang formation groups were *Abbreviations*, *Initialisms*, *Acronyms* and *Combining*. In Generation Z – *Abbreviations* and *Initialisms*.

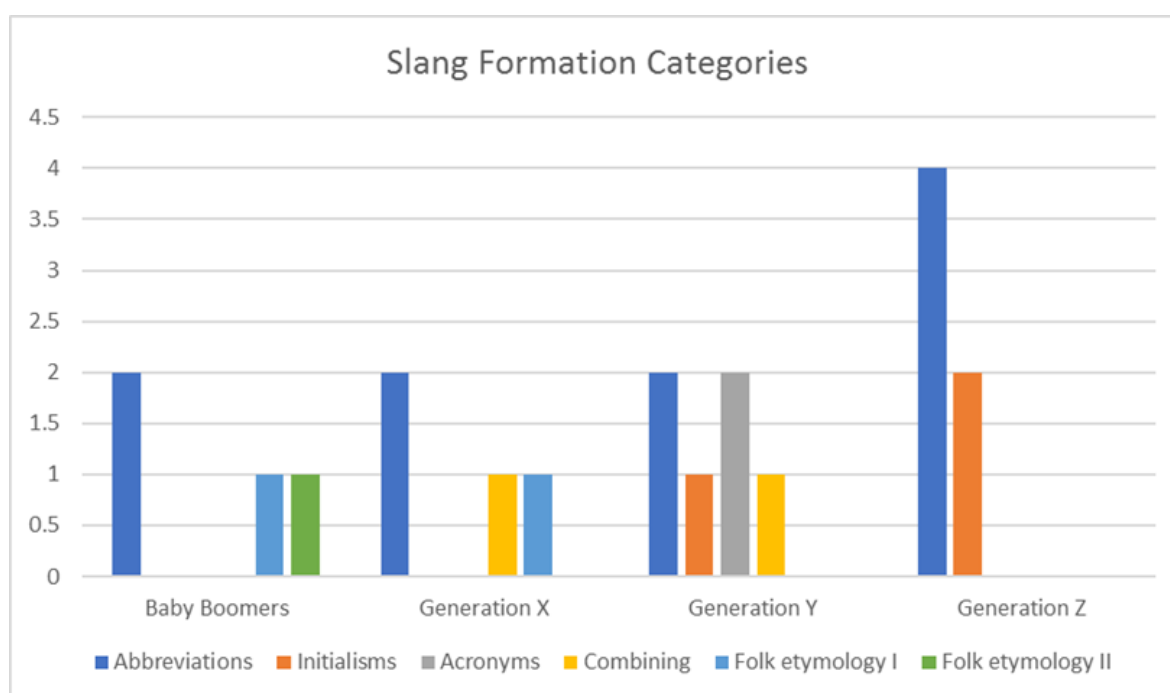


Fig. 1. Slang formation categories for greetings.

From the analysed examples and the illustration given in Figure 1, the conclusion is that the most productive slang formation groups used in this ‘greetings group’ are *Abbreviations* and *Initialisms*.

To give an easier view of the analysis, *Table 5* shows the examples provided in the empirical part through all generations. The purpose of this is to see if the expectations that the examples of slang words and phrases were passed from earlier to later generations with or without modifications. For example, the table shows that the slang phrase ‘*Peace, Man!*’ originally was used by the members of the Baby Boomer generation and was passed on to the members of Generation X without any modifications. The slang words ‘*Sup*’ and ‘*Wassup*’ were also passed from Baby Boomers to all the following generations, however, over time these words went through some modifications. This analysis proves that some slang words and phrases were passed on from earlier generations to later generations.

Table 5. Overall view of the analysed slang words in the greeting group through the generations.

Baby Boomers		Generation X		Generation Y		Generation Z	
Slang	Formation Group	Slang	Formation Group	Slang	Formation Group	Slang	Formation Group
Peace, Man!	Folk etymology Class I	Peace, Man!	Folk etymology Class I	YO	Acronym	Whassup G	Abbreviation + Initialism
Hey bean!	Folk etymology Class II	Wassup	Abbreviation	Sup	Abbreviation	Sup	Abbreviation
Sup	Abbreviation	Wuddup	Abbreviation	Whassup G	Abbreviation + Initialism	Was good B	Abbreviation + Initialism
Wassup	Abbreviation	Yello	Combining	Yo, yo, homie Joe	Acronym + combining (prefixation)	Waz good? waz cracking?	Abbreviation

3.2 Saying Goodbye

Saying goodbye is as important as greeting somebody, that is why the second group that was chosen is saying goodbye. The most popular slang words were found according to their repetitions in various online sources. Overall, 14 slang words that fall into the group of saying goodbye were found and analysed.

Table 6. Slang used by the Baby Boomers to say goodbye.

Baby Boomers	
Slang	Formation Group
Later, gator	Folk etymology Class I

Later	Folk etymology Class I
Peace, Man!	Folk etymology Class I

Later, gator – This phrase came from the music band “Bill Haley and the Comets” in 1954 and since then was used to say ‘goodbye’. This phrase is the shortened version of the phrase ‘*See you later, alligator*’. However, the word ‘alligator’ was shortened to ‘gator’ by omitting the beginning ‘alli-’. Later on, the same phrase was modified by the members of the Baby Boomer generation to ‘later’. The meaning after the modification has not changed. The slang word ‘later’ itself falls into the category of *Folk etymology Class I* since the meaning can be tracked down. The phrase ‘later, gator’ also falls into the category of *Folk etymology Class I*.

Peace, Man! – It is another slang phrase for saying ‘goodbye’. It came from the ‘greeting phrase’ of the Baby Boomer generation ‘Peace, Man!’. This slang phrase later on went through more modifications (see Table 7).

Table 7. Slang used by the Generation X to say goodbye.

Generation X	
Slang	Formation Group
Later Days	Folk etymology Class I
Peace	Folk etymology Class I
Peace Out Home Free	Folk etymology Class I
Peace, Man!	Folk etymology Class I

Later Days – This slang phrase originally came from the phrase ‘See you later, alligator’ (see Table 6). The meaning of this phrase stands for ‘Goodbye, see you next day’. The phrase ‘Later days’ falls into the category of *Folk etymology Class I*.

Peace – this slang word also stands for ‘goodbye’ which originally came from the phrase ‘*Peace, Man!*’, but was shortened to one word. The members of Generation X also used the word ‘peace’ in another slang phrase for ‘goodbye’, that is ‘*Peace out home free*’. Both, the slang word ‘Peace’ and the slang phrase ‘Peace out home free’ falls into the category of *Folk etymology class I*.

Table 8. Slang used by the Generation Y to say goodbye.

Generation Y	
Slang	Formation Group
See Ya Around	Folk etymology Class I + Abbreviation
I'm gone	Folk etymology Class I
Later Days and Better Lays	Folk etymology Class I

Peace out	Folk etymology Class I
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See ya around - This slang phrase was used by the members of Generation Y to say ‘goodbye’. The original meaning is ‘see you around, bye’. This slang phrase falls into the category of *Abbreviations* as the word ‘you’ has been shortened to ‘ya’ and *Folk etymology Class I*.

I’m gone - This slang phrase that stands for a ‘goodbye’ was used by the members of Generation Y. The slang phrase falls into the category of *Folk etymology Class I*.

Later Days and Better Lays – The meaning of this phrase is ‘goodbye, see you next day, and I hope you will be even better’. Originally this slang phrase came from the previously mentioned phrases ‘see you later, alligator’ and ‘later days’(see *Table 6 and Table 7*). The phrase falls into the category of *Folk etymology Class I*.

Peace out - this slang word also stands for ‘goodbye’. It originally came from the phrase ‘**Peace, Man!**’ (see *Table 6*). The members of Generation Y slightly modified the original slang phrase, however, the meaning stayed the same as in the original phrase. This slang phrase falls into the category of *Folk etymology Class I*.

Table 9. Slang used by the Generation Z to say goodbye.

Generation Z	
Slang	Formation Group
Peace out	Folk etymology Class I
I’m gone	Folk etymology Class I
See ya	Abbreviation

See ya – This slang phrase originally came from the phrase ‘see ya around’. The meaning of this phrase and the original phrase is the same, even if the phrase ‘see ya’ was slightly modified. This slang phrase falls into the category of *Abbreviations*.

Figure 2. shows that in the Baby Boomer generation the most productive slang formation group was *Folk etymology Class I*, as well as in the Generation X. In Generation Y, most productive slang formation groups were *Abbreviations* and *Folk etymology Class I*. In Generation Z, also *Abbreviations* and *Folk etymology Class I*.

