



# ISP Strine Dictionary

International Student Programs

---

**A bit cheeky:** Taking liberties, as in “It was a bit cheeky of Brian to talk back to the boss like that.”

**A bit rough:** Unfair or unjust, as in “It was a bit rough that Brian got the sack for talking back to the boss.”

**A drip:** Someone with no personality, no character, boring

**Aerial ping pong:** Australian Rules football

**Aggro:** (used as both adjective and noun) aggravation or aggression

**Air head:** Someone who is very vague; someone who talks about themselves all the time

**Airy fairy:** Fancy; vague

**Akubra:** Australian wide-brimmed felt hat

**The Alice:** Alice Springs

**All over the shop:** A situation that is out of control or messy, as in “Our marketing strategy is all over the shop; it will take months to sort out”

**Ankle biters:** Children

**Amber Fluid:** Beer

**Amped:** (*Western Australia*) excited

**Ant’s Pants:** Height of fashion or to think highly of oneself

**ANZAC:** Australian or New Zealand army corps or a soldier who served with them; Anzac biscuits are sometimes just referred to as Anzacs (crunchy oatmeal and golden syrup bikkie – biscuit)

**Apple Isle:** Tasmania

**Arse:** (equiv. To US ‘ass’), rear, behind, buttocks

**Arvo:** Afternoon

**As scarce as hen's teeth:** Very uncommon or something impossible to find

**Ash Wednesday:** Bushfires in 1983 which took hundreds of lives in Victoria and South Australia

**Aussie:(pronounced Ozzie)** An Australian

**Aussie Rules:** Australian Rules Football (different from soccer or rugby)

**Ava go:** "Have a go!" Sometimes used to incite a fight

**Ay?:** Didn't hear what was said, or "pardon me"

**B.Y.O:** Unlicensed restaurant where you have to Bring Your Own alcohol, also applies to a party or barbecue

**Back of Bourke:** A long way from anywhere

**Bail up:** Hold up someone (for money), ear bash, yell at, tell off

**Banana Bender:** A Queenslander

**Barbie:** Short for a barbecue or in reference to the cuisine

**Barking up the wrong tree:** going about something the wrong way; looking at a problem from the wrong direction

**Barny:** Fight or argument

**Barnsey:** Australian Rock and Roll legend, Jimmy Barnes

**Barrack:** To cheer or support a team side

**Bash:** To 'have a bash' at something is to try to do something; to 'bash' something is to deride or put down that thing; to 'get bashed up' is to be beaten up physically

**Battler:** Someone who works hard to earn a living by honest means

**Beanie:** Ski hat

**Beat around the bush:** Not getting to the point quickly

**Beauty (pronounced Bewdie):** All-round expression of pleasure or approval

**Belt up:** Stop talking

**Bender:** Over indulgence in alcohol

**Berko:** Berserk or crazy; sometimes shortened to **Berk** as in: 'You are being a berk.'

**Beyond the black stump:** Out in the bush, away from anywhere

**Bible basher:** Preacher or someone who pushes any Christian religion

**Bikey:** Motor cyclist

**Bickies:** Sweet or savory biscuits (cookies)

**Billabong:** Water hole

**Billy:** Vessel for making tea over a campfire.

**Biscuit:** Proper word for Cookie

**(A) bit on the nose:** Smelly, can also mean something suspicious or not quite right

**Blighter:** Person who you feel sorry for, as in “The poor blighter was robbed.” Can also be used derogatively, as in “The blighter robbed me!”

**Blimey:** Exclamation of surprise or amazement

**Blinder:** Excessive drinking spree

**Block:** Do your block; get angry

**Bloke:** Man

**Bloody (pronounced Bluddy):** Very, as in “That’s bloody good”

**Bloody hell:** Exclamation of amazement, similar to Struth (see **Struth**)

**Bloody oath:** That’s very true; yes, as in “Did I win the race? Bloody oath I did!”

**Blotto:** Very drunk

**Blow me down:** Exclamation of amazement, surprise, disbelief

**Blow through:** Pass through a place on the way to somewhere else

**Blower:** Telephone

**Blowies:** Blow flies

**Blue:** An argument or fight; ‘Blue’ or ‘Bluey’ nickname for people with red hair

**Bludger:** Someone who does not work and lives off other people’s efforts. ‘Dole Bludger’ is a common insult for people on unemployment benefits

**Bob’s your uncle:** Everything will be fine if this course of action is taken, as in “Just plug that in there and Bob’s your uncle, it’ll work.”

