

Abbreviation/Acronym Translation Grid Conquest

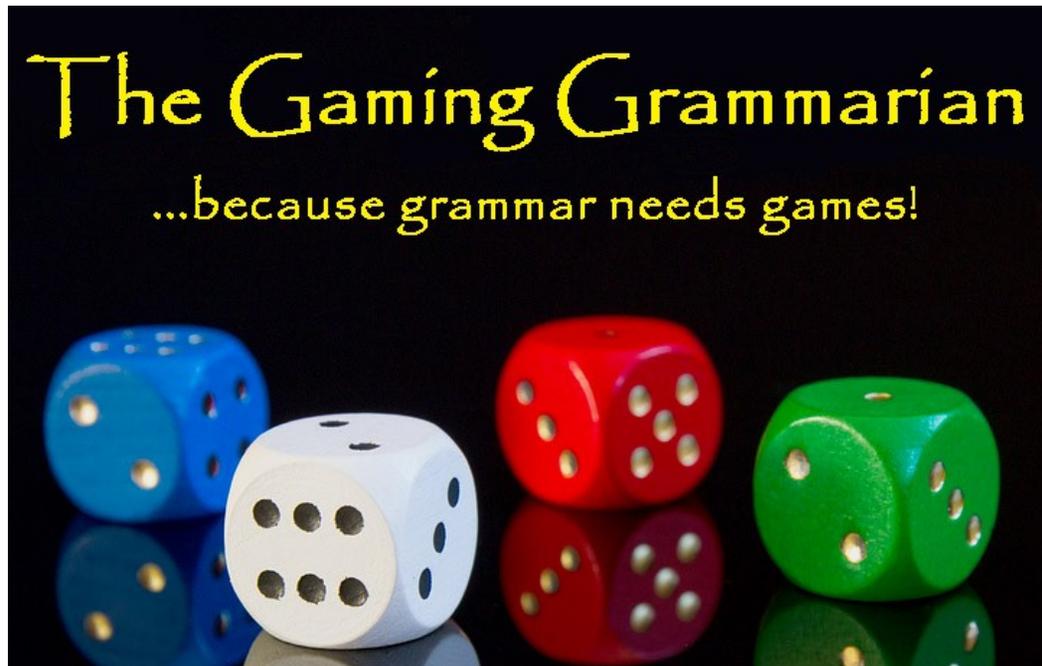
Abbreviations and acronyms are everywhere! They are so common that we often forget, or don't realize, we're using an abbreviation or acronym. Learning what they mean is an essential part of vocabulary development, especially for English language learners living in an English speaking country. This fun, easy to prepare, easy to play game is perfect for practicing "translating" common (and a few not-so-common) abbreviations and acronyms into their full names. The cards are divided into three sections: abbreviations, acronyms, and social media / SMS abbreviations. You can decide to use one set, two sets, or mix all three together.

To prepare the game:

1. Print and laminate one game board for every 2-4 students. The game is best when played with four students per group, but it works fine in pairs as well. It will work with only three players per group but one player ends up with a bit of an advantage.
2. Print, laminate, and cut the cards—one set per group. I put each set on a different color of cardstock so I can quickly separate them when I choose. Place the cards in an envelope or other container (I've used old peanut butter and similar containers and these work great.). It just needs to be something students can reach their hands in and draw cards out one at a time.
3. Print the glossary for students to reference as needed. You'll need one per group. I usually do this on regular paper.
4. Gather dry erase markers—one per student, each student in the group will need a different color.

To play:

1. Students each choose a start square and mark it with their color. Some of my students just make an X, others prefer to color it in all the way.
2. The first student draws a card from the envelope/container and reads the abbreviation or acronym aloud. (This is a great chance to practice pronunciation and remind students to put the stress on the last letter.) He/she then states what the abbreviation/acronym represents. If needed, another student can check the glossary for the answer.
3. If the answer is correct, the student claims a square on the game board and records his/her points (I give my students dry erase boards for this or tell them to use a piece of scrap paper.). The claimed square MUST share at least one side with a square he/she has already claimed (for the first turn that would be the start square). The card is discarded and play continues. If the answer is not correct, the card is discarded and the turn is forfeited.
4. If a student is no longer able to claim any more squares, he/she is out of the game. Once no one else can claim any more squares, the game is over. Students add up their points and the winner is the person with the highest total score.