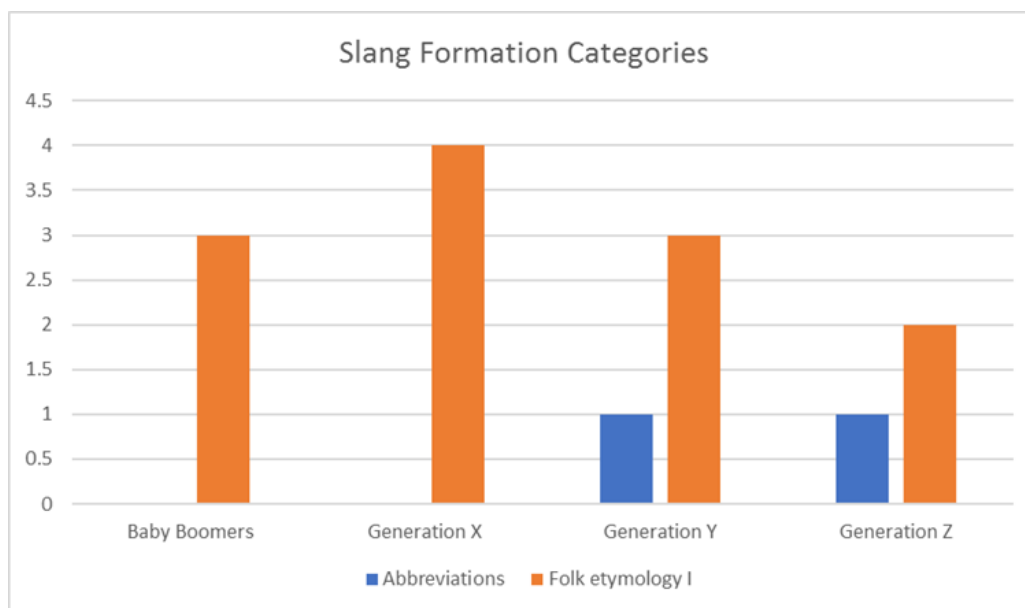


Fig. 2. The most popular slang formation categories throughout generations creating slang words for saying goodbye.

From the analysed examples and the illustration given in *Figure 2.*, the conclusion is that the most productive slang formation groups used in this ‘saying goodbye’ group are *Folk etymology Class I* and *Abbreviations*.

To give an easier view of the analysis, *Table 10.* will show the examples provided in the empirical part through all generations. The purpose of this is to see if the expectations that the examples of slang words and phrases were passed from earlier to later generations with or without modifications were correct. Some slang words and phrases tend to go from one generation to another with or without modifications. Slang words that were most popular in this ‘saying goodbye’ group were ‘peace’ and ‘later’. These slang words were used to create slang phrases as well, however each generation modified these words, and the phrases, these words were used in.

Table 10. overall view on the analysed slang words in the saying goodbye group through the generations.

Baby Boomers		Generation X		Generation Y		Generation Z	
Slang	Formation Group	Slang	Formation Group	Slang	Formation Group	Slang	Formation Group
Peace, Man!	Folk etymology Class I	Peace, Man!	Folk etymology Class I	Peace out	Folk etymology Class I	Peace out	Folk Etymology Class I
Later	Folk etymology Class I	Peace Out Home Free	Folk etymology Class I	Later Days and Better Lays	Folk etymology Class I	I'm gone	Folk etymology Class I
Later, gator	Folk etymology Class I	Peace	Folk etymology Class I	See Ya Around	Abbreviation	See ya	Abbreviation
-	-	Later Days	Folk etymology Class I	I'm gone	Folk etymology Class I	-	-

3.3 Naming a friend

The third group that was chosen is naming a friend. This decision was made, because of the variety of slang words that were and are being used to name a friend. The most popular slang words were found according to their repetitions in various online sources. Overall, 40 slang words that fall into the group of 'naming a friend' were found and analysed. In the empirical part of the work 18 analysed examples can be viewed. For the analysis of the remaining slang words see the appendices.

Table 11. Slang words usage for naming a friend by the members of Baby Boomers.

Baby Boomers	
Slang	Formation group
Amigo	Slang Loan
A.F.A	Abbreviation
Blood	Folk etymology Class I
Brother	Folk etymology Class I

Amigo – This slang word was used by the Baby Boomer generation, and the meaning of it is a 'friend'. The slang word 'amigo' falls into the category of *Slang loans* as the word 'amigo' is a standard Spanish word that means friend. As this word is taken from a foreign language and is not a standard English word it became a slang word.

A.F.A. – This slang word falls into the category of *Abbreviations* as it stands for the phrase ‘A Friend Always’. This slang word was created by the Baby Boomer generation, and was used to sign pictures or letters.

Blood – The word ‘blood’ used to refer to family member as in ‘blood ties’, but later on was used to call a really good friend that you consider to be your family member. This slang came from black English and it falls into the category of *Folk etymology Class I*.

Brother – It is another way of naming your ‘good friend’. This slang word is similar to a slang word mentioned above -‘blood’. It was used by the Baby Boomer generation. The slang word ‘brother’ falls into the category of *Folk etymology Class I*.

Table 12. Slang words usage for naming a friend by the members of Generation X.

Generation X	
Slang	Formation Group
B.F.F.	Initialism
Blood	Folk etymology Class I
Bro	Abbreviation
Brother	Folk etymology Class I
Girlfrien	Abbreviation

B.F.F. – This slang word stands for a phrase ‘Best Friend Forever’. Since the slang word was shortened it falls into the category of *Initialisms*. The idea for this slang word probably came from previously mentioned slang word ‘A.F.A.’.

Bro – This slang word originally came from another slang word ‘brother’. The meaning of the shortened version is the same as the meaning of the original slang word ‘brother’ – a very close friend. The shorted version of the slang word falls into the category of *Abbreviations*.

Table 13. Slang words usage for naming a friend by the members of Generation Y.

Generation Y	
Slang	Formation Group
Homefry	Combining
Bro, bra, braw, broseph	Abbreviation + Combining
Cuz	Abbreviation
Girfren	Abbreviation

Homefry – This slang phrase refers to a very close friend. The members of Generation Y tended to use compound words with the root of home in it to show the close connection. Other slang words that were created using the same method were: **homegirl**, **homeboy**, **homey**, **homie Joe** and **home skillet**. The original slang word and its variants fall into the category of *Combining*.

Cuz – This slang word is another word that refers to a friend. Originally the word ‘cuz’ came from the word ‘cousin’. This choice of the word is similar to the word ‘brother’ as it also has the reference to a family member. This slang word falls into the category of *Abbreviations*.

Girfren – This slang word came from the words girl and friend (female friend) but was shortened by omitting the ending. The slang word ‘girfren’ falls into the category of *Abbreviations*.

Bro – This word gained popularity since the Baby Boomer generation, however, it has been modified multiple times and the members of Generation Y have four different versions of the same slang that are: **bro**, **bra**, **braw**, **broseph**. All of these versions mentioned fall into the category of *Abbreviations* and the slang word ‘broseph’ falls into the category of *Combining* as the words ‘brother’ and the male name ‘Joseph’ were combined.

Table 14. Slang words usage for naming a friend by the members of Generation Z.

Generation Z	
Slang	Formation Group
Homie	Combining
Bro, bra	Abbreviation
Cuz	Abbreviation
G	Initialism

Homie – This slang word is similar to the ones that were mentioned previously (see Table 13). The slang word ‘homie’ originally came from the phrase ‘homie Joe’, however, it was shortened to a single word. This slang word stands for ‘close friend’, and it falls into the category of *Combining*.

G – This slang replaced the original slang ‘Girfren’ used previously by Generation Y. By shortening the word the members of Generation Z left only one letter that represents the same meaning as the original word ‘female friend’. This slang falls into the category of *Initialism*.

Figure 3 shows that in the Baby Boomer generation the most productive slang formation groups were *Folk etymology Class I* and *Folk etymology Class II*. In Generation X the most productive slang formation group was also *Folk etymology Class I*. In Generation Y, the most productive slang formation groups were *Abbreviations* and *Folk etymology Class I*. In Generation Z *Combining*, *Abbreviations* and *Folk etymology Class I* were equally productive.

From the analysed examples and the illustration given in Figure 3, the conclusion is the most productive slang formation groups used in the naming a friend group are *Abbreviations* and *Folk etymology Class I*.

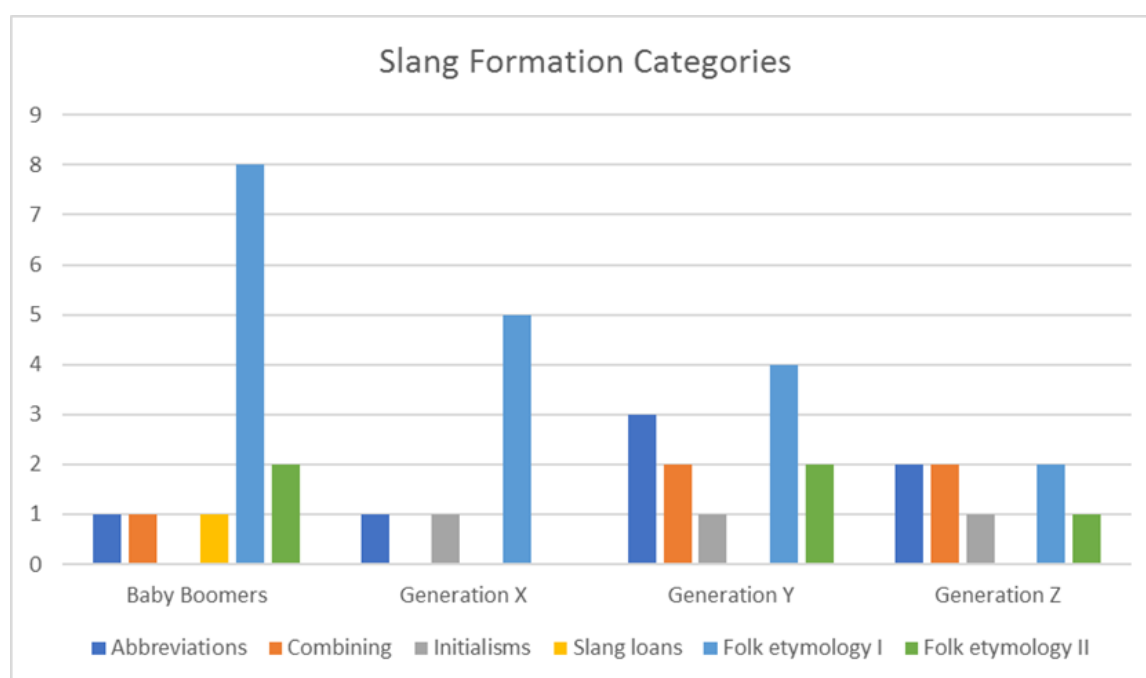


Fig. 3. The most popular slang formation categories throughout generations creating slang words for naming a friend.