**Bog in:** Eat heartily

**Bogan:** Person who looks like they are stuck in the 1980’s. A Bogan typically wears 1980’s fashions, listens to 1980’s music, drives a 1980’s model car and sports the mullet hairstyle (See **Mullet**). Also used to describe people who look a bit rough, uncouth or ‘lower class’

**Bollocking:** Giving someone a dressing down/ scolding

**Bonza:** Good/ terrific

**Bonnet:** Hood of a car

**Boofhead:** Stupid person or fool

**Boogie board:** Half sized surf board (also Body board)

**Boomer:** Large male kangaroo

**Boomerang:** Curved flat wooden instrument used by Aborigines for hunting

**Boot:** Trunk of a car

**Booze Bus:** Police van used for random breath-testing for alcohol

**Bot:** To cadge or borrow with no real intention of repayment

**Botchy:** Poor, badly done

**Bottler:** A person or thing of excellence, worthy of admiration, as in “She’s a real bottler.”

**Bottle shop:** Liquor store

**Brass:** Money

**Brass Razzoo:** To say ‘I haven’t a brass razzoo’ means you are ‘broke’ or have no money

**Brass tacks:** The expression, ‘Getting down to brass tacks’ means getting to the heart of the matter or defining what the actual issue is

**Breckie:** Breakfast

**Brown Nose:** Someone who sucks up to people in authority

**Brumby:** Wild horse

**Buckley’s:** Not a chance, as in: “His chances were between Buckley’s and none.” Buckley was a legendary character who had very bad luck

**Buck’s night:** Stag party, male gathering the night before the wedding

**Bugger:** Original meaning rather vulgar, but in Strine denotes several things, including surprise, disappointment or anger, as in ‘Well I’ll be buggered’ (surprise) ‘Bugger that for a joke’ (disappointed) or ‘Bugger off, you’re not welcome here’ (anger). **Bugger** is a Strine term that needs the user to be very wary before using, as it not only has lots of different meanings depending on the context, but is still seen as very offensive to some people. Some more examples: **Bugger all** (nothing at all) **Buggered if I know** (I don’t know) You little **Bugger** (you nasty/cheeky person)

**Bull Bar (also Roo Bar):** stout bar fixed to the front of a vehicle to protect it against hitting kangaroos

**Bull shit:** Exclamation of disbelief, as in “You got 100% on your exam? That’s bullshit!” Warning: this term can be very offensive to some people, because of the suffix “shit” which is a crude term for excrement and is classed as a ‘swear word’. Be wary using this term in public.

**Bum:** Strine term for bottom, buttocks. Can also be used as an exclamation of disappointment, similar to damn or bugger (see **Bugger**)

**Bummer:** A disappointing situation is commonly known as a bummer, as in “It’s a real bummer that you failed your driving test.”

**Burl:** Test run a car or try something new, as in: ‘Give it a burl’

**Bush tucker:** Traditional Aboriginal food found in the bush, like kangaroo, quandongs, yams and witchety grubs

**Caarn!:** C’mon!

**Cack:** Laugh very hard

**Cackhanded:** Clumsy with the hands/ left handed

**Cackleberry:** An egg

**Cactus:** Ruined, spoiled, no good, as in: “My car is blowing smoke. It’s cactus”

**Cake Hole:** The mouth.

**Cane Toad:** Nickname for someone who lives in Queensland

**Captain Cook** (rhyming slang): To take a look

**Cark it:** To die or cease functioning

**Carpet Grubs:** Children

**Cask:** Wine box (An Australian Invention)

**Catcha:** Catch you; see you again, as in “I’ll catch you after my vacation.” Used as a friendly farewell, the intention being that you want to see that person again.

**Catcha later:** An expanded version of catch you. “I’ll catcha later” literally means “see you again soon.” Strines often use seeya later in the same way (see **See you later**)

**Caught the Wog:** Become infected with a virus (e.g. Influenza)

**Cheerio:** Goodbye

**Chin wag:** Having a good chat

**Chippy:** A carpenter

**Chips:** Australians call both crisps and French Fries **Chips** and distinguish between the two by calling the latter 'hot chips' and the former 'packet of chips'

**Chock-a-block or Chockers:** Filled right up or crowded to overflowing

**Chockie:** Piece of chocolate

**Choof off:** To leave (may have originated from the 'choof' of a steam train)

**Chop Chop:** Tobacco being sold in the black market to avoid taxes

**Chook:** Proper word for chicken. Applies to hens and roosters

**Choppers:** Teeth

**Chrissie:** Short for Christmas

**Chuck:** To throw out; expel, also throw up or vomit

**Chuck a sickie:** Take a day off work due to illness (sometimes used as an excuse for missing work for other reasons, as in 'I want to go to the races on Tuesday so I'm gonna chuck a sickie). See **Gunna**

**Chuck a wobbly:** Have a temper tantrum

**Chuffed:** Happy at the result of, as in 'I was really chuffed to get 90% on my exam'

**Chunder:** To throw up

**Ciggys:** Short for cigarette

**Clanger:** a big lie or an event that is shocking, as in 'My wife dropped a real clanger when she said she was leaving me for the Postman'