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Abbreviation/Acronym Translation

Grid Conquest

START	1	2	3	4	5	4	3	2	1	START
1	2	3	4	5	6	5	4	3	2	1
2	3	4	5	6	7	6	5	4	3	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	7	6	5	4	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	8	7	6	5	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	9	8	7	6	5
4	5	6	7	8	9	8	7	6	5	4
3	4	5	6	7	8	7	6	5	4	3
2	3	4	5	6	7	6	5	4	3	2
1	2	3	4	5	6	5	4	3	2	1
START	1	2	3	4	5	4	3	2	1	START

Abbreviations

AKA	ATM	BCC	BO	BTW
BYOD	c/o	CC	DIY	DNA
DOB	e.g.	EOBD / EOD	ETA	FAQ
FYI	HTML	i.e.	ICU	ID
IM	IP	IQ	ISP	MIA
MO	P.S.	PDF	PNG	POV
PTE	Q & A	RIP	RSVP	SO
SOS	SUV	TBA / TBD	TGIF	TMI
UFO	URL	VIP	CEO	BA / BS (academics)
MA (academics)	CFO (business)	CFP	COO (business)	CPA

Abbreviations

CSO (business)	CTO (business)	ED (academics)	HR	IT
MBA	MD	PA (occupation)	PM (business)	R&D
SVP (business)	VP (business)	AD (time)	A.M.	BC (time)
BCE (time)	CE (time)	EST (time)	MPH	MST (time)
P.M.	PST (time)	CCC	CDC	CIA
CPS	CWA	DEA	DMV	DOD
FBI	FCC	FDIC	FHA	IRA
SSA	UN	USPS	3D	ABS
ADHA	AMA	BLT	CSI	NCIS
CV	DOA	FDR	GMO	HIV

Abbreviations

IVF	LBJ	OCD	OTC	PC
PE	POW	PPV	PTO	SPF
WMD	3M	AARP	AA	ACLU
AT&T	BMW	CBS	CVS	ESPN
IBM	KFC	M&Ms	NBC	NRA
REI (store)	SPCA	TCBY	ABC (news)	UPS
YMCA	AFL	FIFA	NBA	NFL
NHL	PGA	WWE	PPE	B/C
N/A	SMS	W/	W/O	

Acronyms

AFLAC	ASAP	AWOL	BAE	BASE (jumping)
BOGO	CANOLA (oil)	CAPTCHA	CARE (package)	TED (Talks)
DARPA	EPCOT	FOMO	GEICO	GIF
HIPPA	HUD	ICE (government agency)	IKEA	IMAX
JPEG	K.I.S.S. (not the band)	LASER	MADD	NABISCO
NAFTA	NASA	NASDAQ	NATO	(Navy) SEALs
OSHA	PIN	POTUS	RADAR	RAM
SCUBA	SIM (card)	SMART (car)	SMART (goals)	SONAR
YOLO	SWAT	TASER	TIME (magazine)	UNICEF
USA PATRIOT (Act)	VIN	VIRUS (computer)	ZIP (code)	YAHOO

abt / abt2	afaik	b4	bf	bff bf4l / bbfl
boyf	brb	cmb	cmon	ctn
cu / cya	cua / cul	dl	diss	dkdc
dm	dnt	ez	f	fwb
fwd	g2cu	g2g / g2r	gf	gg
gj	glhf	g.o.a.t.	gr8	gratz
h8	hv	hw	hbd	ib
ic	idc	idk	iirc	ik(r)
ilu / ily	im / imho	irl	jk	k
kthnx	l8 / l8r	lol / lolll	luv ya	m

m.i.r.l.	msg	mwah	n2m	nbd
ne / ne1	nm	np	nthng	nvr
nw	oic	om / omg	omw	ot
peak	peeps / ppl	pic	pir	pls / plz
prolly	qt	r	rly	rofl
ru / ruok	skl	smh	spk	srs / srsbsns
sry	str8	sup	tbh	tc
thx / ty	tfn / ttyl	w@	w/e	wk
WYSIWYG	y?	yr	yw	x
wtg	wrk	wbu	iso	tia

Abbreviation/Acronym Glossary

Abbreviation / Acronym	Meaning
3D	three dimensional
3M	Minnesota Mining and Manufacturing
AA	Alcoholics Anonymous
AARP	American Association of Retired Persons
ABC	American Broadcasting Company
ABS	anti-lock braking system
abt / abt2	about / about to
ACLU	American Civil Liberties Union
AD	Anno Domini
ADHD	attention deficit hyperactivity disorder
afaik	as far as I know
AFL	American Football League
Aflac	American Family Life Assurance Company of Columbus
AKA	also known as
AM	ante meridiem (Latin: before midday)
AMA	against medical advice
ASAP	As Soon As Possible
AT&T	American Telephone & Telegraph
ATM	automated teller machine / at the moment
AWOL	Absent WithOut Leave
B/C	because
b4	before
BA	bachelor of arts
Bae	Before Anyone Else
Base (jumping)	building, antenna, span, Earth