To give an easier view of the analysis Table 15. shows the examples provided in the empirical part through all generations. Some slang words such as ‘blood’ and ‘brother’ stayed popular through all generations, however, the word ‘brother’ went through some modifications and in the younger generations, the shorted version of this word is being used. The members from Generation X decided to use another family related word to call a friend – ‘cuz’. This word, same as the word ‘brother’, gained popularity amongst the younger generations. For more examples see the appendices.

Table 15. Overview of the analysed slang words in the naming a friend group through the generations.

Baby Boomers		Generation X		Generation Y		Generation Z	
Slang	Formation Group	Slang	Formation Group	Slang	Formation Group	Slang	Formation Group
Amigo	Slang Loan	-	-	Homefry	Combining	Homie	Combining
A.F.A	Initialism	B.F.F.	Folk etymology Class I	Girlfren	Abbreviation	G	Initialism
Blood	Folk etymology Class I	Blood	Folk etymology Class I	Cuz	Abbreviation	Cuz	Abbreviation
Brother	Folk etymology Class I	Brother Bro	Folk etymology Class I Abbreviation	bro, bra, braw, broseph	Abbreviation + Combining	Bro, Bra	Abbreviation

3.4 Referring to a male or female

Since the social movements such as feminism made a big influence on the creation of new slang, this group will cover the most popular slang words that refer to male or female. The most popular slang words were found according to their repetitions in various online sources. Overall, 51 slang words that fall into the group referring to male or female were found and analysed. However, in the empirical part of the work 26 analysed examples can be viewed. For analysis of the remaining slang words see the appendices.

Table 16. Slang referring to male or female by the Baby Boomers.

Baby Boomers	
Slang	Formation Group
Chick	Folk etymology I
Dude	Folk etymology Class I
Hunk	Folk etymology Class II
My man	Folk etymology Class I
Skirt	Folk etymology Class I
Sophie	Folk etymology Class II

Chick – This slang word refers to a female and has a negative connotation as the original meaning of a word is ‘chicken’. It associates with a ‘brainless person’. This slang word falls into the category of *Folk etymology Class I* as the meaning can be tracked down.

Dude – This is another way of naming a friend. This word appeared for the first time in the late 19th century as a Victorian slang for an article of clothing (dud). In the Western United States this word was used to refer to a person who came from a city. In the early 30s this word gained the meaning of “fella”. The members of the Baby Boomer generation started using it to refer to a friend. The slang word dude in the 80s and 90s appeared multiple times on TV series such as “Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles” and the movie “The Big Lebowski”. This slang word falls into the category of *Folk etymology Class I*.

Hunk – This slang word refers to a good-looking man. It was used by the members of the Baby Boomer generation and falls into the category of *Folk etymology Class II* as the meaning cannot be tracked down.

My Man – A slang phrase that refers to a male friend. This slang phrase was used in the 1930s for the first time by Jazz musicians. The meaning of this phrase has not changed since then and the members of the Baby Boomer generation used this phrase to refer to their friends. This slang phrase falls into the category of *Folk etymology Class I*.

Skirt – This slang word was used by Baby Boomers to refer to a girl. A skirt is an article of clothing that is worn by females, so it partly represents a female. This slang word falls into the category of *Folk etymology Class I*.

Multiple slang words were created by using female names. For example, Baby Boomers created the slang word **Sophie** to refer to someone’s girlfriend. Slangs created from names fall into the category of *Folk etymology Class II*, as the original words’ meanings cannot be tracked down.

Table 17. Slang referring to a male or female by the Generation X.

Generation X	
Slang	Formation Group
Baby	Folk etymology Class I
Casanova	Slang loan
Dude	Folk etymology Class I
Man	Folk etymology Class I
Schick	Slang loan

Baby – It is used as a slang word that refers to a girlfriend or boyfriend you are dating. This slang word originally came from the same word that has a different meaning. In standard English language baby means newly born child, however, the meaning has shifted to a

girlfriend/boyfriend. While researching the origin, an interesting explanation came up. When a baby is born, parents put a lot of effort to take care of it, just as some people think that they put a lot of effort into their boyfriend/girlfriend. This slang word falls into the category of *Folk etymology Class I*.

Casanova - This slang word refers to a man who gives and gets a lot of attention to females. The original word refers to an adventurous man. This slang words falls into the category of *Slang loans*, as it is a standard Italian word. While researching the origin of this word an interesting fact came up. Casanova is and actual name of an actual person (Gian Giacomo Girolamo Casanova). Based on his lifestyle, the slang word was created. Even though this slang word was created in the 1880s it was popular amongst the members of Generation X.

Dude – this slang word was taken from the Baby Boomer generation (*see Table 16*). The meaning of this slang word has not changed and by the members of Generation X was used to refer to a male friend. This slang word falls into the category of *Folk etymology Class I*.

Man - Instead of the previously mentioned phrase ‘My Man’ (*see Table 16*), the members of Generation X started using the word Man to refer to a male friend. This slang word falls into the category of *Folk etymology Class I*.

Schick – A *Slang loan* which originally came from the German word ‘schick’ that means ‘fancy’. Generation X used this word to describe a very good looking girl. This word falls into the category of *Slang loans*.

Table 18. Slang referring to a male or female by the Generation Y.

Generation Y	
Slang	Formation Group
Baby	Folk etymology Class I
Bimbo	Slang loan
Dogg	Folk etymology Class I
Dude	Folk etymology Class I
Foo	Folk etymology Class II
Mall Chick	Folk etymology Class I

Baby – This slang came from the previous generation (*see Table 17*) and belongs to the same formation group and the meaning has not changed.

Bimbo – This slang word stands for a ‘not intelligent girl’. This slang word has a negative connotation and it was used by the members of Generation Y. Originally it came from the Italian language and the meaning in the original language of this word is ‘baby’. As it is a foreign word it falls into the category of *Slang loans*.

Dogg – This slang word stands for a ‘good friend’. The word ‘dogg’ originally came from another slang word ‘dwang’ (see *Appendices*). This slang word falls into the category of *Folk etymology Class II*.

Mall Chick – the meaning of this slang phrase is ‘a girl who spends all her time in a mall, shopping’. This slang phrase came from the previous generation (see *table 17*). Even though the formation group is the same, the meaning is slightly different. This slang phrase falls into the category of *Folk etymology Class I*.

Table 19. Slang referring to a male or female by the Generation Z.

Generation Z	
Slang	Formation Group
B	Initialism
Baby	Folk etymology I
Bae	Abbreviation
Dogg	Folk etymology II
Foo	Folk etymology I
Skank	Folk etymology Class II

B - This slang word used by the members of Generation Z refers to a girlfriend/boyfriend. Originally came from the word ‘baby’ (see *Table 17*). This slang word falls into the category of *Initialisms*.

Bae – This slang word originally came from the previously mentioned slang word ‘baby’ (see *Table 17*), but was modified by the members of Generation Z to ‘bae’, this slang falls into the category of *Abbreviation*.

Skank – This slang word originally came from another slang word ‘skag’ (see *Appendices*) that refers to an ‘ugly girl’. It falls into the category of *Folk etymology Class II* as the original word’s meaning cannot be tracked down.

The *Figure 4*. shows that in the Baby Boomer generation the most productive slang formation groups were *Folk etymology Class I* and *Folk etymology Class II*. In Generation X, the most

productive slang formation groups were also both classes of Folk etymology. In Generation Y, the most productive slang formation groups were *Folk etymology Class I* and *Slang loans*. In Generation Z - *Folk etymology Class I* and *Folk etymology Class II*.

From the analysed examples and the illustration given in *Figure 4.*, the conclusion is that the most productive slang formation groups used in this group referring to male or female are *Folk etymology Class II* and *Folk etymology Class I*.

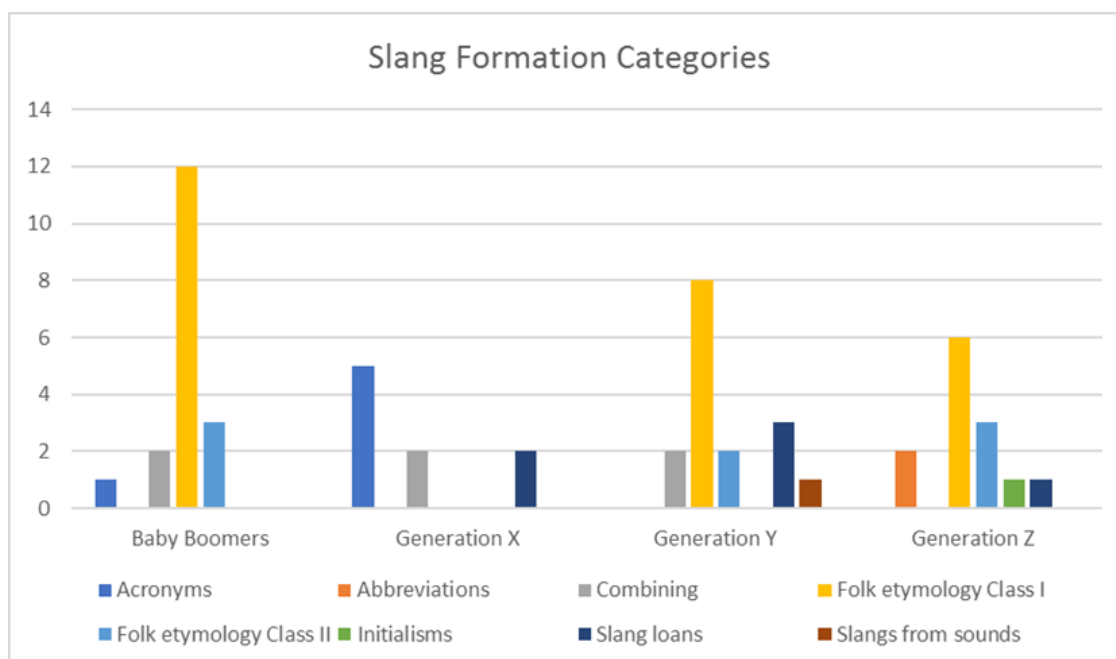


Fig. 4. The most popular slang formation categories throughout generations referring to male or female.

