



# SGMOJI

*YOUR ULTIMATE*  
**GUIDE**  
TO  
**LOCALLY-GROWN**  
**EMOJIS**



Nowadays, it's remarkably easy to express oneself using emojis. **Singlish**, 🤪 however, is a whole different bowl of soup.

Enter **SGMOJI**, a helpful guide 📖 that allows you to expertly navigate the murky waters of local speech 📣 and euphemisms.

We've compiled a comprehensive list of your favourite phrases and sayings that can be expressed using emojis, such as bo jio 🙊👧🍌 and even shiok 🤪🤪🤪.


Making blending in as easy as adding cockles to your laksa 🍲.



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**EXPRESSIONS** 😊









## ATAS

[ah-taas] ◀)

adjective  
Posh.

**Being, characteristically snobbish, arrogant, or high-class.**

"G'day ma'am, can I 'ave a bowl of won-ton may playse. With more Chillay."

"Wah! This woman carry Channel bag, wear Lewis Vuitton shoes, and got weird accent somemore. So     come here for what?", wanton mee aunty wondered.

1 .....



## AGARATION

[ah-garr-eh-shun] ◀)

noun  
Approximation.

**A rough estimation. Derived from the Malay word 'agak', which means 'to guess'.**

"Boy ah! How many teaspoons of sugar did you put into ah ma's kopi?", Mother asked.

"1? Maybe 6? Dunno lah,    only", Boy replied.

2 .....





## BO JIO

[boh ji-o] ◀)

verb  
Accusation of betrayal.

**The dastardly act of not inviting someone to an event or activity. Usually used in an accusatory manner.**

When Ronny saw the laksa stain on Johnny's shirt, he knew that the latter had gone for lunch without inviting him. " , " he whispered hoarsely, with tears in his eyes.



3 .....



## BLUR LIKE SOTONG

[bler laik sor-tong] ◀  
*adjective*  
Clueless.

A mental state where one's thoughts are unable to be processed, leaving them in a dazed, addled state.

"23+27 = 50 lah! Where got 51?! You really   man", exclaimed Raju to the young cashier.

4



## BIN CHAO CHAO

[bin chow chow] ◀  
*verb*  
Display of displeasure.

Used to describe someone with a grumpy, grim look.

"Eh don't    la. Come, I treat you potong ice cream", said Ong to his little sister.


5



## BO TAK CHEK

[boh takh chek] ◀  
*noun*  
An uneducated person.

A term used to describe someone who did not complete his or her studies. Usually used in a self-deprecating manner.

"Boy ah, you need to study harder. Don't become like father...   ... very hard to find job."

6



## BAK JIU TAK STAMP

[bak jiew tuck stamp] ◀  
*adjective*  
Temporary blindness.

Being unable to see, just like having postage stamps pasted on both eyes.

"You 📧👁️📧? Got \$50 drop on the floor you also cannot see?"

7



## BUAY TAHAN

[boo-eh ta-han] ◀  
*interjection*  
To reach one's limits.

A proclamation that one's patience or endurance has hit its limits, unable to take the suffering any longer.

"Why this Johnny talk to other girls suddenly got different accent one? 🖐️😞!", said a girl that Johnny had just talked to.

8



## BUAY ZHUN

[boo-eh chun] ◀  
*adjective*  
Inaccurate.

To describe people or objects that are unreliable, cannot be trusted.

"Dear, our weighing machine 🧑🏻📐🎯 leh. Yesterday I 50kg. Today I 55kg! How can?", Mary yelled.

"Don't blame the machine", Tat replied nonchalantly to his wife.

9



## BAO KA LIAO

[pao ka lee-ow] 🗨️  
adjective  
Do-all.

A term used to describe someone so efficient and adept at taking care of everything, that one does not have to worry.

"Intro you this 📁 100 guy that I know for your project. He can write script, shoot video, and can act also."

10 .....



## CUA SAI

[choo-ah sigh] 🗨️  
verb  
Mortified.

In an intense state of terror, to a point where one loses bodily control.

"WAH!! Now hungry ghost festival, you don't turn off lights and put face mask can? I 😱💩 you know?!"

11 .....



## CATCH NO BALL

[catch no ball] 🗨️  
verb  
Unable to grasp concepts.