BC	Before Christ
BCC	blind carbon copy
BCE	before common era
bf	boyfriend / best friend
bff / bf4l & bbfl	best friends forever / best friends for life
BLT	bacon, lettuce, tomato
BMW	Bavarian Motor Works
BO	body odor
BOGO	buy one get one
boyf	boyfriend
brb	be right back
BS	bachelor of science
BTW	by the way
BYOD	bring your own device
c/o	care of
Canola (oil)	CANada Oil, Low Acid
CAPTCHA	Completely Automated Public turning Test to tell Computers and Humans Apart
Care (package)	Cooperative for American Remittances to Europe / Cooperative for Assistance and Relief Everywhere
CBS	Columbia Broadcasting System
CC	carbon copy
CCC	Civilian Conservation Corps
CDC	Center for Disease Control
CE	common era
CEO	chief executive officer
CFO	chief financial officer

Abbreviation/Acronym Glossary

CFP	certified financial planner
CIA	Central Intelligence Agency
cmb	call me back
cmon	come on
COO	chief operating officer
CPA	certified public accountant
CPS	Child Protective Services
CSI	crime scene investigation
CSO	chief security officer
ctn	can't talk now
CTO	chief technical officer
cu / cya	see you / see ya
cua / cul	see you around / see you later
CV	curriculum vitae
CVS	Consumer Value Store
CWA	Civil Works Administration
DARE	Drug Abuse Resistance Education
DARPA	Defense Advanced Research projects Agency
DEA	Drug Enforcement Agency
diss	disrespect
DIY	do it yourself
dkdc	don't know, don't care
dl	download
dm	direct message
DMV	department of motor vehicles
DNA	deoxyribonucleic acid

dnt	don't
DOA	dead on arrival
DOB	date of birth
DOD	department of defense
DVD	digital versatile disc
e.g.	example (Latin: <i>exempli gratia</i> , example given)
ED	doctorate of education
EOBD	end of business day
EOD	end of day
Epcot	Experimental Prototype Community of Tomorrow
ESPN	Entertainment and Sports Programming Network
EST	Eastern Standard Time
ETA	estimated time of arrival
ez	easy
f	female
FAQ	frequently asked questions
fb	Facebook
FBI	Federal Bureau of Investigation
FCC	Federal Communications Commission
FDIC	Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation
FDR	Franklin Delano Roosevelt
FHA	Federal Housing Administration
FIFA	Federation Internationale de Football Association
FOMO	fear of missing out
fwb	friends with benefits
fwd	forward

Abbreviation/Acronym Glossary

FYI	for your information
g.o.a.t.	greatest of all time
g2cu	good to see you
g2g / g2r	got to go / got to run
GEICO	Government Employees Insurance Company
gf	girlfriend
gg	good game
GIF	graphics interchange format
gj	good job
glhf	good luck, have fun
GMO	genetically modified organism
gr8	great
gratz	congratulations
h8	hate
hbd	happy birthday
HIPPA	Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act
HIV	Human Immunodeficiency Virus
HR	human resources
HTML	HyperText markup language
HUD	Department of Housing and Urban Development
hv	have
hw	hoemwork
i.e.	Latin: id est, that is
ib	I'm back
IBM	International Business Machines
ic	I see

ICE	Immigration and Customs Enforcement
ICU	Intensive Care Unit
ID	identification
idc	I don't care
idk	I don't know
iirc	if I remember correctly
ik(r)	I know (right?)
IKEA	Ingvar Kamprad Elmtaryd Agunnary
ilu / ily	I love you
IM	instant message
IMAX	Image MAXimum
imo / imho	in my opinion / in my humble opinion
IP	internet protocol
IQ	intelligence quotient
irl	in real life
IRS	Internal Revenue Service
iso	in search of
ISP	internet service provider
IT	information technology
IVF	in vitro fertilization
jk	just kidding
JPEG	Joint Photographic Experts Group
k	okay
KFC	Kentucky Fried Chicken
KISS	keep it simple stupid
kthnx	ok, thanks