To give an easier view of the analysis - *Table 20.* shows the examples provided in the empirical part through all generations. Some slang words such as ‘chick’, ‘dude’, ‘baby’ stayed popular through all generations, however the word ‘baby’ went through some modifications and in younger generations the shorted version of this word is being used. For more examples, see the appendices.

Table 20. overall view on the analysed slang words referring to male or female throughout the generations.

Baby Boomers		Generation X		Generation Y		Generation Z	
Slang	Formation Group	Slang	Formation Group	Slang	Formation Group	Slang	Formation Group
Chick	Folk etymology I	Baby	Folk etymology Class I	Baby	Folk etymology Class I	B	Initialism
Dude	Folk etymology Class I	Casanova	Folk etymology Class I	Bimbo	Slang loan	Baby	Folk etymology Class I
Hunk	Folk etymology Class II	Dude	Folk etymology Class I	Dude	Folk etymology Class I	Bae	Abbreviation
My man	Acronym	Man	Folk etymology Class I	Dogg	Folk etymology Class II	Dogg	Folk etymology Class II
Skirt	Folk etymology Class I	Mate	Folk etymology Class I	Foo	Folk etymology Class II	Foo	Folk etymology Class II
Sophie	Folk etymology Class II	Schick	Slang loan	Mall chick	Folk etymology Class I	Skank	Folk etymology Class II

3.5 Expressions of positivity

While analysing the list of slang words, many examples showed that there were many slang words that refer to positive feelings and emotions. Next group that was chosen is concerned with positive emotions or responses towards something. The most popular slang words were found according to their repetitions in various online sources. Overall, 84 slang words that fall into the group, that refers to some positive emotions, were found and analysed. In the empirical part of the work 20 analysed examples will be shown; the analysis of the remaining slang words can be seen the appendices.

Table 21. Expressions of positivity by the Baby Boomers.

Baby Boomers	
Slang	Formation Group
Bad	Folk etymology Class I
Boss	Folk etymology Class I
Far-out	Folk etymology Class II
Cool	Folk etymology Class I
Fab	Abbreviation

Bad – The standard English word ‘bad’ is used to refer negatively about something, however, the members of the Baby Boomer generation changed the meaning of this word and the word ‘bad’ gained positive qualities. The meaning shifted from negative to being ‘awesome’. This slang word has been used by all generations, but earlier generations tended to use this slang word more often. This slang word falls into the category of *Folk etymology Class I*.

Boss – This slang word came from the word ‘boss’ the meaning of which is ‘employer’. However, it was used by the members of the Baby Boomer generation to express something incredibly great. This slang word falls into the category of *Folk etymology Class I*.

Far-out – This slang phrase was widely used mainly by hippies that were the members of the Baby Boomer generation. The meaning of this phrase is ‘awesome, cool’. Considering how this phrase got its meaning it can be stated that it falls into the category of *Folk etymology Class II* as the meaning cannot be tracked down.

Cool – This slang word originally came from early 1930s and was a result of black English, in particular, Jazz music. Later on, the members of the Baby Boomer generation started using it as a way to refer to something ‘good’. This slang word falls into the category of *Folk etymology Class I*.

Fab – This slang word originally came from the word ‘fabulous’. This abbreviation was used by the members of the Baby Boomer generation and gained the meaning of something ‘very cool’. The slang word falls into the category of *Abbreviations*, since the original word’s ending was omitted.

Table 22. Expressions of positivity by the Generation X.

Generation X	
Slang	Formation Group
Bomb Dude	Folk etymology Class I
Coolie	Combining
Gnarly	Folk etymology Class I
I Dig It!	Folk etymology Class I
Killer	Folk etymology Class II

Bomb dude – originally this phrase was used to say that something horrible has happened, but the members of Generation X changed the meaning to ‘cool, awesome’. The meaning shifted from negative to positive. This slang word falls into the category of *Folk etymology Class I*.

Coolie – this slang word originally came from the word ‘cool’. The members of Generation X modified the spelling of this word by adding the suffix -ie to make it their own word. The meaning of this slang word is the same as the meaning of the original word. This slang word falls into the category of *Combining*.

Gnarly – this slang word originally came from the word ‘gnarled’. The meaning of the original word is ‘twisted’ or ‘rough’. This word was used by the members of Generation X to say that something was ‘very good’ or ‘extremely bad’, depending on the context. This slang word falls into the category of *Folk etymology Class I*.

I dig it! – the meaning of this slang phrase is ‘I like it’. It is hard to define why this phrase got this particular meaning, so the slang word falls into the category of *Folk etymology Class II*. This slang phrase was mainly used by the members of Generation X, but still is being used by the members of younger generations.

Killer – this slang word came from the standard English word ‘killer’, the meaning of which is a person who kills. This word itself carries a negative connotation, but the members of Generation X modified the meaning and started using this slang word to speak about something cool. This slang word falls into the category of *Folk etymology Class I*.

Table 23. Expressions of positivity by the Generation Y.

Generation Y	
Slang	Formation Group
Bomb	Folk etymology Class I
Rad	Abbreviation
Off the hook	Folk etymology Class I
Like, oh my God!	Folk etymology Class I
Way cool	Folk etymology Class I

Bomb – This slang word came from a previously mentioned slang phrase ‘bomb dude’. The members of Generation Y shortened the original phrase to one word. However, the meaning has not changed. This slang word falls into the category of *Folk etymology Class I*.

Rad – This slang word originally came from the word ‘radical’, and the members of Generation Y used it to say that something was or is not just cool, but ‘coolest’. This slang word falls into the category of *Abbreviations*.

Like, oh my God! – This slang phrase originally came from the phrase ‘oh my God’. The original phrase was used most of the time as the *Initialism* ‘OMG’. The members of Generation Y used this phrase to show a pleasant surprise. This slang phrase falls into the category of *Folk etymology Class I*.

Off the hook or **Off the chain** – These two slang phrases were used by the members of Generation Y to say that something is ‘new, fresh and good’. The phrases fall into the category of *Folk etymology Class I*.

Way cool – This slang phrase originally came from the previously mentioned slang word ‘cool’. The members of Generation Y started using this phrase to refer to something ‘very good’. The slang phrase falls into the category of *Folk Etymology Class I*.

Table 24. Expressions of positivity by the Generation Z.

Generation Z	
Slang	Formation Group
Legend	Folk etymology Class I
OH-EM-GEE	Abbreviations
chill/mad chill	Folk etymology Class II
DRO	Abbreviations
Dope	Folk etymology Class I

Legend – originally came from the standard English word ‘legend’ the meaning of which is a person who you respect for his impact on something. The members of Generation Z are using this slang word to say that something is ‘beyond cool’. This slang word also has an abbreviated version that is ‘leg’. It falls into the category of *Folk etymology Class I*.

OH-EM-GEE – originally came from a slang phrase ‘oh my God’. This phrase expresses a pleasant or unpleasant surprise. The members of Generation Z tend to use this slang to describe a pleasant reaction to something. It falls into the category of *Abbreviations*.

Chill – originally came from the standard English word ‘chill’ the meaning of which is that something is not hot and not cold or calm. The members of Generation Z use this slang word or the phrase ‘mad chill’ in order to express a positive point of view on something. However, why this phrase got its meaning is also not clear so this slang phrase falls into the category of *Folk etymology Class II*.

DRO – this slang word was created from the word ‘hydroponic’. The meaning covers the process of growing marihuana. Originally it was used to refer to good marihuana, but now the members of Generation Z use this slang word just to refer to something good. This slang word falls into the category of *Abbreviations*.

Dope – originally this word was used to name people who do not smoke marihuana, but the members of Generation Z started using this word to describe something good. It falls into the category of *Folk etymology Class I*.

Figure 5. shows that in the Baby Boomer generation the most productive slang formation groups were *Folk etymology Class I* and *Folk etymology II*. In Generation X, the most productive slang formation group was also *Folk etymology Class I*. In Generation Y, the most productive slang formation group is *Folk etymology Class I*. In Generation Z - *Folk etymology I*.

Figure 5. illustrates what slang formation categories were mostly used in this group. It shows that *Folk etymology I* and *Folk etymology II* were used more often to create slang words than the other categories.