A term to describe people or concepts that are impossible to understand, incomprehensible.

"Today's lecture totally 🙄🙄🙄. To understand this professor I think I need a crystal ball."

12 .....





## COME I CLAP FOR YOU

[come I clap for you] ◀  
verb  
To feign support.

Clapping hands together, either in a fast or slow manner, as a sarcastic response when other party is expecting a positive remark.

"When I saw that it was 19:59 at the ERP gantry, I faster jammed brake. 10 seconds later, I saved \$!!"

"👏.....👏", Derek responded.

13 .....



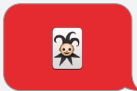
## DON'T LIDDAT

[dun lie-dat] ◀  
verb  
A desperate plea.

Heartfelt request for leniency towards oneself.

"Cher, 🙏❤️. I just need just one more point to pass..!", pleaded Ong to his Math teacher.

14 .....



## PICTURE!

[pik-cher!] ◀  
noun  
Jack, Queen and King in a deck of playing cards.

A loud exclamation undergirded by the belief that a facedown card can be transfigured into something desirable by sheer force of will.

"👎! 👎! 👎!", shouted Beng, hoping for a 🃏. Unfortunately, he was dealt a five.

15 .....



## DON'T PLAY PLAY

[dun pleh pleh] 🗣️

*verb*

To not mess around.

Usually used as a warning. Ignoring this warning invites severe consequences.

"Eh his soccer skills damn power one. They call him the Lampard of Singapore. Eh... Better 🧑🎮🎮!"

16 .....



## EXTRA

[ex-tra] 🗣️

*adjective*

The odd one out.

Used to describe a person who does not fit into the group. Usually doing something conspicuous, sticking out like a sore thumb.

"Why we go dating you always bring your brother? He very 😄😄👽 leh."

17 .....



## GONE CASE

[gone case] 🗣️

*adjective*

A lost cause.

Used to describe a situation where one has given up hope.

Jane: "Oh no, I didn't have time to answer the last question. This time ✈️👜."

John: "I didn't complete five. I more ✈️👜."

Jane: "Then I got hope already."

18 .....



## JIALAT

[chiah-laht] ◀▶

*interjection*

Disastrous instance.

**A problematic situation, object, or activity that drains time, money or energy.**

"🍴🔪🦾, it's the middle of the month and my bank no money already."

"Who ask you go casino?"

19 .....



## JIAK KAN TANG

[ji-ak kan tang] ◀▶

*adjective*

Anglophile.

**An Asian person that acts like he or she is Caucasian.**

"Brian really 🍴🥘. Until he met this girl from China. Suddenly he is a Mandarin linguist."

20 .....



## JIAK LIAO BI

[ji-aak lee-ow bee] ◀▶

*adjective*

Good for nothing.

**A term used to describe someone whom rice is being wasted on.**

"Our IT department 🍴🔪🦾🍚 one lah. I think I fix my own computer faster", Heng quipped.

21 .....



## JELAT

[je-lat ] ◀)

adjective

Over-satiated.

Having had too much of a certain food item, to a point where one feels queasy, accompanied by vows to never eat said food ever again.

"My mother just bought 6 boxes of Kueh Lapis. Now every morning eat until 🍴🍴🤢."

"Don't complain. I drink plain water for breakfast only."

22.....



## KAYPOH

[kae-po] ◀)

adjective

Nosy.

One who loves to meddle in the affairs of others.

"Eh, say leh... Who is it... Tell me leh... Don't like that... We good friends right? Say lah... I treat you drink. Just tell me, I won't tell others one. What's the first letter of his name? Any clues?"

"Cheng, don't so 🔍📹 can?"

23.....



## KAN CHEONG

[gan chee-ong] ◀)

adjective

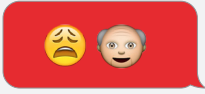
Frazzled, jittery, panicky.

A state of being characterised by excessive nerves and an inability to relax.

"Girl ah! Wake up! It's 6.30am already!"

"Ma, don't 🏃🏃🏃🏃 can, it's only 6."

24.....



## WAH LAU

[wah la-o] ◀  
*interjection*  
 An exclamation  
 of indignation.