**Clap trap:** Nonsense

**Clapped out:** Broken down or very tired

**Clayton** (adjective): a word to describe something that is just pretending; pseudo-something, a substitute. A promise you don't intend to keep is a Clayton's promise. Derived from the brand name of a non-alcoholic beverage sold as substitute for spirits

**The Coat Hanger:** Affectionate term for the Sydney Harbour Bridge

**Cobber:** Friend, mate

**Cocky:** Short for cockatoo, also used to describe a farmer

**Coldie:** Cold glass, can or bottle of beer

**Come a gutser:** To fall off a horse, bike (etc) or to have an accident in general

**Come good:** Turn out all right, as in “It will all come good in the end”

**Come the raw prawn:** Attempt to deceive, as in ‘Don’t come the raw prawn with me’

**Compo:** Worker's Compensation (now known as Work Cover)

**Coo-ee:** Bush call that travels over a long distance, used now as general call of attention or greeting

**Cop a load or Cop a squiz:** Draw attention to something, as in “Cop a load of that!”

**Cozzie:** Short for swimming costume, also called bathers, togs

**Crack a tinnie or Crack a tube:** Open a can of beer

**Crikey:** Expression of surprise

**Cripes:** Expression of surprise

**Crook:** Being sick (of object) or when something is wrong or broken, as in ‘I’m feeling a bit crook’ or ‘It’s a bit crook of the boss to make you work overtime’

**Crow eater:** Someone who lives in the state of South Australia

**Cuppa:** Cup of tea or coffee

**Cut lunch:** A meal (usually sandwiches) that you make at home and bring to school or work

**Dag:** A dork; an inept person; someone who dresses unfashionably (can either be affectionate or mildly derogatory or both). From sheep **dags**, which are the bits of wool around a sheep’s bottom

**Daks:** Pants or trousers

**Damper:** Bush bread made from flour, water and not much else, cooked in the ashes of a camp fire

**Dead horse** (Rhyming slang): Tomato sauce or ketchup

**Derro:** Hobo or tramp (short for derelict)

**Deli:** Delicatessen

**Digger:** World War 1 veteran, originated from the way these soldiers used to dig trenches

**Dill:** An idiot, someone who is not very intelligent

**Dingbat:** Stupid person or a fool

**Dinky-di:** Genuinely Australian

**Dipstick:** Loser, idiot

**Do a runner:** Flee, desert, abandon

**Do the dirty:** Use unfair tactics or cheat; infidelity

**Do your block:** Lose your temper

**Dob:** To tell on someone. A **Dobber** dobs someone in

**Docked:** To have your pay reduced, as in “My pay was docked because I chucked a sickie” (see **Chuck a sickie**)

**Docket:** A bill, receipt

**Dodgy:** unreliable, illegal

**DOLE** – Unemployment payment (financial assistance from the government’s social welfare system)

**Done like a dog’s breakfast:** Completely finished

**Don’t come the raw prawn:** ‘Don’t try and fool me’

**Dork:** Fool or idiot

**Down under:** Generally used overseas to refer to Australia

**Drama queen:** Someone who makes a big deal out of little things

**Drongo:** A dope, stupid person

**Drop kick:** Same as a **Drongo** (see above)

**Drop off your twig (off your perch):** To die, pass away

**Drown some worms:** Go fishing

**Drum:** To give someone the ‘drum’ is to explain something to them. Also used to describe being lectured

**Duffer (cattle):** rustler. Also used interchangeably with **Drongo**, **Drop kick** and **Dork**

**Dunny:** Outhouse or an outdoor toilet

**Dunny budgie:** Blowfly

**Dunny rat:** Very cunning; sly

**Earbash:** To constantly yell at, talk to, or harangue someone

**Elbow grease:** vigorous hard work, as in “You’ll need a bit of elbow grease to get that room clean.”

**ESKY....** Brand name of a portable polytherene ice cooler or ice box. Used to keep food and drinks cool, particularly Tinnies (See **Tinnies**)

**Fair dinkum:** Absolutely true; fair. Often used as a question, as in ‘Are you being fair dinkum with me?’

**Fair go:** Equal chance given to someone for a try or an effort to try out

**Fairy Floss:** Proper word for Cotton Candy

**Fanny:** Crude term for female genitalia: if you want to avoid embarrassment, don’t use in public

**Feral:** An animal once domesticated now gone wild, such as a cat, dog or pig. Also used to describe an unkempt or wild looking person. “Feeling feral” means you are feeling rotten, unwell or out of sorts.

