 Year 12 English Standard

Understanding British Slang

Task – Using the internet, discover the meaning of these British slang words.

| British slang | What it means |
| --- | --- |
| Codswallop |  |
| Dishy |  |
| To blow off |  |
| Nosh |  |
| Bloke |  |
| Shut her head |  |
| Dunno |  |
| Copper |  |
| Bly me |  |
| Garn |  |
| By George |  |
| A lick of a strap |  |
| Governor (/Guvner/) |  |
| Chap |  |
| Who the dickens? |  |
| Ripping |  |
| Swells |  |

Answer sheet

| British slang | What it means |
| --- | --- |
| Codswallop | A load of rubbish |
| Dishy | Very pretty |
| To blow off | To fail to attend or show up for |
| Nosh | To eat a snake |
| Bloke | a man |
| Shut her head | Keep her quiet |
| Dunno | Slang for Do not know |
| Copper | A large boiler |
| Bly me | Used to express surprise or excitement |
| Garn | Go on, I do not believe you |
| By George | Oh my goodness (a reference to the King) |
| A lick of a strap | Hitting with a leather strap, giving to children of that time. |
| Governor (/Guvner/) | A man of higher class status |
| Chap | A man or boy of the same social standing. |
| Who the dickens? | used for emphasis, or to express annoyance or surprise when asking questions |
| Ripping | Splendid, excellent |
| Swells |  |