A term that literally means 'My father!' in Hokkien. Used to express annoyance, disbelief, frustration, surprise, or exasperation, for example: Oh my god, oh my goodness, oh no, oh yes, wow, argh, ugh.

"😞👴! Work so hard, earn so little. No raise, no bonus also. Only get one \$88 ang pow every year!"

25 .....



## LOBANG

[loh-bang] ◀  
*noun*  
 The gift of opportunity.

A term that literally means 'hole' or 'void' in Malay. Used to describe a great deal, insider news or contact.

From gigs to electronics, Viknesh had a 🕳️ for everything. But one thing he didn't have a 🕳️ for was love—one that could fill the loneliness in his heart.

26 .....



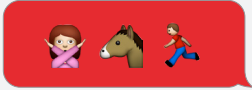
## LAU HONG

[lao hong] ◀  
*adjective*  
 Stale.

A term that literally means 'leaked air' in Hokkien, derived from a balloon or tyre losing its pressure. Used to describe food that has lost its crunch or has turned stale.

"Xiao Ming was so hungry, I caught him eating 🗡️🎈 keropok. So poor thing."

27 .....



## BO BEH ZHAO

[boh bay jow] ◀  
*adjective*  
Top class.

Derived from the Hokkien term that literally translates to 'no horse run', to mean someone or something exceptionally good that's practically unbeatable in quality.

"This Sergeant really 🧑🏻🏠👤 man, one strand of hair on my pillow also can spot."

"You botak how come got long hair one?"

28.....



## OWN TIME OWN TARGET

[own time own target] ◀  
*adverb*  
At your own pace.

A term borrowed from the military, which means to 'fire at will'. In everyday context, it refers to doing things at your own pace, as you please.

"This job not very urgent. You 🕒🎯 finish."

"Means can give you next month lah?"

"You wish."

29.....



## POK KAI

[pohkgai] ◀  
*noun*  
A state of bankruptcy.

A term in Cantonese that means 'go die on the streets'. However, when used in Singapore, it refers to one going broke, bankrupt, or out of business.

Tapping randomly, baby Shaun unknowingly purchased \$2000 worth of apps on his father's iPad, causing him to go 📱📱.

30.....



## SHIOK

[shee-ouk] 🗨️  
*interjection*  
 An exclamation  
 of pleasure.

An expression to denote extreme  
 pleasure or to describe something  
 of exceptional quality.

"👄👄👄👄👄👄👄👄👄👄👄👄",  
 Seng mumbled as he sucked out  
 the last remaining flesh in the claw  
 of his Chilli Crab.

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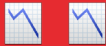
## SABOH

[sa-bho] 🗨️  
*verb*  
 Sabotage.

Used to describe betrayal or  
 backstabbing. Usually resulting  
 in trouble.

"Why you 🔪👑 me?!"  
 Beng screamed at Seng,  
 who posted all of last night's  
 photos on Facebook.

32



## SPOIL MARKET

[spoil mahket] 🗨️  
*verb*  
 To overachieve.

Making others look bad  
 because of one's exceptional  
 performance.

"First date already go Paris? You  
 damn 📈📈 sia!"

33



## SWEE SWEE BO ZHAO ZHUI

[sh-we sh-we boh za-o jwee] ◀▶  
*adjective*  
Excellence.

Used to describe something or someone of superior quality, like a water-tight container that does not leak.

"Mr Chew, why is my ceiling leaking water?"

"That one is another contractor upstairs. My work is one."

34 .....



## STUNNED LIKE VEGETABLE

[stunned like vech-table] ◀▶  
*verb*  
Incapacitated.

A term popularised by actor Chen Tian Wen, used to describe a state in which one is incapacitated, smitten or lovestruck.

"We only dated for 2 months when he proposed. I was !"

35 .....



## SIMI SAI

[see-mee sa-i] ◀▶  
*pronoun*  
Whatever.

A term that literally means 'what nonsense'. Can also mean 'whatever' or 'anything'.

Xiao Ming is like a garbage can. also eat.

36 .....





## SORRY NO CURE

[sorry no cure] ㊦)  
verb  
A pointless apology.

A situation where the injured party feels that an apology is insufficient to alleviate a situation.

"Sorry, I never like your Instagram post."

"🙏🏻 ❌ 💊 ."

37 .....