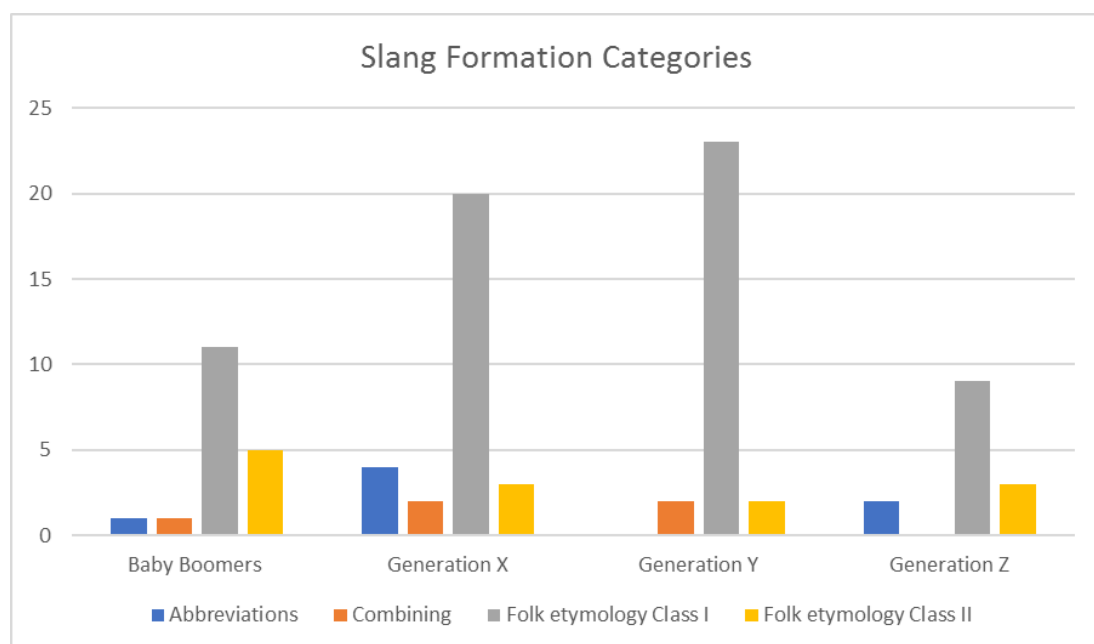


Fig. 5. The most popular slang formation categories throughout generations creating slang words for positive response.

To give an easier view of the analysis Table 25. will show the examples provided in the empirical part through all generations. The slang words, such as ‘cool’, ‘bomb’ and ‘boss’ repeats in more than one generation. For more examples, see the appendices.

Table 25. overall view of the analysed slang for positive expressions used throughout the generations.

Baby Boomers		Generation X		Generation Y		Generation Z	
Slang	Formation Group	Slang	Formation Group	Slang	Formation Group	Slang	Formation Group
Bad	Folk etymology I	Bomb Dude	Folk etymology Class I	Bomb	Folk etymology Class I	Legend	Folk etymology Class I
Boss	Folk etymology Class II	Coolie	Combining	Rad	Abbreviation	OH-EM-GEE	Abbreviation
Cool	Folk etymology Class II	Gnarly	Folk etymology Class I	Off the hook/ off the chain	Folk etymology Class I	chill/ mad chill	Folk etymology Class II
Fab	Folk etymology Class I	I dig it	Folk etymology Class I	Like, oh my God	Folk etymology Class I	DRO	Abbreviations
Far-out	Abbreviation	Killer	Folk etymology Class I	Way cool	Folk etymology Class I	Dope	Folk etymology Class I

3.6 Expressions of negativity

While analysing the list of slang words, not only there were many examples that referred to positive feelings and emotions, but also to negative. Another group that was chosen is concerned with negative emotions or responses towards something. According to its repetitions in various online sources, the most popular slang words were found. Overall, 38 slang words that fall into the group that refers to negative emotions were found and analysed. In the empirical part of this work 20 analysed examples will be shown, for the analysis of the rest slang words that falls into this group see the appendices.

Table 26. Expressions of negativity by the Baby Boomers.

Baby Boomers	
Slang	Formation Group
Dirt	Folk etymology Class I
Turn-off	Folk etymology Class I
Uncool	Combining
Moldy	Folk etymology Class I
Germ	Folk etymology Class II

Dirt – This slang word is originally coming from the standard English word ‘dirt’ the meaning of which is ‘not clean’. The members of the Baby Boomer generation started using this word to express their disappointment or negative emotions towards something. As the original word and a slang word have negative meanings and the meanings are similar, this slang falls into the category of *Folk etymology Class I*.

Turn-off – The slang word appeared from the English phrase to ‘turn- off’ the meaning of which is to stop something or to switch-off. The members of the Baby Boomer generation used this word to express negative emotions towards something. Since the meanings of both the standard phrase and the slang phrase are similar they fall into the category of *Folk etymology Class I*.

Uncool – The slang word came from the previously mentioned slang word ‘cool’ the meaning of which is that something is ‘great’. By adding the negative prefix ‘un-’, the members of the Baby Boomer generation created a slang word to express their negative feelings towards something. Since, the slang word was created by using *prefixation*, it falls into the category of *Combining*.

Moldy – The original meaning of this slang word is ‘to be covered in mold’. The members of the Baby Boomer generation started using this word as a slang word to describe an ugly person or express that they are grossed out. The meaning of both the standard and the slang word are similar. This slang word falls into the category of *Folk etymology Class I*.

Germ – The standard English word means ‘bacteria’. The members of the Baby Boomer generation started using this word in an offensive way to refer to white people. Since the original word and the slang word do not have anything in common, it falls into the category of *Folk etymology Class II*.

Table 27. Expressions of negativity by the Generation X.

Generation X	
Slang	Formation Group
Bogue	Folk etymology Class I
Bummer	Folk etymology Class II
Heavy	Folk etymology Class I
J.A.P	Acronym
Tattered	Folk etymology Class I

Bogue – The original meaning of the word ‘bogue’ is disgusting, alarming. The members of Generation X started using this word to show that they are grossed out about something. Since the original meaning and the slang meaning of the word are the same, it falls into the category of Folk etymology Class I.

Bummer – This slang word has two meanings. The first is an old-fashioned word for ‘homosexual’. The members of Generation X also used this word when something bad happened. This word falls into the category of Folk etymology Class II.

Heavy – The original meaning of this standard English word ‘heavy’ is ‘weigh a lot, however’ the members of Generation X started using it as a slang word to express that something was difficult. The slang word falls into the category of Folk etymology Class I.

J.A.P. – This slang word originally came from a word ‘Japanese’, however the members of Generation X not only used this slang word for naming Asian origin people, but it was also used to refer to a ‘Jewish American Princess’, the hidden meaning of this phrase is someone who is rich and arrogant. This slang word falls into the category of *Acronyms*.

Tattered – This slang word originally came from the word ‘tatter’ the meaning of which stands for ripped clothes or any kind of material. The members of Generation X used this word to refer to a drunk or messed up person. The slang word falls into the category of Folk etymology Class II.

Table 28. Expressions of negativity by the Generation Y.

Generation Y	
Slang	Formation Group
Cold	Folk etymology Class I
Brutal	Folk etymology Class I
Salty	Folk etymology Class I
Bunk	Folk etymology Class II
Hack	Folk etymology Class I

Cold – The standard English word stands of something that is opposite of ‘hot’. The members of Generation Y started using this word to describe an unpleasant situation and negative emotions. This slang word falls into the category of *Folk etymology Class I*, as the original meaning and slang meaning are similar.

Brutal – The standard English word stands for ‘cruel’. The members of Generation Y started using it as a slang word to describe an unpleasant situation or action. This slang word falls into the category of *Folk etymology Class I*.

Salty – The standard English word stands for any type of food or drink that has too much salt. The members of Generation Y started using it as a slang word for something bad, unpleasant. The word falls into the category of *Folk etymology Class I*.

Bunk – The standard English word ‘bunk’ stands for ‘the main part/mass of the body’. However, the members of Generation Y started using this word as a slang word that means lame or very strange. This word falls into the category of *Folk etymology Class II*.

Hack – The original meaning of this word is ‘to cut, break’. The members of Generation Y started using this word to describe the person who is doing his job poorly. This slang word falls into the category of *Folk etymology Class I*.

Table 29. Expressions of negativity by Generation Z.

Generation Z	
Slang	Formation Group
Salty	Folk etymology Class I
Ratchet	Folk etymology Class I
Wack	Folk etymology Class II
Devon	Folk etymology Class II
Messed up	Folk etymology Class I

Ratchet – This slang originally came from the word ‘wretched’, but by the members of Generation Z the word was shortened. The meaning of both the standard English word and the shortened version of the slang word are similar as it describes something poor or worthless. This word falls into the category of *Folk etymology Class I*.

Wack - The meaning of this slang word is ‘very bad’. This slang word falls into the category of *Folk etymology Class II*, as it does not have or it is hard to track the original word.

Devon – The original meaning of this word is a ‘breed’ of something, for example, a breed of sheep. The members of Generation Z started using this word as a slang word for a devastated person. This slang word falls into the category of *Folk etymology Class II*, as it has nothing in common with the original word.

Messed up – The original meaning of this phrase is ‘not tidy, not in the right place’. The members of Generation Z use this word to negatively respond to a situation that is bad. This slang phrase falls into the category of *Folk etymology Class I*.

Figure 6. shows that in all four generations the most productive slang creation group was *Folk etymology Class I*.

