

Make that the cat wise

In this lesson students will explore **Dunglish**, a mixture of Dutch and English. They will learn about the role of the media in the development of **Dunglish**, translate **Dunglish** phrases to correct English and discuss if **Dunglish** is or should be an accepted variation of English. **Duration: 1 hour.**

STRUCTURE

- Introduction: Two men in a bar speaking **Dunglish**.
- Next step: What is **Dunglish** and where does it come from?
- In practice: What does it mean?
- Evaluation: What if everyone spoke their own kind of English?

PREPARATION

You can prepare by:

- Reading this teacher's guide and the students' worksheet.
- Opening the presentation.

WORK AND CAREER

Dunglish occurs in all professions in which you, as a Dutchman, have to communicate in English. So in politics, international companies, sports and so on. While speaking **Dunglish** doesn't say much about your intelligence, it can make people take you less seriously. Therefore it is important to learn to speak English correctly. Especially if you choose a profession where you have to communicate in English.

ETHICS AND TECHNOLOGY

We aim to teach standard English in English class. Yet there are more non-native speakers than native speakers around the world. To what extent is it still important that we really teach standard English? Or is it acceptable to use English to express your own culture and language, such as in **Dunglish**? What if everyone starts speaking their own kind of English, like **Spanglish**, **Deunglish** or **Franglish**? Will we still understand each other?

LEARNING GOALS

Domein curriculum 2021	Leerdoelen digitale vaardigheden	Kerdoelen	21st century skills
1 Digitale communicatie & samenwerking DG4.2 Digitale communicatie.	1 Mediawijsheid De leerling kan eigen logica's van diverse (digitale) media doorgronden en begrijpen hoe deze invloed hebben op de boodschap die wordt overgebracht.	1 Engels De leerling leert strategieën te gebruiken voor het uitbreiden van zijn Engelse woordenschat.	1 Communiceren
2 Digitaal burgerschap DG5.1 De digitale burger.	2 Mediawijsheid De leerling beseft hoe het eigen mediagebruik invloed heeft op de eigen levensstijl.	2 Engels De leerling leert welke rol het Engels speelt in verschillende soorten internationale contacten.	2 Kritisch denken

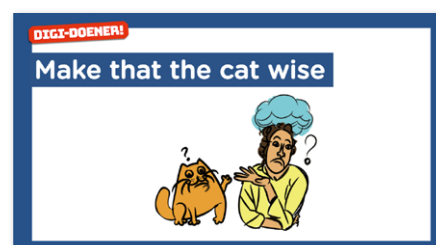
INTRODUCTION

Opening slide

Make that the cat wise

Slide 1, Group discussion

Watch the video together. Discuss afterwards: what do you think about this conversation? What impression does it give? How do you feel about the two men?



NEXT STEP

Slide 2, Group discussion

Explain: Dunglish is a popular term for a mixture of Dutch and English. Dunglish phrases are often a literal translation from Dutch to English. In Dutch we also say 'steenkolengels'. It goes back to the early twentieth century, when Dutch port workers used a basic form of English to communicate with the workers of English coal ships.



Slide 3, Group discussion

Ask the students: do you think that the media plays a role in the development of Dunglish? If so, how?

Possible answers: media, such as TV and the Internet, makes us come into contact with English at a young age. We become familiar with English by watching English videos and listening to English music. We communicate in English on the Internet before we learn to speak and write in a proper way.



Slide 4, Group discussion

Ask your students: What do you think about someone who speaks Dunglish? People who speak Dunglish are often not taken seriously. They can come across as unintelligent. Yet this does not appear to be entirely true. Research has shown that highly educated people make more use of Dunglish than less educated people. This is because highly educated people speak more English in their work and make more use of figurative statements.



WORK AND CAREER

Slide 5, Group discussion

Explain: This video shows that Dunglish is also used by highly educated people. Dunglish can occur in all professions in which you, as a Dutchman, have to communicate in English. So in politics, international companies, sports and so on. While speaking Dunglish doesn't say much about your intelligence, it can make people take you less seriously. Therefore it is important to learn to speak English correctly. Especially if you choose a profession where you mainly have to communicate in English.



IN PRACTICE

Slide 6, Group work

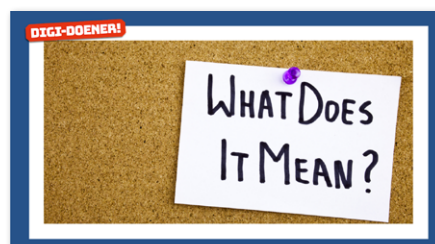
Ask the students: Can you translate Dunglish phrases to correct English? Correct the phrases on the worksheet.

Discuss the answers, examples of correct answers are:

Phrase 1: Don't fool me.

Phrase 2: Go ahead.

Phrase 3: I'm in luck.



Phrase 4: I don't want to just plunge in.

Phrase 5: I always get what I want.

Phrase 6: I will let it pass this time.

Phrase 7: I work very hard.


Phrase 8: Your hair looks good today.

Phrase 9: We are lagging behind.

Phrase 10: Nothing is wrong.

EVALUATION

Slide 7, Group discussion

 Discuss with the students: We aim to teach standard English in English class. Yet there are more non-native speakers than native speakers around the world. To what extent is it still important that we really teach standard English? Or is it acceptable to use English to express your own culture and language, such as in Dunglish? Should Dunglish be an accepted variation of English? What if everyone starts to speak their own kind of English (for example Spanglish, Deunglish or Franglish), will we still understand each other?