## STYLO MILO

[stai-lo mai-lo] ㊦)  
adjective  
Impressively stylish.

Often used to describe an impressively slick fashion choice.

Heng wore a suit in the 30-degree heat to meet his future in-laws.

"Must be 😎 ☕ 🍫 ", he said.

It was a decision that he immediately regretted.

38 .....



## SUAN

[swan] ㊦)  
verb  
To mock.

A sarcastic remark meant to point out one's shortcomings.

"Why did you 🐱👉🐱 him? He's so nice."

"Sorry bro, in this world you either

🐱👉🐱 or get 🐱👉🐱 ."

39 .....



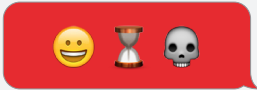
## TIO ARROW

[**teo arrow**] 🗨️  
*verb*  
Deliberately picked.

To be singled out to do work that is outside one's job scope. Usually unexpected—like being hit by an arrow out of the blue.

When boss asked who was willing to organise the next team-building activity, everyone looked towards Seng. That's when Seng knew he had been 🗨️.

40 .....



## TAN GU GU

[**tarn goo goo**] 🗨️  
*verb*  
An impossible wait.

Literally meaning “wait long long”, a sarcastic way to say ‘no’.

“Daddy can I get a car for my 21st birthday, puh-leaseee”, asked Emily.

“You 😊🕒💀”, Daddy replied.

41 .....



## TYCO

[**tai-ko**] 🗨️  
*adjective*  
Exceptionally lucky.

Used sarcastically to point out that one's success is the result of pure luck.

“Muthu's last minute goal was so 🎰⚽ ! He wasn't even wearing his glasses!”

42 .....



## WAKE UP YOUR IDEA

[wake up your idea] 🗨️

*verb*

A plea for sensibility.

Used to implore one to get  
one's act together.

"My guidance counsellor told  
me to 🙄🔴💡 or I would end  
up like him."



# ACTIVITIES





## BTO

[bee-tee-oh] 🗨️

*verb*

Abbreviation of Built-To-Order.

An acronym used in relation to the act of purchasing a new HDB unit. Also used as a form of marriage proposal.

"Darling, want 🏠💍💍?"

44.....



## CHAO KENG

[chow kheng] 🗨️

*verb*

Feigning illness.

Pretending to be unfit so that one may skip doing something they don't want to do. Usually entails Academy-award winning performances.

When it was time to book out, Richard's sprained ankle healed miraculously. That's when everyone knew he was 🎬😞.

45.....



## TEKAN

[ter-kaan] 🗨️

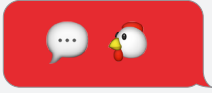
*verb*

To add pressure.

Derived from the Malay word to mean 'press'. To place someone under immense pressure, or to feel that said pressure. Can also mean to punish, bully, or abuse.

"I better go home early. My wife 🙌👩🙌 me already say I don't spend enough time with her."

46.....



## TALK COCK

[tok kok] 🗨️  
*verb*  
Idle chit chat.

The act of having a conversation with no conclusion or resolve, performed mostly to pass the time. Also, to say things that may not be true.

"My hidden talent is to 🗨️ 🐔 from sundown to sunrise."

47 .....



## TAI CHI

[tie chee] 🗨️  
*verb*  
Delegating work to others.

Pushing one's work onto others, inspired by the hand movements performed by Chinese martial artists.

"Writing this was supposed to be her job, but she 🗨️ 📝 to me."

"Ya. But why are you asking me to do it?"

48 .....



## NUA

[nu-ah] 🗨️  
*verb*  
To do nothing.

Long periods of inactivity as a result of not wanting to do anything productive.

"I 🐌 at home so long, my couch has a shape of my body."

49 .....



## PANG KANG

[pahng kahng] ◀▶

*verb*

To leave the workplace.

What's usually said when one leaves the workplace for the day, followed by a feeling of joy and relief.

"Boss today not here, it's time to early today!"

50.....



## MRT BREAKDOWN

[em-are-tee brake-dao-n] ◀▶

*verb*

Singapore's Mass Rapid Transit service disruption.

Used to describe the situation when one of the most popular mode of transport doesn't function up to expected standards, closely associated with: complaints, test of patience.

" , so I walked here."

"You stay next door. You should have walked anyway what."

