



Netspeak.com: How English is changing online

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Introduction

sk8Celine (12:17:10 AM): do u like bon jovi?! (u better say yes!)

sk8Celine (12:17:12 AM): :-*

honeygarli (12:17:18 AM): sorry for taking you away from your work

sk8Celine (12:17:23 AM): eee!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

honeygarli (12:17:26 AM): jovi is alright

sk8Celine (12:17:46 AM): would u go to concert w/ me?! :-
D

sk8Celine (12:17:56 AM): on reading wk

Netspeak

YAY!!!!!!!!!!!!!! I'm Learning Kanjis!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!! says: are you popular?

It's hard love but it's love all the same. Not the stuff of fantasy but more than just a game. says: meh....depends on who with.
i'm friends with a lotta different kinds of ppl

It's hard love but it's love all the same. Not the stuff of fantasy but more than just a game. says: how bout u?

YAY!!!!!!!!!!!!!! I'm Learning Kanjis!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!! says: not at all

YAY!!!!!!!!!!!!!! I'm Learning Kanjis!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!! says:
i have 4 friends in my school at most

A bunny hill guide to grammar

✦ Grammar = language structure

✦ Syntax (sentence grammar)

◆ I ain't got good grammar.

◆ *Ain't grammar got I good.

✦ Morphology (word grammar)

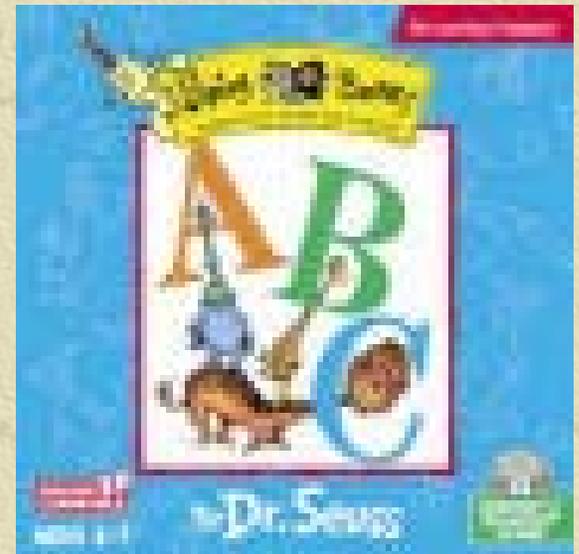
◆ *She is tell a story.

◆ I be cool.



Spelling and other fun stuff: orthography

- ✦ spelling = frozen literacy convention
- ✦ nation - nationality
- ✦ nacion - nacionalidad
- ✦ great - meat
- ✦ ghoti = 
- ✦ colour - color



Punctuation :)

✦ “Oh no!”, she exclaimed, “it’s punctuation!”



English ... nu & improved

✧ Orthographic conventions

- ◆ *sk8Celine*

✧ Syntactic conventions

- ◆ would u go to concert w/ me?! :-D

✧ Discourse innovations

- ◆ *honeygarli* (3:59:18 PM): the capitalization always shocks me
- ◆ *sk8Celine* (3:59:27 PM): oh - sorry
- ◆ *honeygarli* (3:59:27 PM): it's like you are yelling at me!

✧ Sociocultural conventions

- ◆ *It's hard love but it's love all the same. Not the stuff of fantasy but more than just a game. says:*

What the d8a say: orthography

✦ Orthographic conventions

✦ Acronyms: lol gtg/g2g

✦ Emoticons: :) :P :O* :@

✦ Abbreviations: w plz b/c nite

✦ Hybridizations: sk8 2day

✦ Homophones: u 4

✦ Onomatopoeia hahaheehee

✦ Nonlinguistic representations: ~~~~~

✦ Stylistic possibilities: waaaay sooooo

What the d8a say: orthography

✦ Synonymy

✦ Haha

✦ lol

✦ :)

✦ ☺

✦ ~~~~

✦ :D

What the d8a say: syntax

✦ Sentential and phrasal acronyms

- ✦ ttyl wuciwug

- ✦ g2g

✦ Optional punctuation in sentence marking

- ✦ can u answer my q cuz I gotta tell my mom

✦ Expressive use of punctuation

- ✦ shit!!! I just remembered that I have the stupid word assignment due on Tuesday!:-(

What the d8a say: syntax

✦ Optional capitalization

- its ppl from canada I think selling stuff.

✦ Expressive capitalization

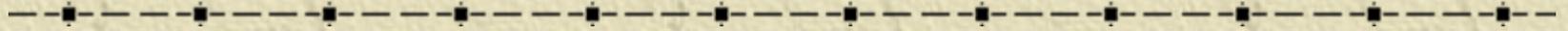
- FAINT

What the d8a say: discourse conventions

✦ Asymmetry in formality across conversations

- ✦ *honeygarli* (12:18:31 AM): I didn't say I for sure would!
- ✦ *honeygarli* (12:18:34 AM): and aren't you going away?
- ✦ *sk8Celine* (12:18:39 AM): i dont know i 4sure am
- ✦ *sk8Celine* (12:18:43 AM): going

What the d8a say: sociocultural conventions



✠ Identity markers

~ * ^ *HeAtH~ * ^ *

My summr hols*

My summr hols wr CWOT. B4, we usd 2 go 2 NY 2C my bro, his GF & thr 3 :-@ kids FTF. ILNY, its gr8.

Bt my Ps wr so {:-/ BC o 9/11 tht they dcdd 2 stay in SCO & spnd 2wks up N.

Up N, WUCIWUG -- 0. I ws vvv brd in MON. 0 bt baas & ^^^^.

AAR8, my Ps wr :-) -- they sd ICBW, & tht they wr ha-p 4 the pc&qt ..IDTS!! I wntd 2 go hm ASAP, 2C my M8s again.

2day I cam bk 2 skool. I feel v O:-) BC I hv dn all my hm wrk. Now is BAU...

*This piece was not part of our data. Thanks to Tabitha Burrige for locating this essay, published in *The Sunday Herald*.

My summr hols translated

My summr hols wr CWOT. B4, we usd 2 go 2 NY 2C my bro, his GF & thr 3 :-@ kids FTF. ILNY, its gr8.

My summer holidays

My summer holidays were a complete waste of time. Before, we used to go to New York to see my brother, his girlfriend and their three screaming kids face to face. I love New York; it's great.



¶ 2

But my Ps wr so {:-/ BC o 9/11 tht they dcdd 2 stay in SCO & spnd 2wks up N.

But my parents were so worried because of the terrorist attack on September 11 that they decided we would stay in Scotland and spend two weeks up north.



¶ 3

Up N, WUCIWUG -- 0. I ws vvv brd in
MON. 0 bt baas & ^^^^.

Up north, what you see is what you get --
nothing. I was extremely bored in the
middle of nowhere. Nothing but sheep and
mountains.

¶ 4

AAR8, my Ps wr :-) -- they sd ICBW, & tht they wr ha-p 4 the pc&qt ..IDTS!! I wntd 2 go hm ASAP, 2C my M8s again.

At any rate, my parents were happy. They said that it could be worse, and that they were happy with the peace and quiet. I don't think so! I wanted to go home as soon as possible, to see my mates again.



¶ 5

2day I cam bk 2 skool. I feel v O:-) BC I hv dn all my hm wrk. Now its BAU...

Today I came back to school. I feel very angelic because I have done all my homework. Now it's business as usual...

Bibliography

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