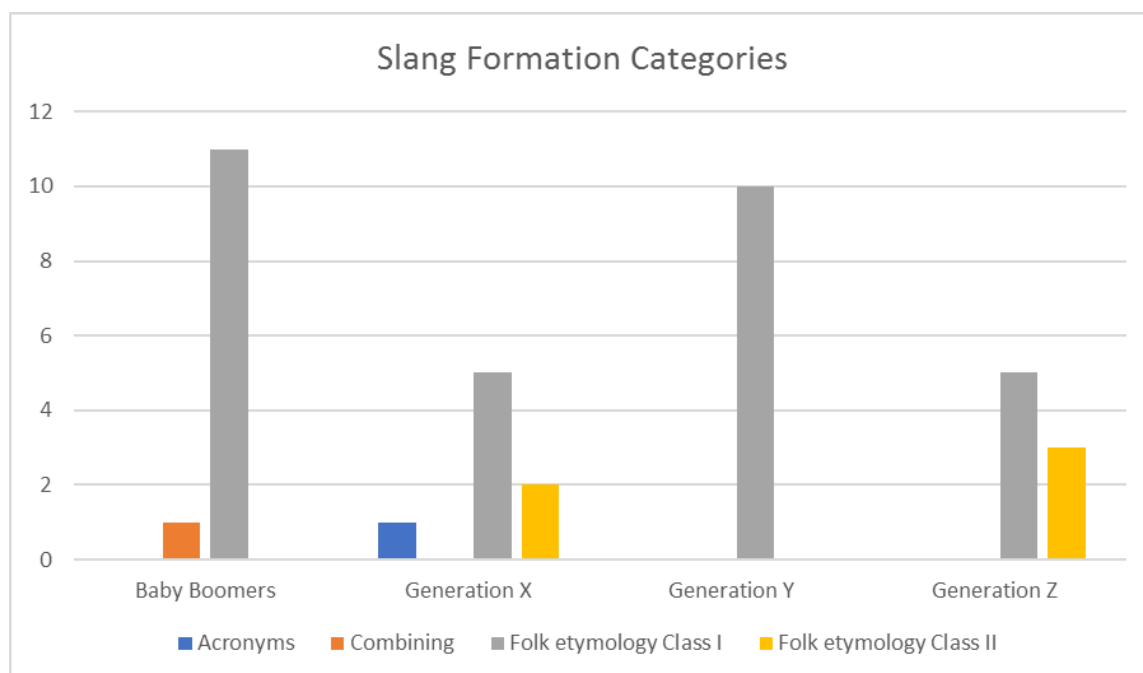


Fig. 6. The most popular slang formation categories throughout generations creating slang words for negative response.

To give an easier view of the analysis Table 30. will show the examples provided in the empirical part through all generations. In this group, the number of repetitive slang words is not very high, as the examples of the empirical part showed that only one slang word ‘salty’ is being used by the members of two different generation, however for more examples see the appendices.

Table 30. overall view of the analysed slang throughout the generations.

Baby Boomers		Generation X		Generation Y		Generation Z	
Slang	Formation Group	Slang	Formation Group	Slang	Formation Group	Slang	Formation Group
Dirt	Folk etymology Class I	Bogue	Folk etymology Class I	Cold	Folk etymology Class I	Wack	Folk etymology Class II
Turn-off	Folk etymology Class I	Bummer	Folk etymology Class II	Brutal	Folk etymology Class I	Rachet	Folk etymology Class I
Uncool	Folk etymology Class I	Heavy	Folk etymology Class I	Salty	Folk etymology Class I	Salty	Folk etymology Class II
Moldy	Folk etymology Class I	J.A.P	Acronym	Bunk	Folk etymology Class I	Devon	Folk etymology Class II
Germ	Folk etymology Class I	Tattered	Folk etymology Class II	Hack	Folk etymology Class I	Messed up	Folk etymology Class I

To sum up the analysis, several conclusions can be drawn. The analysed examples showed that slang words and phrases tend to be used in more than one generation, however some of them undergone modifications. The younger generations borrow the slang words from previous generations and usually they shorten slang word or a slang phrase. The slang formation categories vary, but overall, according to the analysis, the most productive slang formation category is *Folk Etymology Class I*.

CONCLUSIONS

The subject of this research paper is the analysis of slang words from four different generations. The generations that were selected are Baby Boomers, Generation X, Generation Y and Generation Z. The reason for selecting these generations was to see how the different generations use slang words in their daily life. The aim of the thesis is to compare how the representatives of these four generations use slang words and how slang words were formed. After the theoretical and empirical research, several conclusions can be drawn:

1. The notion of slang was researched and defined. Slang is a secret language that is used by the people who belong to the same community. The literature review revealed that slang words have seven formation groups and six sub-groups: *Combining* (sub-groups are *Prefixation* and *Suffixation*); *Abbreviations* (sub-groups are *Initialisms* and *Acronyms*); *Folk etymology* (sub-groups are *Class I* and *Class II*); *spelling*; *slang loans*; *slangs from sounds*; *influence of other words*.

2. As this work is concerned with the slang words that were used in the chosen generations, the notion of *generation* was researched and it showed that, *generation* is a grouping of people who were born in a certain decade. One generation, according to the Strauss-Howe generational theory, covers about two decades. The overview of the language of the chosen generations showed that slang words emerged from war themes, social movements, technologies, music, etc.

a) Baby Boomers is the oldest of the chosen generations, the members of which were born between 1946 and 1964. This research showed that the Baby Boomer generation tended to create slang words that rely on the war theme. Other sources for slang creation were social movements, such as feminism and racism, together with the hippy culture. Various slang words came from drug and popular culture themes.

b) Following the Baby Boomer generation is Generation X (1965-1980). The members of Generation X were born in the computer era, so their language was affected by technologies. The members of this generation used political correctness to create new slang words and phrases.

c) The members of Generation Y (1980s-1990s) were influenced by technology even more than the members from the previously mentioned, Generation X. The language overview of

this generation showed that the main sources for slang creation were: social networking, gaming, popular culture and the desire to be accepted.

d) The members of, Generation Z (1996 till present), the youngest generation, were influenced the most by technology. In the language of this generation the tendency for borrowing slang words that were created by the previous generations was noticed. However, while borrowing old slang words, Generation Z modified the majority of them, usually by shortening them.

3. Overall 246 examples were found and analysed. The selected examples were divided into six groups according to their meaning. Division groups were: greetings, saying goodbye, naming a friend, referring to male or female, expressing positivity and negativity. The analysis showed the tendency to borrow slang words from previous generations and modify them.

4. After the analysis of all the examples, it was clear that the most productive slang formation category was Folk etymology Class I with 124 examples, followed by Folk etymology Class II with 29 examples and then Abbreviations with 22 examples.

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РЕЗЮМЕ

Тема анализа сленг в языке разных поколений. Цель работы- узнать: действительно ли прежние поколение имеют влияния на язык младших поколения, и какая группа формирование сленг слов является более продуктивной. Теоретическая часть работы состоит из объяснений основных терминов, таких как: сленг, жаргон, поколение, и т.д. Кроме того, в теоретической части приведены и различные четырёх поколений: Беби-бум, Поколение X, Поколение Y, Поколение Z, такие как - период их существования, сферы от которых произошли разные сленг слова.

В практической части приведены ответы на вопросы, которые возникли в начале анализа. Задании, которые возникли в начале анализа:

1. Определить понятие сленга и его групп формирования;
2. Уяснить разницу между избранными поколениями;
3. Собрать и анализировать примеры сленговых слов выбранных поколений и устанавливать дифференциальные паттерны этих языковых выражений;
4. Найти наиболее продуктивную группу формирования сленга.

Практическая часть анализа состоится из анализа сленг слов, которые были собраны из статей и проверенных в словаре. Анализ состоит из сленгового значения, поколения, которому он принадлежит, его происхождения и группы формирования.

APPENDICES

In this section of the work, total lists of slang words will be shown. The slang words that were not show in the empirical part will be show here. The analysis of slang words that were not shown in the empirical part will be show below the tables. Each table consists of already analysed examples and the examples that were not presented in the empirical part. The tables consist of slang word, the generation and the formation category it belongs to.

Table 5.1 Complete list of slang words for greetings.

Baby Boomers		Generation X		Generation Y		Generation Z	
Slang	Formation Group	Slang	Formation Group	Slang	Formation Group	Slang	Formation Group
Peace, Man!	Folk et. I	Peace, Man!	Folk et. I	YO	Acr.	Whassup G	Abbr.+ In.
Hey bean!	Folk et. I	Wassup	Abbr.	Sup	Abbr.	Sup	Abbr.
Sup	Abbr.	Wuddup	Abbr.	Whassup G	Abbr. + In.	Was good B	Abbr. + In.
Wassup	Abbr.	Yello	Comb.	Yo, yo, homie Joe	Acr. + comb. (prefixation)	Waz good? waz cracking?	Abbr.

Table 10.1 Complete list of slang words for saying goodbye through the generations.