51.....



## RELAC ONE CORNER

[re-lack wan kohr-nerrh] ◀▶

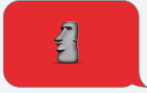
*verb*

Intense relaxation.

Phrase used to describe the act of chilling or relaxing that is so extreme that one needs the structural integrity of a corner to keep one from falling over. Not to be confused by a lax angle.

"You're too hung up on it dude. Why don't you go ?"

52.....



## STONE

[se-tone] ❧

*verb*

A state of stupor, inactivity.

Describes one being bewildered, accompanied by a waned gaze.

"Yesterday I ate six durians. After that I 🪨 all night."

53 .....



## SAI KANG

[cy karnŋ] ❧

*adjective*

Unfavourable work.

Phrase used to describe jobs or work that no one wants to do. Usually done by the lowest in the workplace food chain.

"Every day must water the boss's plants. This is damn 💩📝 man."

54 .....



## KALLANG WAVE

[car-lung way-ve] ❧

*noun*

Synchronised sports-related act.

An act that is performed when Singaporeans in large numbers gather in a stadium, where people stand up and sit back down with their arms raised in the air while exclaiming "whoa". Occasionally accompanied by feet stomping. See also: Mexican wave.

"Although I was watching at home, I joined in the 🏈🙌🙌🙌🙌🙌🙌🙌 from my couch."

55 .....





## KTV

[kay-tee-vee] ◀  
*noun*  
 Outlets with  
 karaoke facilities.

Abbreviated from the phrase Karaoke Television, this phrase is used to describe places equipped with televisions and karaoke systems, usually frequented by those who like to sing and also by those who think they can sing.

"Sorry, I can't hear you. Yesterday go 🎤📺 sing all the rock song with my friend. Now a bit deaf."

56 .....



## PONTANG

[pond-teh-ng] ◀  
*verb*  
 To skive.

The instance of purposefully not being where one is supposed to be, especially places like schools and offices.

"How come today free to go prawning?  
 You applied for annual leave?"

"No. I 🏃🏫."

57 .....



## JIAK ZUA

[chi'ah choo-ah] ◀  
*verb*  
 Also to skive.

Hokkien term that literally means, "to eat snake". Used to mean goof off, or slack off.

"I heard Dennis went prawning that day."

"I'm not surprised. He always 🍴🐍 one."

58 .....



## VOMIT BLOOD

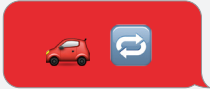
[vor-meet buh-lurd] ◀)

*verb*  
Expression of frustration.

To describe that one has reached the limit of one's frustration, to the point where one feels like it's as painful as expelling blood. Usually not to be taken literally.

"This Tommy, teach and teach, still thinks that Pythagoras theorem is about a snake. Make me want to 🤔💧🩸", said the tuition teacher.

59.....



## HORLAN

[hor-lahn] ◀)

*verb*  
Far off place, lost.

A word derived probably from the mispronunciation of Holland, to mean a location which is substantially far from where one has intended to arrive at. Found by people who follow directions from clueless friends.

"You sure this is the right way? You don't 🚗🔄 leh."

"Actually I don't know. I've never been here before."

60.....



## KENNA STOMP

[kahn-nah set-omp] ◀)

*verb*  
Public shaming online.

The terrifying instance of photos or videos of oneself caught in the act of not adhering to conventional social rules and standards being uploaded on popular public interest website STOMP.

"My mother scold me for eating on the train. I must have 📷💻. Otherwise, how she know?"

61.....





## WAYANG

[wah-young] ⓘ)

verb

The act of pretending.

Derived from the Malay word meaning "theatre", to mean that one is putting on a dramatic show in order to not reveal the truth of the matter.

Every time, when it comes to paying for a meal, Lim will   like he's lost his wallet.

62 .....



## FLY AEROPLANE

[fuh-lye eh-row-puh-lane] ⓘ)

verb

Stand up, abandon.

To not show up at an appointment, even though many arrangements have been made beforehand.

Not to be confused with a pilot's occupation. See also: pang seh

Munching on his fourteenth crab claw, Jason could barely contain his anger at his friends who   him.

63 .....





## EYE POWER

[i-pao-werrh] ⓘ)

verb

Exceptional supervisory skills.

