

Curses and Oaths

Note: A word of caution is in order. This list is included for the purpose of comprehension. It is ill-advised to attempt to use these curses and oaths until one is thoroughly acculturated. The words in this list are not all equally offensive, but they are all potentially dangerous if not used properly.

Mild Words and Phrases

| | | | |
|---------|---------|----------------|--------------|
| Cripes | Fudge | Heck | Phooey |
| Dang | Gee | Holy cow | Shoot |
| Dang it | Golly | Holy smoke | Shucks |
| Darn | Gosh | I'll be darned | Son of a gun |
| Darn it | Heavens | Jeez | Sugar |

Mild Insults

| | | | |
|--------------|-------------|------------------|-------------|
| Boob, Boobie | Doofus | Good for nothing | Scaredy cat |
| Buffoon | Dork | Harebrained | Silly |
| Bum | Dumb | Hopeless | Stupid |
| Chicken | Dumbbell | Idiot | Turkey |
| Clown | Dummy | Jerk | Useless |
| Cow | Flake | Nerd | Weenie |
| Crazy | Fool | Nincompoop | Witch |
| Creep | 'Fraidy cat | Nut | Worthless |
| Dog | | Pig | |

Strong Words and Phrases

| | | | |
|---------|-----------|-------------|----------------------|
| Christ | Frigging | God | Jesus Christ |
| Crap | Fuck | God damn it | Jesus H. Christ |
| Damn | Fucking A | Hell | Shit |
| Damn it | | | Son of a bitch (SOB) |

Strong Insults

Note to students: These words are particularly dangerous. Some native speakers of English in the U. S. and Canada use these words in a joking way – in fact some young people use them so often that the words have become almost meaningless. However, we strongly recommend that you avoid them. You may think you are joking, but you can hurt the person you insult or make them very angry. If you hear these words, do not assume that the person is attacking someone; they may be joking. It is good to understand these words and to know how they are used, but **do not use them yourself.**

Note to teachers: These words are not put here to encourage you to teach them. Some teachers have been angered that we have included this page. However, many more teachers have encouraged us to keep it. When they are asked by students to teach them about swearing in English, this presentation helps. If you are offended, please understand that other professionals find this page useful. This book is your reference, not a student text, but if you are uncomfortable having this page in your book, we encourage you to cut it out of the book, replacing it with a photocopy of page 195.

| | | | |
|------------|-----------------|------------------|----------------------|
| Ass | Dumb shit | Go fuck yourself | Shithead |
| Asshole | Eat me | Go to hell | Shove it up your ass |
| Bastard | Eat shit | Mother fucker | Slut |
| Bitch | Fuck face | Piss off | Son of a bitch |
| Cocksucker | Fucking asshole | Prick | Suck my dick |
| Dick | Fuck you | Queer | Up yours |
| Dumb fuck | Fucker | Screw you | Whore |

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