**Fib:** A white lie

**Fibber:** Someone who tells lies

**Five finger discount:** Stolen an article by shoplifting

**Five o’clock shadow:** Growth of stubble on a man's face

**Flake:** Shark meat sold in Fish & Chip shops

**Flaked out:** Asleep, usually from drinking too much alcohol

**Flamin’:** Very handy word used when you don’t want to use a strong swear word, as in ‘Get out of here you flamin’ mongrel’ (See **Mongrel**)

**Flat out or Flat chat:** Going very fast

**Flat out like a lizard drinking:** A play on the term **Flat out**. If a person says they are flat out like a lizard drinking they are actually doing bugger all (see **Bugger**)

**Flogged:** Beat someone or a team by a big margin, from being flogged (whipped)

**Footy:** Australian Rules Football

**Fossick:** Search (usually for small items or for mineral deposits)

**FOUR X (XXXX):** Brand of beer

**Four n' Twenty Pies:** A popular brand of meat pie

**Freebie:** 'Gratis' or give away, as in 'I didn't have to pay for it. It was a freebie'

**F\*\*K:** Second most offensive word in the English language; a vulgar word to describe the sex act. Strine's use it a lot and for all sorts of reasons, but unless you know that the person you are talking to won't be offended, DON'T USE IT. If someone tells you to **f\*\*k off** or get **f\*\*cked** they are not being nice (though good friends may use it when joking amongst themselves). By the way, the 2 missing letters are **U** and **C**. The most offensive word is **C\*\*T**, a vulgar term for a woman's genitalia, though for some strange reason women are never called **C\*\*Ts**, only men. Regardless, NEVER call ANYONE this unless you want to be truly offensive. And the missing letters are **U** and **N**.

**Full as a boot:** Very full; intoxicated

**Full as a goog:** As above

**Full on:** Intense

**Furphy:** Rumour or false story

**Galah:** Pink and grey cockatoo, sometimes used as a derogatory term meaning 'idiot' as in 'Oh you silly galah'

**G'day:** Popular Strine greeting, short for 'good day.'

**Game:** Brave, up for it, as in 'I'm game if you are'

**Gander:** Look at something, as in 'Let's have a gander in this shop'

**Garbo:** Person who collects your rubbish

**Garn:** Strine for 'going' as in 'Howza garn?' (See **Howza garn**)

**Gas bag:** Talk a lot, someone who talks a lot

**Geez:** Short for Jesus, used in a derogatory sense, as in 'Geez you're a galah' (See **Galah**)

**Get a wriggle on:** Hurry up

**Get nicked:** Get lost, go away. If someone tells you to get nicked, they want you to shoot through (See **Shoot through**)

**Get knotted:** A rude rebuff, or dismissal

**Give it away:** Give up or stop trying

**Give it a burl:** Have a go or give it a try

**Gob:** The mouth

**Gone troppo:** Moved to the tropical end of Australia or become crazy because of the heat and maybe a drink or two or twenty

**Good onya:** Expression of approval, or encouragement, as in 'Well done'

**Goog** (pronounce the 'oo' as in **book**): Strine for egg; see **Full as a goog**

**Got up your goat:** Really upset you, irritated and annoyed you (also **Got up your nose**)

**Grazier:** Large scale sheep or cattle farmer

**Greenie:** An environmentalist. Sometimes used deprecatingly

**Grizzle:** Complain, whinge

**Grog:** Alcohol or alcoholic drink

**Grotty:** Very dirty or an untidy person can be referred to as a **Grot**

**G-string:** Ozzie word for 'thong'. 'Thong' in Australia means something else altogether (See **Thong**)

**Gunna:** Strine for 'going to' as in 'I'm gunna go to the Footy tomorrow' (See **Footy**)

**Gutless wonder:** Coward; someone with all talk and no action

**Hammer and tongs:** With great energy, as in 'He went at it hammer and tongs'

**Hang a U-ee** - make a U-turn. Also Hang a right (turn right) Hang a left (turn left) etc

**Hang on a tick, Hang on a sec:** Wait a minute

**Heaps:** Lots, as in 'I have heaps of mates' (See **Mate**)

**Hey:** Used to get someone's attention, as in 'Hey, get over here!' Can also be used as an affirmative, as in 'Hey, that's great.' Yet another use is as a greeting, as in 'Hey there, nice to see you.'

**Hills Hoist:** A brand/design of clothes line (shaped like an umbrella); also used as metaphor for suburbs or suburban lifestyle

**Hit the Turps:** Go on a drinking binge (alcohol)

**Hoges:** Affectionate nickname for Paul Hogan (Australian actor)

**Hooly Dooly:** An expression of surprise

**Homestead:** Main residence on a sheep or cattle station (ranch or farm)

**Hoon:** Close relation of a **Bogan**. **Hoon** is also Strine for driving fast and dangerously

**Hoo-roo:** Call of greeting or to check if someone is around (mainly used by elderly Australians)

**Hottie:** Hot water bottle, also used to describe an attractive woman

**Howza Garn?** Popular Strine greeting which loosely translates as 'How are you going?' or 'How are things going for you?' The general response to this is, 'Yeah, priddy good thanks mate' (See **Priddy** and **Mate**)