The act of standing idly and watching while a job is being done. No actual power is used.

"When you said you'll help me move my couch, I didn't expect you to mean to just stand there and  .

64 .....



## FLYPAST

[fuh-lye puh-st] 🗣️

*noun*

Military flag showcase.

Used to describe a chinook helicopter ferrying a large Singaporean flag while flying over the Singapore skyline. Usually results in many blurry pictures uploaded to social media.

"Eh go 'like' my picture of the 🇸🇬🇮🇩 on my feed leh."

65.....



## FUN PACK

[fahn pack] 🗣️

*noun*

A patriotic gift.

Special goodie bags distributed to Singaporeans in conjunction with the country's national day. Not relevant to Permanent Residents or Long-term Visitors Pass holders.

"I love her so much I gave her my 🇸🇬🇮🇩👛. But then she go and give her mother."

66.....



## YAM SENG

[yum sing] 🗣️

*verb*

A loud toast.

Phrase often used during large gatherings in place of proposing a toast, usually shouted at the top of one's lungs.

"I would like to propose a toast to this company's splendid performance this year. 🍷🍷🍷!!!!"

67.....



PEOPLE 





## CHIOBU

[chee-oh boo] ◀▶

*noun*

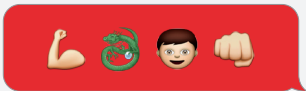
An attractive female.

A phrase used to describe females who catch the attention of males, but never used within the vicinity of said females.

"Why you kenna accident?"

"I was looking at this 🤩👁️ by the side of the road."

68.....



## AH BENG

[uh beh-ng] ◀▶

*noun*

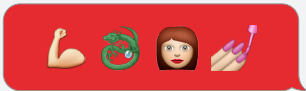
A loutish male.

A boy or man who is perceived to be uncouth, usually characterised by an inappropriate fashion sense, brightly dyed hair and matching modified mode of transportation.

There were three cars to choose from at the car dealership.

The 🦵🥬👦👊 picked the cobalt-blue one with lightning decals.

69.....



## AH LIAN

[uh lee-yen] ◀▶

*noun*

A loutish female.

A girl or woman usually associated with Ah Bongs, who also share the same characteristics of being uncouth and with even brighter dyed hair than their male counterparts.

"Boy, grandma doesn't like your new girlfriend Janelz. She says she's too 🦵🥬👧👊 for you."




70.....



## SUMMON AUNTIE

[sah-mun uhn-tee] ◀  
*noun*  
 Traffic law upholder.

**Lady who issues summons to errant motorists, with the ability to cause panic attacks and instill mild fear.**

When someone shouted “   come already!”, the whole kopitiam emptied in an instant. So did the road.


71



## NSF

[ehn-ess-eff] ◀  
*noun*  
 Abbreviation of National Service Full-time.

**Used to describe a young male high school graduate who enlists in any of Singapore’s armed forces division, and trains for two years to ensure that they are always prepared to serve the nation.**

Daniel was an  . He didn’t dare sit on the only ‘Reserved Seat’ that was vacant.



72



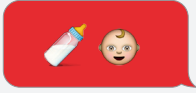
## NSMAN

[ehn-ess-mehn] ◀  
*noun*  
 Abbreviation of National Serviceman.

**Used to describe older male Singaporeans who have completed their two years of National Service training.**

Xiao Ming went back to reservist with blonde, shoulder-length hair. “  already”, he said.  
 “They won’t make me cut one.”  
 Needless to say, he was ordered to go cut it the moment he stepped into camp.

73





## GIN NAH

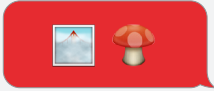
[gein-na] ◀  
noun  
Child.

Hokkien phrase that literally means 'child'. Used to describe anyone younger, or subordinates and lackeys.

"I'm quite thirsty."

"Never mind. I'll ask the   go buy coffee."

74.....



## SUAH KOO

[sue-ah coo] ◀  
noun  
Sheltered.

Literally translated as "mountain mushroom", it is used to describe people who have limited general knowledge and find everything fascinating.

"Wow! I just found out that you can send emojis with your phone!"

"  la you."





75.....



## CHIONGSTER

[chi-or-ng-stir] ◀  
noun  
Go-getter, socialite.