Abbreviation/Acronym Glossary

l8 / l8r	late / later
Laser	Light Amplification by Stimulated Emissions of Radiation
LBJ	Lyndon Baines Johnson
lol / lolll	laugh out loud / laugh out loud a lot
luv ya	love you
m	male
M&M	Mars & Murries
m.i.r.l.	meet in real life
MA	master of arts
MADD	Mothers Against Drunk Driving
MBA	masters of business administration
MD	managing director / medical doctor
MIA	missing in action
MO	modus operandi,
MPH	miles per hour
msg	message
MST	Mountain Standard Time
mwah	to give a kiss
n/a	not available / not applicable
n2m	nothing too much
NABISCO	NAtional BIScuit COmpany
NAFTA	North American Free Trade Agreement
NASA	National Aeronautics and Space Administration
NASDAQ	National Association of Securities Dealers Automated Quotation
NATO	North Atlantic Treaty Organization
NBA	National Basketball Association

NBC	National Broadcasting Company
nbd	no big deal
NCIS	Naval Criminal Investigative Services
ne / ne1	any / anyone
NFL	National Football League
NHL	National Hockey League
nm	not much / nothing much / never mind
np	no problem
NRA	National Rifle Association
nthng	nothing
nvr	never
nw	no worries
OCD	obsessive compulsive disorder
oic	oh, I see
om / omg	oh my / oh my god
omw	on my way
OSHA	Occupational Safety and Health Administration
ot	off topic
OTC	over the counter
P.S.	Latin: post script, written after
PA	personal assistant, physician's assistant
PC	personal computer
PDF	portable document format
PE	physical education
peak	unfortunate
peeps / ppl	people

Abbreviation/Acronym Glossary

PGA	Professional Golfer's Association
pic	picture
PIN	personal identification number
pir	parent in room
pls / plz	please
PM	project manager
PM	post meridiem (Latin: after midday)
PNG	portable network graphics
POTUS	President of the United States
POV	point of view
POW	prisoner of war
PPE	personal protective equipment
PPV	pay per view
PR	public relations
prolly	probably
PST	Pacific Standard Time
PTE	part time employee
PTO	please turn over / paid time off
Q&A	question and answer
qt / qtpi	cutie / cutie pie
r	are / our
R&D	research and development
radar	radio detection and ranging
RAM	random-access memory
REI	Recreational Equipment, Inc.
RIP	Latin: requiescant in pace, rest in peace

rly	really
rofl	rolling on the floor laughing
RSVP	French: repondez, s'il vous plait English: please reply
ru / ruok	are you? / are you ok?
scuba	self-contained underwater breathing apparatus
(Navy) SEALs	Navy Sea Air Land forces
SIM (card)	subscriber identification module
skl	school
SMART (car)	Swatch Mercedes Art
SMART (goals)	specific, measurable, attainable, realistic, time-bound
smh	shaking my head
SMS	short message service
SNAP	Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program
SO	significant other
sonar	sound navigation and ranging
SOS	save our souls/ship (for help)
SPAM	special processed American meat
SPCA	Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals
SPF	sun protection factor
spk	speak
srs / srsbsns	serious / serious business
sry	sorry
SSA	Social Security Administration
STAT	Latin: statim, immediately
str8	straight
sup	What's up?

Abbreviation/Acronym Glossary

SUV	sports utility vehicle
SVP	senior vice president
SWAT	special weapons and tactics
taser	Thomas Swift's electric rifle
TBA	to be announced
TBD	to be determined/decided
tbh	to be honest
tc	take care
TCBY	The Country's Best Yogurt
TED	tell me, explain to me, describe to me
TGIF	Thank God it's Friday
thx / ty	thanks / thank you
tia	thanks in advance
TIME (Magazine)	The International Magazine of Events
TMI	too much information
ttfn / ttyl	ta-ta for now / talk to you later
UFO	unidentified flying object
UN	United Nations
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
UPS	United Parcel Service
URL	Uniform Resource Locator
USA PATRIOT (Act)	Uniting and Strengthening America by Providing Appropri-
USPS	United States Postal System
VIN	vehicle identification number
VIP	very important person
virus (computer)	Vital Information Resource Under Siege

VP	vice president
w/	with
w/e	whatever / weekend
w/o	without
w@	what?
wbu	What about you?
WIC	Women, Infants, and Children
wk	week
WMD	weapon of mass destruction
wrk	work
wtg	way to go
WWE	World Wrestling Entertainment
WYSIWYG	what you see is what you get
x	kiss
y?	why?
YAHOO	yet another hierarchical officious oracle
YMCA	Young Men's Christian Association
YOLO	you only live once
yr	your / year
yw	your welcome
ZIP (code)	zone improvement plan