**Howzat?** Popular Aussie cricket term used when appealing to the umpire for an 'out' in a cricket match

**Icy pole:** Proper word for popsicle

**Idiot box:** Television

**Iffy:** Something is risky or suspect, as in 'That bald tyre looks a bit iffy to me'

**Illywhacker:** A con man who used to prey on the gullible at country shows and fairs.

**Irrits:** Irritating, as in 'Geez mate, you're giving me the irrits' (See **Geez** and **Mate**)

**In good nick:** In good condition

**In the know:** Having inside information

**Jack of it:** Fed up with it (had enough of a situation)

**Jackaroo/Jillaroo:** Apprentice worker on a cattle station

**Jarmies:** Pajamas; night dress or p.j.'s

**Jeffed:** Done over; fired, sacked or taken for granted (alludes to a former Victorian Liberal leader, Jeff Kennett)

**Jibber:** Talk a lot, usually about nothing important

**Jiffy:** Short time, as in 'I'll be back in a jiffy'

**Jiggered:** Broken; exhausted

**Jocks:** Male underwear, briefs

**Joe Bloggs:** Ordinary person; common civilian; equivalent of US 'Joe Public'

**Joey:** Baby kangaroo

**Journo:** Journalist

**Jumper:** Proper word for Sweater

**Kerfuffle:** Argument or disturbance

**Kelpie:** Australian sheepdog originally bred from Scottish collie

**Kero:** Short for kerosene

**Kick in the teeth:** A severe set back

**Kick the bucket:** Die, pass away

**Kindie:** Kindergarten

**King Dick:** Somebody with a very high opinion of themselves

**Kip:** Short rest or sleep or nap

**Kit 'n' Kaboodle:** All of it, everything

**Kiwi:** Person from New Zealand

**Klicks:** Kilometres, as in 'Ballarat is about 100 klicks from Melbourne'

**Knackered:** Tired; exhausted

**Knackers:** Testicles

**Knickers in a knot:** To get one's knickers (underwear) in a knot is to become agitated, flustered, bothered (about something)

**Knock:** To criticise, as in 'Don't knock the Prime Minister: he's a lovely bloke' (See **Bloke**)

**Knock Back:** Refuse to do something or take something; or eat or drink fast, as in 'Geez, he knocked that back priddy fast!' (See **Geez** and **Priddy**)

**Knock it off:** Stop it

**Knock it on the head:** Put a stop to it

**Knocked back:** Rejected

**Knocker:** One who criticises

**Knocked off work:** Finished work for the day

**Lady Muck:** A woman who puts on airs and graces

**Laid back:** Relaxed; informal

**Lairy:** Flashy

**Lark:** High jinks, up to no good

**Lame brained:** Someone who is stupid (See also **Dork**, **Boofhead**, **Galah** etc)

**Lamington:** Australian sponge cake dipped in chocolate then rolled in coconut

**Larrikin:** If your mate is a bit of a **Galah** but you like him, you might call him a larrikin

**Laughing Gear:** The mouth

**Lead foot:** A fast, reckless driver (See also **Hoon**)

**Legend:** Term of approval/admiration for someone who has accomplished an amazing feat

**Lift:** Proper word for elevator

**Like a stunned mullet:** Bewildered

**Like a ton of bricks:** With great force

**Like a two-bob watch:** Unreliable

**Like the clappers:** Very fast

**Lingo:** Language

**Little Aussie Battler:** Used to refer to any working class person fighting against great odds (has become clichéd and has started being used in a derogatory sense)

**Living on the bones of your arse:** Living on little money; being broke and struggling

**Lob in/Lob over:** Drop in for a visit

**Lollies:** Proper word for candy and sweets

**Lolly water:** Non-alcoholic soft drink

**London to a brick:** Absolute certainty

**Loo:** Toilet

**Low down (The):** Current information

**Lurk:** A scheme, possibly illegal. Also used to describe someone who is onto a good thing, as in 'He's on a good lurk' (See also **On a good wicket**)