Describes a person who always strives to be the best at what they do. Also used in reference to a person who loves partying and is always game for any activity.

Sam is a hardcore    . So much so that he gets all his letters sent to the club he frequents.

76.....





## MUGGER

[mah-gerr] 🗨️)

*noun*

A dedicated academic.

One who diligently pores over their educational material in preparation for exams, while denying having done any revisions when asked by other students.

Robert is a 📖☕☕☕📚. Nobody in class likes him, except when he shares his notes with them.

77 .....



## LIM PEI

[leem pay] 🗨️)

*noun*

My great self.

Derived from the Hokkien phrase “your father”, used in first person context to colloquially declare oneself as the bigger, better person so that others might pay attention to what they are saying.

“You sure she likes me?”

“👉👤 can confirm, hundred percent.”

“Then what is this restraining order all about?”

78 .....



## ACT CUTE BUAY CUTE

[eckk kewt boo-ay kewt] 🗨️)

*noun*

Misguided, delusional sense of self-esteem.

Phrase used to describe a person who takes extra effort to exude cute personalities but is in actual fact far from being cute in any way.

When taking selfies, Janelz always holds her camera at a 45-degree angle above her head. Sadly, as she is 📷👉👤📷, only her Mom likes her photos.

79 .....



**FOOD & DRINK** 





## OTAH

[oh-tah] 🗨️)

*noun*

Fish cake wrapped in banana leaf.

**A fishy delight made of mackerel and wrapped in banana leaves.**

"My Instagram is just photos of 🍷🌿🐟🌿🍷."

"Okay..."

"I guess I'm an 🍷🌿🐟🌿🍷 ku."

"...Why are we friends?"

80.....



## BAK KUT TEH

[bahk-kut-teh] 🗨️)

*noun*

A hearty pork broth.

**Literally translated, it means meat bone tea. In reality, much more delicious than it sounds.**

"I love 🐷🍲. I eat it every day", said Teng.

"I can tell", replied his cardiologist.

81.....



## BEER GAO

[beer gao] 🗨️)

*noun*

A mix of beer and Guinness.

**A hawker centre lifehack for those who seek to maximise their beer's flavour.**

"Can you make my beer a 🍷🍷?"

"Do yourself. I'm not your maid."

82.....



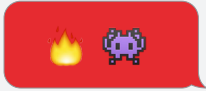
## MILO DINOSAUR

[my-low dye-no-sore] 🗣️  
*noun*  
An ASEAN cappuccino.

Made by sprinkling copious amounts of Milo powder on top of a Milo.

Charlie was a real hipster. He wasn't into lattes or flat whites. Those were too mainstream. He was a connoisseur of ☕🍫🌿.

83 .....



## CHILLI CRAB

[chi-li crab] 🗣️  
*noun*  
A spicy crabmeat dish.

The seafood of the gods, with a sauce unmatched in deliciousness.

"I love 🔥🦀!"

"I thought you were allergic to sea food?"

"YOLO!"

84 .....



## CHICKEN RICE

[chee-ken rice] 🗣️  
*noun*  
The quintessential Singaporean dish.

Made from chicken and, you guessed it, rice. Chilli sauce a requirement.

"🐔🍚 was invented in Singapore!" snarled a Singaporean.

"No, Malaysia! 🐔🍚 was invented in Malaysia!" countered a Malaysian.

85 .....



## CHAI PENG

[chai png] ◀▶

*noun*

Chinese food, usually ordered with your index finger.

Scientists have calculated that there are more combinations of this dish than atoms in the observable universe.

"Let's eat 🐔🍳🍆🍚 for dinner,"

"We had 🐔🍳🍆🍚 for lunch!"

"So?"

86.....



## ZI CHAR

[zhee char] ◀▶

*noun*

Singaporean soul food.

Chinese home-styled dishes, cooked to order at coffeeshops island-wide.

Reggie has eaten at Michelin-starred restaurants all around the world. But none of them could beat the 🐙🐟🐔🔥🍗🍗🍗 stall, located right below his home.

87.....



## TA PAU

[tah pow] ◀▶

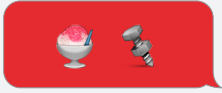
*verb*

Takeout.

For go-getters who need to get-it-to-go.