Baby Boomers		Generation X		Generation Y		Generation Z	
Slang	Formation Group	Slang	Formation Group	Slang	Formation Group	Slang	Formation Group
Peace, Man!	Folk et. I	Peace, Man!	Folk et. I	Peace out	Folk et. I	Peace out	Folk et. I
Later	Folk et. I	Peace Out Home Free	Folk et. I	Later Days and Better Lays	Folk et. I	I'm gone	Folk et. I
Later, gator	Folk et. I	Peace	Folk et. I	See Ya Around	Abbr.	See ya	Abbr.
-	-	Later Days	Folk et. I	I'm gone	Folk et. I	-	-

Table 15.1 Complete list of slang words naming a friend through the generations

Baby Boomers		Generation X		Generation Y		Generation Z	
Slang	Formation Group	Slang	Formation Group	Slang	Formation Group	Slang	Formation Group
Amigo	Slang Loan	-	-	Homefry	Comb.	Homie	Com.
A.F.A	In.	B.F.F.	Folk et. I	Girlfren	Abbr.	G	In.
Blood	Folk et. I	Blood	Folk et. I	Cuz	Abbr.	Cuz	Abbr.
Brother	Folk et. I	Brother Bro	Folk et. I Abbr.	bro, bra, braw, broseph	Abbr.+ Comb.	Bro, Bra	Abbr.
My man	Folk et. I	Man	Folk et. I	Dogg	Folk et. II	Dogg	Folk et. II
Skirt	Folk et. I	Mate	Folk et. I	Foo	Folk et. II	Fo	Folk et. II
Sophie	Folk et. II	Schick	Slang loan	Mall chick	Folk et. I	Skank	Folk et. II
Cool cat	Folk et. II	-	-	Posse	Folk et. I	Player	Folk et. I
Fine as Wine	Folk et. I	-	-	Spangler	Folk et. I	Bestie	Comb.
Keeper	Comb.	-	-	Dawg	Folk et. I	-	-
Kitty	Folk et. I	-	-	-	-	-	-
Pig	Acr.	-	-	-	-	-	-
My mellow	Folk et. I	-	-	-	-	-	-
Scooch	Folk et. I	-	-	-	-	-	-
Slodge	Folk et. II	-	-	-	-	-	-
Tight	Folk et. I	-	-	-	-	-	-

Cool cat – is a reference to a friend. The slang phrase has few interesting facts about the origin of it. First of all, it might associate with Jazz music, as a meowing sound or the Jazz player. Later on, this slang phrase was used to call a friend. Even though no actual information is given why this slang phrase by Baby Boomers was used to call a friend. Slang phrase falls into the category of *Folk etymology Class II*.

Fine as Wine – this slang phrase refers to a male or female in order to complement their appearance. This slang phrase was created by Baby Boomers, but is not used or used very rarely today. This slang word falls into the category of *Folk etymology Class I* as the meaning can be tracked down. The meaning of a word fine is okay or good and the word wine rhymes with fine.

Keeper – this slang word came from a verb to keep, Baby Boomer generation started using it to refer to a friend with the hidden meaning of guardian or a person worth keeping. This slang word falls into the category of *Combining*.

Kitty – originally came from a word kitten, why the members of Baby Boomer generation started using this word to refer to a friend is not clear. The research of the origin of this word suggest that it might be a shorten version for a name Catherine or it might refer to a young person. This word falls into the category of *Folk etymology Class I*.

Pig – the initialism of a phrase promiscuous girl, the slang has a negative connotation, and is used rarely by the members of younger generations. It falls into the category of *Acronym*.

My man – another way of naming a male friend. Falls into the category of *Folk etymology Class I*.

My mellow – refer to a close friend. Came from an adjective mellow the meaning of which is sweet and soft. Falls into the category of *Folk etymology Class I*.

Scooch – came from a noun ‘scooch’ the meaning of it is a small distance, Baby Boomers used this slang to call a very close friend. Falls into the category of *Folk etymology Class I*.

Slodge – in 50s was used to refer to a friend by Baby Boomers, however the origin is unclear. This slang word falls into the category of *Folk etymology Class II*.

Tight – another way to refer to a good friend in Baby Boomer generation. Originally came from a word tight that means small space between. This slang word falls into the category of *Folk etymology Class I*.

Posse – a group of friends. Originally came from the name of US street gangsters group name. The members of Generation Y use it to refer to friends. Falls into the category of *Folk etymology Class I*.

Spangler – a person who likes to decorate his clothes or hair by shiny things. The members of Generation Y used this word to refer to a friend. Falls into the category of *Folk etymology Class I*.

Dwang – usually refer to a female friend, who tries to fit in the group by pretending to be stupid. This slang word falls into the category of *Folk etymology Class II*.

Player – originally came from games theme, however by the members of Generation Z is being used as a negative reference to a female or a male. The meaning is the same as of the slang word Casanova.

Bestie – came from a phrase best friend, shortened by the members of Generation Z. Falls into the category of Combining as it was formatted by adding prefix -ie.

Table 20.1 Complete list of slang words referring to male or female through the generations

Baby Boomers		Generation X		Generation Y		Generation Z	
Slang	Formation Group	Slang	Formation Group	Slang	Formation Group	Slang	Formation Group
Chick	Folk et. I	Baby	Folk et. I	Baby	Folk et. I	B	In.
Dude	Folk et. I	Casanova	Folk et. I	Bimbo	Slang loan	Baby	Folk et. I
Hunk	Folk et. II	Dude	Folk et. I	Dude	Folk et. I	Bae	Abbr.
My man	Folk et. I.	Man	Folk et. I	Dogg	Folk et. II	Dogg	Folk et. II
Skirt	Folk et. I	Mate	Folk et. I	Foo	Folk et. II	Foo	Folk et. II
Sophie	Folk et. II	Schick	Slang loan	Mall chick	Folk et. I	Skank	Folk et. II
Beach bunny	Folk et. I	Bunny	Folk et. I	Betty	Folk et. I	Betty	Folk et. I
Come on snake, let's rattle	Folk et. I	Foxy	Comb.	Bimbette	Slang loan + Comb.	Boo	Slang loan + Abbr.
Dolly	Comb.	Foxy Mama	Comb.+ Slang Loans	Bow-Head	Comb.	Ghetto booty	Folk et. I
Eyepopper	Comb.	Old man or old woman	Folk et. I	Chica	Slang loan	Rig	Folk et. II
Fuzzy duck	Folk et. I	Sweat hog	Folk et. I	Freak	Folk et. I	Shawtie	Folk et. I
Quentin quail	Folk et. I	-	-	Gal Pal	Folk et. I	Talent	Folk et. I
Paper shaker	Folk et. I	-	-	Pigeon	Folk et. I	-	-
Queen	Folk et. I	-	-	Poofer	Slang sounds + Comb.	-	-
Slut	Folk et. I	-	-	Joanie	Folk et. II	-	-
Stacked	Folk et. I	-	-	Scrub	Folk et. I	-	-
Stone Fox	Folk et. I	-	-	Skeezer	Folk et. I	-	-

Beach bunny – slang word created by Baby Boomer generation to refer to a girl, who likes to spend her time at the beach, sunbathing. While researching the origin of this slang word (why bunny was chosen as a part of this phrase) an interesting fact came up. The reason why bunny was chosen is that, water or bathing for bunnies is very stressful and can cause death. The slang phrase itself falls into the category of *Folk etymology Class I*.

Come on snake, let's rattle – this slang phrase was widely used by Baby Boomer generation, to as a girl to dance with you. The word snake is also widely used to call a person who you do not trust. This slang phrase falls into the category of *Folk etymology Class I*.

Dolly – originally came from a word doll, which carries the meaning of a toy that resembles the human body. The members of Baby Boomer generation tended to use a slang word dolly to call a girl. Since this word is formatted with the prefix -y it falls into the category of *Combining*.

Eyepopper – this slang word by the members of Baby Boomer generation was used to refer to a very beautiful girl. The slang itself falls into the category of *Combining* as it is created from a compound word with the addition of prefix -y.

Fuzzy duck – the members of Baby Boomer generation used this word to refer to a girl with short hair. The choice of a word duck might come from a story “Ugly Duck”. The slang phrase itself falls into the category of *Folk etymology Class I*.

Quentin quail – under aged girl. The slang word came from the biker group of San Quentin State - “Hell's Angel's”. The slang phrase falls into the category of *Folk etymology Class I*.

Paper shaker – Baby Boomers used this slang phrase to refer to a girl, who is a cheerleader, who dance with the pom-poms. The slang phrase falls into the category of *Folk etymology Class I*.

Queen – another way to refer to a girl, usually to a very popular and respected girl. This slang falls into the category of *Folk etymology Class I*.

Slut – negative and offensive way to call a girl. Falls into the category *Folk etymology Class I*.

Stacked – the members of Baby Boomer generation used this slang to refer to a girl with a nice figure. The slang falls into the category of *Folk etymology Class I*.

Stone fox – this phrase was used to call a very smart and beautiful girl. Falls into the category of *Folk etymology Class I*.

Bunny – a similar slang phrase was mentioned above, however the meaning is slightly different, as in this case a girl is called bunny, because she is cute. Falls into the category of *Folk etymology Class I*.

Foxy – originally came from a word fox, by the members of Generation X is used to call a very smart female. This slang falls into the category of *Combining* as it is created with the help of prefix -y.

Foxy Mama – the meaning of this phrase is the same as in previous one (see example above), however the word mama is added to the phrase, this word itself is a loan from European languages and it stand for mother. This slang word can fall into the category of *Combining* and *Slang loans* at once, as a part of the phrase is not a standard English word.

Old man or **Old women** - is used to call a long-term boyfriend or a girlfriend, without considering their age. The slang phrase falls into the category of *Folk etymology Class I*.

Sweat hog – the members of Generation X use this phrase to refer to an ugly female. The phrase falls into the category of *Folk etymology Class I*.

Betty – a good looking and self-confident female. This slang word is being used by the members of Generation Y. It falls into the category of *Folk etymology Class I*.

Bimbette – originally came from previously mentioned slang ‘bimbo’ with the prefix -ette. This slang word falls into two categories at the same time as it can be viewed as a Slang loan and as a *Combining*.