**Mad as a cut snake:** Used to describe someone who's gone a bit troppo/berko (See **Troppo** and **Berko**)

**Maggies:** Short for Magpies, a common black and white bird, also an AFL football team, Collingwood)

**Make a quid:** Earn a living

**Malarkie:** Foolish talk

**Mangy:** (Pronounced 'Mainjee') Shabby or flea bitten

**Mate:** A friend. Used only to be applied to blokes but can be used on sheilas too (See **Bloke** and **Sheila**)

**Me:** Strine pronunciation of My, as in 'Me husband's been a bit crook' (See **Crook**)

**Mexican:** Term Queenslanders use to refer to people from New South Wales or Victoria, who are 'south of the border'

**Middy:** 285 ml beer glass

**Milk Bar:** Little corner shop selling overpriced groceries

**Missus:** The wife

**Moggy:** Cat (non-pedigree)

**Mongrel:** A mixed breed dog; also used as an insult, as in 'Get nicked ya mongrel!' (See **Get nicked**)

**Moo Juice:** Milk

**Moosh (rhymes with bush):** Your mouth

**Mop:** Hair

**More than you can poke a stick at:** A lot of something, too many to count

**Mozzie:** Short for mosquito (also commonly referred to as **Flamin' Mongrels**)

**Muddie:** Mud crab

**Mug:** Friendly insult, as in 'Have a go ya mug'

**Mull:** Marijuana

**Mullet:** Unfashionable hairstyle of the mid 1980's, short on the top and sides and long at the back. Wearers of the Mullet are often accused of being Bogans (See **Bogan**)

**Nackered:** Absolutely exhausted or very tired

**Nads:** Testicles (gonads)

**Nappy:** Proper word for Diaper

**Narky:** Someone who is narky is a little irritable or cross

**Nellie:** Cheap red wine

**Never-never:** The middle of nowhere

**News Agent:** Newspaper shop

**Nick:** Steal

**Nick off:** 'Go away!' 'Get Lost!'

**Niggling:** Pain or situation that won't go away, as in 'I have a niggling back pain'

**Nipper:** Young child

**Nippy:** Cold weather, as in 'It's a bit nippy out today'

**No Hoper:** Someone who is a hopeless case, as in 'You are such a no hoper'

**No worries:** Very popular Strine term that means 'No problem' and is sometimes used as an expression of reassurance, as in 'No worries, I can get that for you'

**Nong:** Fool, idiot (see also **Berk**, **Dork**, **Galah** etc)

**Not the full quid:** Not bright; intellectually slow

**Nuddy:** Naked or in the nude, as in 'He was running around in the nuddy'

**Ocker:** Uncouth, crude, loutish Australian (half the **bloody** population). (See **bloody**)

**Off your trolley:** Mad, irrational, completely over the top

**Off the beaten track:** On a road not used very much, or no road at all or in a remote part of Australia

**Off-sider:** Assistant or partner (a cricketing term)

**Oldies:** Parents

**On a good wicket:** Being fortunate without having to work for it (a cricketing term)

**On a sticky wicket:** Having bad luck; an awkward situation (a cricketing term)

**On the blink:** Not working or broken, as in 'Me car's on the blink' (See **Me**)

**On the blower:** On the telephone

**Once over:** Looking something or someone over/ checking out something or someone

**Onya mate:** Short for 'Good on you mate' which loosely translates as 'Well done my friend' (See **Good onya** and **Mate**)

**Op shop:** Short for Opportunity Shop, a second hand charity store

**Open slather (pronounced with a short 'a' as in lather):** Free-for-all, anything goes

**Out of whack:** Not working properly; sick or disorderly

**Outback (The)** Sparsely populated or uninhabited regions away from suburbia, towns or metropolitan areas

**Oz or Land of Oz:** Australia

**Pack a wollup:** Punch with considerable force

**Pack of Galahs:** Group of people behaving like berks (See **Berk**)

**Paddock:** Proper word for field or meadow

**Pain (Bit of a):** Used to describe your slight annoyance at someone or something, as in 'She's nice but a bit of a pain'

**Pash or Pash off:** Kiss passionately

**Pavlova:** Traditional Australian meringue and cream dessert

**Perve:** To look at lustfully, derived from 'pervert'

**Pesky:** Annoying

**Piked:** Someone who has given up or failed to attend something is said to have piked it or piked out

**Piker:** Someone who has piked out

**Pinch:** Steal

**Piss:** Be wary of using this word in public. Although it can mean an alcoholic drink, it is also a vulgar term for urine and many people find it VERY offensive. This doesn't stop many Australians from using the word in all sorts of ways (see below) but they do so carefully and not in front of their mothers

**Piss all over:** Defeat

**Pissed:** Americans use this expression to mean 'angry' but in Strine it means very drunk

**Pissed off:** This is the version Strine's use to mean angry. Confused? It's easy. You can be pissed (drunk) or pissed off (angry)

**Piss head:** Drunkard or a hard drinking person

**Piss off:** Go away! Get lost! If someone tells you to piss off, leave quickly because they really mean it. NEVER tell someone to piss off unless you like violent confrontations

**Piss up:** Party in which alcoholic beverages will be consumed

**Piss weak:** No good, gutless or cowardly

**Play funny buggers:** Be foolish; deceitful

**Playing Possum:** Pretending you are not available; lying low; playing dead

**Plonk:** Cheap alcohol or wine

**Plumber's cleavage:** Someone whose plumber's cleavage is showing is wearing their pants too far down at the back and revealing a bit too much