Seng needed to 🍜🎁 his Yong Tau Foo, because he didn't want to let strangers see him eating alone.

88.....



## ICE KACANG

[ais kah-chang] 🗨️

*noun*

An icy delicacy.

Takes the form of a mountainous helping of shaved ice and sugary syrup. Officially counts as a salad due to large helpings of nuts and beans.

"You are the atap chee in my 🇸🇬 🇮🇩. My precious, my only one", Seng whispered to his wife, as he swallowed the atap chee.

89.....



## FISHBALL NOODLE

[fishball nu-dell] 🗨️

*noun*

A local fish noodle dish.

Italians have spaghetti and meatballs, Singaporeans have mee pok and fishballs.

"People say that the 🇸🇬 🇮🇩 here has fishballs that are so bouncy, they can be used to play ping pong!"

90.....



**THINGS & PLACES** 





## ISTANA

[is-tah-nah] 🗣️)

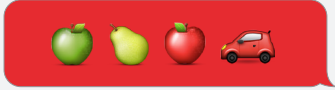
*noun*

Malay for 'palace'.

A place where the president of Singapore works and resides.

"Do you think the 🧑🏿👤 🏠 🧑🏿👤 does airbnb?", wondered Samy.

91 .....



## ORCHARD ROAD

[orh-churd road] 🗣️)

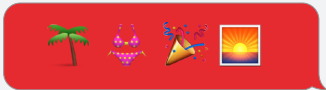
*noun*

A shopper's paradise.

Where tourists from around the world come on pilgrimages to max out credit cards.

They say you can find anything on 🍏 🍐 🍎 🚗. Even love.

92 .....



## SENTOSA

[cent-toes-ah] 🗣️)

*noun*

A resort getaway.

A smaller island paradise off our small island paradise.

Little Jennifer wanted to go to Disneyland for her 5th birthday. Her mother brought her to 🌴 🩴 🎉 🌅 instead. It will be years before she discovers the truth.

93 .....





## NIGHT SAFARI

[nite ser-fa-ri] 🗣️  
*noun*  
 Nocturnal zoo.

**The first in the world and notable tourist attraction as such.**

Johnny was hopeless at showing his foreign friends around Singapore. When they asked to see the nightlife, he took them to the 🌙 🐅 🐸 🐻

94.....



## DRAGON PLAYGROUND

[drag-on plaeg-round] 🗣️  
*noun*  
 Dragon-shaped mosaic playground.

**Prompts anyone born in the 80s to uncontrollably snap #throwbackthursdays #nostalgia #SGmemories photos.**

"When I was young, I buried my dead hamster at the 🐉 🇸🇬. I hope they haven't demolished it."

95.....



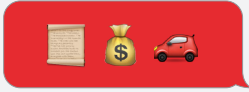
## 5Cs

[fai-sees] 🗣️  
*noun*  
 A totally achievable life goal.

**What Singaporeans think when you say happiness. Stands for Cash, Car, Card, Condo and Country Club.**

"The magical genie told Seng he would get three wishes. Seng was overjoyed. "I only need one: 🇸🇬 🚗 💳 🏠 🏌️!"

96.....



## COE

[see-oh-ee] ◀)

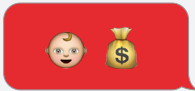
*noun*

Abbreviation of  
Certificate of Entitlement.

A sacred document that enables the ownership of a motor vehicle. Usually reducing the lifespan of a perfectly functioning vehicle to just 10 years.

"Bicycle need 📄💰🚗?",  
Muthu asked the LTA officer.

97.....



## BABY BONUS

[bay-bee bo-nus] ◀)

*noun*

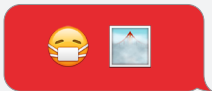
Procreation incentivisation.

They say children bring joy to the family. In Singapore's case, they bring money too.

"Why do Singaporeans need 🧒💰 to have kids?"

"If you're good at something, never do it for free."

98.....



## HAZE

[hay-zzzzz] ◀)

*noun*

A yearly obscuration of the atmosphere.

The closest thing to a Singaporean natural disaster.

"The 🌫️📱 is really bad this year. My #nofilter photos on Instagram look like got filter."

99.....

**BBDO**  
SINGAPORE

Typing...