 Year 12 English Standard

Understanding British Slang

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

| British slang | What it means |
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| 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 |
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| 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 |       |