**Pokies:** Poker Machines

**Pom (Pommy):** Strine for an English (British) person

**Postie:** Short for post officer

**Pot:** 285 ml beer glass in Queensland and Victoria

**Pozzie:** Short for position; as in a queue or a sporting event

**Prang:** Motor vehicle accident

**Prezzie:** Present (gift)

**Priddy:** Strine for 'pretty'

**Pub:** Hotel, place for buying and drinking alcohol (short for public house)

**Pull the belt in:** Stop spending money; get a budget

**Pull your head in:** Mind your own business, shut up

**Push bike:** Bicycle

**Quid:** Strine term for money

**Rack off:** Go away, get lost. A slightly less offensive version of 'piss off': telling someone to go away, right now

**Rafferty's rules:** Every thing is a mess and mixed up, done all wrong, with no rules at all

**Rage:** Party

**Rapt:** Overjoyed

**Ratbag:** A sly, cunning and unethical person

**Rego:** Car Registration

**Rellies:** Relatives

**Ridgy Didge:** Original, genuine

**Ringer:** Fast sheep shearer

**Rip off:** Overly expensive

**Ripped off:** You've been cheated

**Ripper:** Great, fantastic, as in 'You little ripper!'

**Rip snorter:** Something really good

**Road train:** Big semi trailer truck with many trailers

**Rock up:** Show up or walk in; approach

**Roly:** Roll-your-own cigarettes using papers and tobacco

**Roo:** Short for kangaroo

**Root:** Although this term is sometimes used to mean 'tired', it is more often used to mean having sex. Can be very offensive to some people, so don't use it in public

**Rooted:** Tired (although can mean someone has had sex, so beware)!

**Ropable (pronounced rope able):** Extremely angry or bad tempered

**Rough end of the pineapple:** You got a bad deal

**Sacked:** Fired from work

**Salvo:** Member of the Salvation Army (also called Sallies)

**Sand groper:** Person from Western Australian

**Sanga:** Sandwich

**Scallops:** Fried Potato cake in New South Wales, shellfish elsewhere

**Sallywag:** Rascal

**Schooner:** Large beer glass

**Shooter:** Short alcoholic drink

**Scorcher:** Very hot day

**Scrub:** Outback or 'the bush'

**Scungy:** Unpleasant; cheap

**See ya:** Short for see you later. A friendly version of goodbye, the intention being that you will see the person again. See ya later is sometimes used also.

**See you in the soup:** See you around; see you again

**Semi trailer:** Articulated truck

**Servo:** Petrol station

**Sheila:** A woman or girl

**She'll be right:** It will be okay

**She's sweet:** Everything is fine

**Shirty:** Upset, angry

**Shit:** This is a vulgar term for defecate, but like 'piss' is used by many Strines to mean either 'very' (see below) or as an expletive, as in 'Shit! That's terrible!' Either way, it's best not to use it in public as many people find it very offensive

**Shit faced:** Very drunk

**Shit scared:** Very scared

**Shonky:** Unreliable, a very suspect deal

**Shoot through:** Leave hurriedly

**Shout:** A round of drinks for an entire group paid by the one who calls the shout. Or in general usage, it's the equivalent of the American 'treat,' as in 'I'll shout you lunch'/ 'I'll treat you to lunch'

**Shove off:** Go Away!

**Sickie:** Paid day off sick from work

**Skedaddle:** Depart quickly

**Skyte:** To boast or brag about ones personal accomplishments

**Slab:** A carton of 24 bottles, stubbies or cans of beer

**Sleep out:** Patio or verandah used for sleeping

**Sloshed:** Very drunk

**Slouch:** Lazy person

**Slow as a wet weekend:** Doing something very slowly; endlessly

**Smells ripe:** Smells off or bad

**Smoko:** Short break from work; traditionally the time when people would stop work for a cigarette

**Snag:** A sausage OR a problem OR a cute guy with an income. Take your pick

**Snog:** To kiss and cuddle. When used as a noun, the act of kissing and cuddling

**Soft drink:** Proper word for soda pop

**Swanky:** Something that looks expensive

**Soldier:** (Western Aus.) bottle of beer

**Sook (pronounced 'oo' as in book):** Shy, timid person. Also a bit of a cry-baby. The adjective is *sooky*

**Spag:** Spaghetti

**Sparky:** Electrician.

**Spin:** Short car journey

**Spit the dummy:** Throw a tantrum

**Spud:** Strine for potato

**Spack attack:** Throw a tantrum

**Spunk:** An attractive person; is also used in other English speaking countries to mean spermatozoa, so use with caution

**Sprung:** Caught doing something wrong

**Stick in the mud:** A piker, someone who won't allow you to do something (See **Piker**). Often a parent.

**Sticky beak:** Someone who is always poking their nose in other peoples' business

**Stir (Shit stir):** Tease or joke with person

**Stoked:** Very pleased

**Stone the crows:** Exclamation to denote surprise or amazement; the equivalent of 'Heaven Forbid!'

**Strides:** Trousers

**Strine:** Australian dialect (Word popularised by a book on Australian language called 'Let's Talk Strine' – a lexicon of modern Strine Usage by Afferbeck Lauder, published in 1974) **Strine** is short for the word 'Australian'

