



MACQUARIE DICTIONARY

WORD OF THE YEAR 2023

SHORTLIST

algospeak

noun a form of coded language used on digital platforms in which words, such as those relating to sex, violence, etc., which would be triggers for a site's moderation rules to shadowban a user or remove a post, are replaced, by convention, with innocuous words which are sometimes similar in sound or form, as *seggs* for 'sex' and *unalive* for 'dead' or 'kill'.

angry water

noun Colloquial (humorous) carbonated water.

Bazball

noun Cricket Colloquial an aggressive style of play, especially of the batting side.

[named after NZ former cricketer Brendon Barrie (*Baz*) McCullum (born 1981), who, as coach of the UK test team from 2022, trained the team to play in such a manner]

blue-sky flood

noun a flood in low-lying areas caused by the flow of floodwater which has made its way from higher ground after the cessation of substantial rainfall.

bopo

noun Colloquial body positivity.

boreout

noun Colloquial a state of demotivation or dissatisfaction in one's job, brought about by a lack of interesting work.

[BORE² + (BURN)OUT, modelled on BURNOUT]

bridesmaid suburb

noun Colloquial any of various suburbs which surround the most expensive or sought-after suburb in a particular area.

[from the notion that a BRIDESMAID supports and is secondary to a bride, the centre of attention at a wedding]

cozzie livs

(say kozee 'livz)

noun Colloquial cost of living.

[humorous play on COST OF LIVING]



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crash blossom

noun a phrase or sentence, especially in a news headline, that is ambiguous due to its wording or punctuation.

[from such an ambiguous headline in the newspaper *Japan Today* in 2009: 'Violinist Linked to JAL Crash Blossoms']

doof stick

noun Colloquial a long pole topped by a placard, decoration, etc., used as a location marker for a group of friends at a dance or music festival.

debt-trap diplomacy

noun Politics a strategy, employed by a country or other institution, of lending to a foreign nation in order to increase political leverage, as by imposing conditions which the borrower is unable to fulfil, thereby forcing them to accept political or economic concessions in lieu of repayment.

doorway effect

noun a psychological phenomenon in which a person's short-term memory is disrupted when they cross some kind of boundary, such as moving from one room to another.

generative AI

noun an artificial-intelligence application which is capable of producing new content, such as text, images, videos, etc., through use of machine learning. Also, **generative artificial intelligence**.

gravy day

noun Colloquial 21 December.

[in reference to this date in the lyrics of *How to Make Gravy* (1996) by Australian singer Paul KELLY]

hostile architecture

noun a style of architecture for shared public spaces which utilises design features that discourage unwanted behaviour, such as anti-homeless spikes or benches with armrests, to prevent people, especially the homeless, from lying down and sleeping. Also, **defensive architecture**.

rizz

Colloquial noun **1.** charisma.

–*verb* (*t*) **2.** to attract (a partner), especially for a sexual encounter.

[shortening and respelling of CHARISMA; popularised on social media from 2022]



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scrotox

noun Colloquial a botox preparation for the scrotum, especially as used for cosmetic purposes to make the skin appear less wrinkled, and to reduce sweating.

[blend of BOTOX and SCROTUM]

shadow work

noun the practice of identifying and accepting one's repressed or unacknowledged behaviours or traits, thought to improve self-awareness and self-realisation.

[popularised by Swiss psychiatrist and psychologist, CG Jung]

skimpflation

noun Commerce a reduction in the quality or availability of a product or service despite the cost to the customer remaining the same, as by reducing the number of service staff or the frequency of a service, or by using lower-quality ingredients in a product.

YIMBY

(say 'yimbee)

noun a person who is actively supportive of developments such as high- and medium-density housing, prisons, hospitals, airports, military installations, disabled housing, etc., being located in the vicinity of their home. Compare **NIMBY**. Also, **yimby**. [*y(es) i(n) m(y) b(ack)y(ard)*;

modelled on NIMBY] **-yimbyism**, *noun*