Bow-Head – a very good looking girl, that makes bow head. This slang word falls into the category of *Combining*.

Chica – originally came from a Spanish word. The members of Generation Y use this word to refer to very attractive female. It falls into the category of *Slang loans*.

Freak – originally means something horrible, however the members of Generation Y started using it to refer to a handsome male or beautiful female. This slang falls into the category of *Folk etymology Class I*.

Gal Pal - this slang phrase refers to homosexual couple of two females. It falls into the category of *Folk etymology Class I*.

Pigeon – similar to a slang word bird or chick, usually a negative way to call a female. Falls into the category of *Folk etymology Class I*.

Poof – attractive girl that was seen once in life. Falls into two categories at the same time as it can be viewed as a *Slang from sounds* (poof – when something disappears) or *Combining* as it is formatted with the help of prefix -er.

Joanie – this slang phrase is being used to call a girl who gives attention to a male who already has a wife or a girlfriend. This slang phrase falls into the category of *Folk etymology Class II* as the origin is unknown.

Scrub – came from a sports theme, is used to call a player who lacks talent or skills to play. Falls into the category of *Folk etymology Class I*.

Skeezer – used to refer to a female with low standards. This slang word falls into the category of *Folk etymology Class II*.

Boo – originally came from a French word beau, the meaning is beautiful. However, the members of Generation Z, started using this word to refer to a girlfriend or boyfriend. At the same time falls into the category of *Slang loans and Abbreviations*, as it comes from foreign language.

Ghetto booty – is used to refer to a girl that has a nice figure, since the word ghetto is a part of this slang phrase, assumptions that this phrase is used to call a black female, can be drawn. This slang phrase falls into the category of *Folk etymology Class I*.

Rig – Originally is an Australian slang, the meaning of which is a handsome male or beautiful female. Falls into the category of *Folk etymology Class II* as in a different context this word changes the meaning. Standard English word rig – dishonest way to do something, similar to cheating.

Shawtie – usually this slang word was used to refer to a short person or a child, however the meaning shifted from original one and the members of Generation Z started using it while talking about a girl or boy. Some assumptions can be made that this word came from the standard English word short. This slang word falls into the category of *Folk etymology Class I*.

Talent – the standard English word talent means that a person has particular skills, however the members of Generation Z started using this word to refer to a girl, who does not have to put a lot of effort to look beautiful. This slang word falls into the category of *Folk etymology Class I*

Table 25.1 Complete list of slang words to express positivity through the generations

Baby Boomers		Generation X		Generation Y		Generation Z	
Slang	Formation Group	Slang	Formation Group	Slang	Formation Group	Slang	Formation Group
Bad	Folk et. I	Bomb Dude	Folk et. I	Bomb	Folk et. I	Legend	Folk et. I
Boss	Folk et. II	Coolie	Comb.	Rad	Abbr.	OH-EM-GEE	Abbr.
Cool	Folk et. II	Gnarly	Folk et. I	Off the hook/ off the chain	Folk et. I	chill/mad chill	Folk et. II
Fab	Folk et. I	I dig it	Folk et. I	Like, oh my God	Folk et. I	DRO	Abbr.
Far-out	Abbr.	Killer	Folk et. I	Way cool	Folk et. I	Dope	Folk et. I
Bitchin	Comb.	Boss	Folk et. I	Ace	Folk et. I	Ballin'	Folk et. I
Classy chassis	Folk et. I	Cool Beans	Folk et. I	Cranking	Folk et. I	Cleaaaan	Folk et. I
Fat City	Folk et. I	Far Out Man	Folk et. I	Dudical	Comb.	Epic	Folk et. II
Groovy	Folk et. I	Funkadelic	Comb.	Fly	Folk et. I	Fancy	Folk et. I
Hip/He p	Folk et. I	Gnarly	Folk et. II	Grouse	Folk et. I	Fiya	Folk et. I
Keen	Folk et. II	Mondo Cool	Folk et. I	Icy	Folk et. I	Jiggy	Folk et. II
Peachy or Peachy Keen	Folk et. I	Powerful	Folk et. I	Kick Ass	Folk et. I	Off the hook or off the chain	Folk et. I
Pissah	Folk et. I	Psychedelic	Folk et. I	Kickin'	Folk et. I	Straight	Folk et. I
Swell	Folk et. II	Rad/Radical	Folk et. I + Abbr.	Killer	Comb.	Talent	Folk et. I
You make the king's jive	Folk et. I	Rock On!	Folk et. I	Major	Folk et. I	-	-
-	-	Slammin	Folk et. I + Abbr.	Pimpin'	Folk et. I	-	-
-	-	Stellar	Folk et. I	Righteous	Folk et. I	-	-
-	-	Sweet or Sweetness	Folk et. I	Stellar	Folk et. II	-	-
-	-	That's Smashing	Folk et. I	Swirly	Folk et. II	-	-
-	-	That's So Tubular, Man!	Folk et. I	To the Max	Folk et. I	-	-
-	-	Totally Awesome	Folk et. I	The Joint	Folk et. I	-	-
-	-	Twitchin'	Folk et. I + Abbr.	Tough (Tuff)	Folk et. I	-	-

-	-	Wicked	Folk et. I	Mint	Folk et. I	-	-
-	-	Yo G Trippy Style	Folk et. I + Abbr.	-	-	-	-
-	-	Zooky- zooky	Folk et. II	-	-	-	-

Cool Beans – pleasing, favourable, very nice. Similar to slang word of Baby Boomer generation. *Folk etymology Class I.*

Funkadelic – came from a music theme. Combination of funky and delicate music. Usually is used to refer to a very nice music. Falls into the category of *Folk etymology Class I.*

Gnarly – extremely good or bad. *Folk etymology Class II.*

Mondo cool – extremely good. Falls into the category of *Folk etymology Class I.*

Powerful – extremely good. *Folk etymology Class I.*

Psychedelic – comes from a drug theme, usually was used to describe the feeling after using drugs, but later on, by the members of Generation X was used to describe a unique (in a good way) inspirational things, like art or music.

Rad or Radical – stands for awesome. Falls into the category of Abbreviations (rad) and *Folk etymology Class I.*

Rock on – comes from music theme (Rock and Roll), means very good. Falls into the category of *Folk etymology Class I.*

Slammin – funky, cool. Also, has more meanings, such as expressing negativity. Falls into the category of *Abbreviations.*

Stellular – awesome. Falls into the category of *Folk etymology Class I.*

Sweet or Sweetness – something very pleasant, good. Falls into the category of *Folk etymology Class I.*

That's Smashing – Extraordinarily impressive, wonderful. Falls into the category of *Folk etymology Class I.*

That's So Tubular, Man! – awesome, excellent. Falls into the category of *Folk etymology Class I.*

Totally Awesome – very good, great. Falls into the category of *Folk etymology Class I*.

Twitchin’ – very cool. Falls into the categories of *Folk etymology Class I* and *Abbreviations*.

Wicked – excellent. The meaning switched from being negative (naughty), to positive. Falls into the category of *Folk etymology Class I*.

Yo G Trippy Style – amazing, awesome. Falls into two categories: *Folk etymology Class I* and *Abbreviations*.

Zooky-zooky – totally cool, amazing. *Folk etymology Class II*.

Mint – This slang word was used by the members of Generation Y to describe something nice and good. This slang word falls into the category of *Folk etymology Class I*.

Table 30.1 Complete list of slang words to express negativity through the generations

Baby Boomers		Generation X		Generation Y		Generation Z	
Slang	Formation Group	Slang	Formation Group	Slang	Formation Group	Slang	Formation Group
Dirt	Folk et. I	Bogue	Folk et. I	Cold	Folk et. I	Wack	Folk et. II
Turn-off	Folk et. I	Bummer	Folk et. I	Brutal	Folk et. I	Rachet	Folk et. I
Uncool	Folk et. I	Heavy	Folk et. I	Salty	Folk et. I	Salty	Folk et. I
Moldy	Folk et. I	J.A.P	Acr.	Bunk	Folk et. I	Devon	Folk et. I
Germ	Folk et. I	Tattered	Folk et. II	Hack	Folk et. I	Messed up	Folk et. I
Bad scene/ bad new	Folk et. I	Fillet	Folk et. I	Atari	Folk et. I	Bunk	Folk et. I
Fake out	Folk et. I	Harsh bong	Folk et. I	Messed up	Folk et. I	Hack	Folk et. I
Nowhere sville	Folk et. I	Snaps	Folk et. I	Not So Much	Folk et. I	-	-
Pits	Folk et. I	-	-	Quit Icing My Grill	Folk et. I	-	-
Put down	Folk et. I	-	-	Suck/ Sucks	Folk et. I	-	-
Ratty	Folk et. I	-	-	-	-	-	-
Stuck	Folk et. I	-	-	-	-	-	-

Bad scene or **bad news** – when something bad happens. *Folk etymology Class I.*

Fake out – to trick someone in a bad way. *Folk etymology Class I.*

Nowheresville – something extremely boring. *Folk etymology Class I.*

Pits – the worst. *Folk etymology Class I.*

Stuck – the influence of the drugs, when you can't move. *Folk etymology Class I.*

Ratty – miserable. *Folk etymology Class I.*

Put down – when something bad happens and you decide not to do it again. *Folk etymology Class I.*

Fillet – to do something bad, negative. *Folk etymology Class I.*

Harsh Bong – came from drugs theme. Has a similar meaning to the word 'brutal'.

Snaps – violent attacks someone, verbally or physically. *Folk etymology Class I.*