

TEXT LINGO PRE-WRITING ACTIVITY

LEVEL A2

Students today enjoy using their mobile phones and sending text messages to each other. This activity introduces students to some English text messages that they could start to use with their friends.

Preparation

Photocopy the text messages and their real English translations. Hand these out as a worksheet.

Procedure

Ask your students how they send texts. Tell them that the language they use is difficult to understand if you are an adult and ask them to teach you some tricks for messaging in their language. Then tell them that in English there are lots of ways to send short texts.

- Ask students to work in groups and give out worksheets to each group.
- Ask students to read the messages and match them with their real English translation.
- Check the answers.
- Ask students to add more messages and their translations, or let them watch *The 40 Most Common Texting Abbreviations and Acronyms* (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fEMN8yuIbK>)
- Tell the students that it is OK to write such messages when they send them to friends, but for the rest, they shouldn't use abbreviations, if they want their messages to be understood..

Text lingo. Match the text message on the left with its 'translation' in real English on the right.

Text

- 1) C U L8R M8
- 2) B4
- 3) AFAIK
- 4) W8 4 ME, I'M L8, SOZ
- 5) KIT
- 6) RUOK?
- 7) LUWAMH
- 8) HAND
- 9) ZZZZZZZZ
- 10) KOTL
- 11) TMB
- 12) 0 ME
- 13) EZ
- 14) BTW
- 15) C U 2NITE O 2MORO
- 16) LOL

Translation

- a) As far as I know
- b) Love you with all my heart
- c) Boring
- d) Text me back
- e) Have a nice day
- f) See you later mate
- g) Keep in touch
- h) Easy
- i) Are you okay?
- j) Wait for me, I'm late, sorry
- k) See you tonight or tomorrow
- l) By the way
- m) Before
- n) Ring me
- o) Kiss on the lips
- p) laughing out loud

Answers: 1 – f, 2 – m, 3 – a, 4 – j, 5 – g, 6 – i, 7 – b, 8 – e, 9-c, 10 – o, 11 – d, 12 – n. 13 – h, 14 – l, 15 – k; 16-p