**Struth:** Exclamation of exasperation and amazement

**Stubby:** A small bottle of beer

**Stuffed:** Very tired; very full

**Suit:** Someone who acts in a corporate or capitalist manner (wears a suit, carries a mobile phone and laptop and drives a sports car)

**Sunbake:** Sunbathe (not recommended in Australia's harsh climate)

**Sunnies:** Sunglasses

**Sunshine state:** Queensland

**Surfies:** Surfers or Surfing fanatics

**Suss:** Suspicious, of doubtful nature, not quite right. When used as a verb, it means to probe, or prove the veracity (or falsity) of something or the bona fides of someone; or, more simply, to check out

**Swag:** Canvas bag for all your belongings and bedroll

**Swagman or swaggie:** A tramp, or homeless person in the bush who carries all possessions in a swag or a blanket

**Ta:** Short form of thank you

**Take away:** Take-home or take-out order of food

**Tall poppy:** An achiever who stands out

**Tall-Poppy Syndrome:** The very Strine art of cutting 'tall poppies' down. Australians generally don't like people who think they are more important than others and will never miss an opportunity to put them in their place

**Taswegian:** Someone who comes from Tasmania

**Tea:** Used by many Australians to mean the main evening meal, or dinner. If you are invited to someone's house for tea, expect a sit down meal, not a cup of tea and scones. **Tea** also refers to a cup of tea, otherwise known as a cuppa (See **Cuppa**). The midday meal can be known as lunch or in some cases (particularly the farming community) as dinner. When in doubt, ask.

**Telly:** Short for television

**The sticks:** Out in the country

**Thong:** The proper word for flip-flops. Yes, we know that a 'Thong' is a very small undergarment in some countries but thongs were footwear in Oz long before those itty bitty undies were invented. Just so you know, we call those things G-strings, and people who wear them above their pants line are doing what is known as T-barring

**Tickets on yourself:** If someone says you have tickets on yourself, they are accusing you of having a too high opinion of yourself

**Tinnie:** 375 ml can of beer

**Togs:** Swim suits or swimming costumes, bathers

**Top End:** Northern part of Australia

**Too right:** Definitely, 'that's for sure!'

**Truckie:** Truck driver

**True blue:** Truly and genuinely Australian, dinkum (See **Dinkum**)

**Tucker:** Food

**Tucker bag:** Bag or container for food

**Tuck shop:** School canteen

**Turps:** Methylated spirit, alcohol

**Two pot screamer:** Someone who makes a fool of him or herself on little alcoholic drink

**Veg out:** Lounge around or hang about

**Wacker:** A cheeky person; larrikin (see also **Dag** and **Galah**)

**Wacko:** Can be an exclamation of pleasure and surprise, or can be used as an adjective meaning crazy

**Wagging:** Skipping school or work (playing truant)

**Walk about:** A walk or hike (originally a periodic journey of nomadic wandering taken by the indigenous Australians). If an item or person 'has gone walk about' it usually means that the person or item can not be found

**Wally:** Foolish person

**Weatherboard:** Wooden house

**Wharfie:** Dock worker

**What a bummer:** event or happening that isn't very good

**Whinge:** Complaining about a situation/thing/person. Someone who constantly complains is called a whinger

**Wicked:** Expression for 'Great!'

**Wobbly (throw a wobbly):** Disturbing unpredictable behaviour, temper tantrum

**Wonky:** Something unstable, unsteady or shaky.

**Woop woop:** A very long way away

**Wowser:** Spoilsport, puritan

**Write off:** Car involved in a crash and is not worth repairing

**Yabber:** Talk a lot

**Yabbie:** Small Australian freshwater crayfish

**Yahoo:** Noisy and unruly person

**Yakking:** Talking

**Yarn:** A story that may or may not be true, like a myth. 'Spinning a yarn' means telling a story that could be made up or might be true

**Yeah:** Commonly used instead of 'yes'

**Yeah-no:** A new Strine-ism that has many (often conflicting) uses, but is mainly used to emphasise agreement or downplay disagreement or compliments or to soften refusals, as in:

Brian: 'I hate Tony. Do you like him?'

Joe: 'Yeah-no, he's alright.' Joe wants to make it known that he does like Tony, but doesn't want to get on the wrong side of Brian either. It's like having a bet both ways.

**Yep:** Commonly used instead of 'yes'

**Yobbo:** Unsophisticated, uncouth person

**Yonks:** Ages, long time

**Yous:** Strine plural of 'you', as in 'Are yous coming over to my place?'

**Zonked:** Really tired, worn out