

-- Numbers --

1 and 2

Turntables. *DJ behind the 1 and 2*.

1-2 checker

1) Checking the MIC. 2) Checking the scene.

10%

See [5%](#). *Ten percent took a loss* -- Boots of The Coup.

107.5

(n) A NYC radio station that helped bring hip-hop to the radio.

1200

(n) The Technics SL 1200 is regarded as the best turntable for DJ'ing. The reason for this is its very, very high torque. If you hit the start/stop button, the platter will reach top speed within a 1/4th revolution. Not many turntables can match that. *My DJ you know 1200's he's using, I don't!* -- Schoolly D. (I don't like rock 'n roll)

1555

(n) The year the first slaveships arrived in America. *Sayin' 1555 how I'm livin'* -- Public Enemy (Can't truss it).

187

(n) Californian penal code number for homicide. The police in California uses the penal code numbers as shorthand on the radio. Eg. in Oregon the code for homicide is *163.005*, different from California. *187* -- Dr. Dre (The Chronic).

2 to 4

(n) The duration of a imprisonment sentence, two to four years in jail. *Hit with a 2 to 4 is difficult* -- Mobb Deep (Survival of the fittest [??]).

20

(n) See [twenty sack](#). *I'm an addict for sneakers, 20's of buddah and bitches with beepers* -- NAS (?? [1994]).

21 Cerritos

(n) Long Beach crip set. The Dogg Pound and Warren G have rumored association with them. *But you don't really know about, you know, the Cerritos silly ho* -- Daz (Who gotz some gangsta shit [1994]).

211

(n) Police code for armed robbery.

213

1) (n) The area code of Long Beach.
2) (n) The name of a group with Snoop, Nate Dogg and Warren G. This group was separated when they all got big. *Way back then 213 was the clique* -- Warren G (This DJ [1994]).

22

(n) .22 calibre gun. *Twentytwo automatic on my person* -- Beastie Boys (Rhymin' & stealin' [1986])

24/7, 24/7/365

(n) All the time, from 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year.

25 with an izl

(n) 25 years to life sentence. *25 with an izL* -- Snoop Doggy Dog (Murder was the case).

30

(n) A firearm.

357

(n) A .357 Magnum pistol. *.357 break it on down* -- LL Cool J. (.357 Break it on down [1987]).

38

1) (n) .38 pistol.
2) (n) *38 hot* means very angry.

380

(n) A handgun. *Unpacked and I grabbed my three eighty cause where we stayin', niggaz look shady* -- Ice Cube (Summer Vacation [1991]).

40

(n) A 40-ounce bottle of malt liquor. *Use to drink every day, straight 40's to the head* -- Ice-T. (Ed [1991]).

411

(n) Information, from the US phone number for information.

5% Nation

5% Nation -- A group which started as an offshoot of the NoI. They teach that any large group of people, and more specifically, the African American nation, can be divided into three groups, the 85% = basically the ignorant masses which need to be led, the 5% = the people with true knowledge of self whose job it is to lead the masses and fight against the 10%, the 10% = people who have partial knowledge of self and use it to gain power and wealth by exploiting the 85, also referred to as "bloodsuckers of the poor". The chosen percentages are what they feel that the percentages are within the black community. These numbers are neither universal (all though these groups do exist within any large group) nor unchangeable. *That'll be the day the five percent eat swine* -- Dred Scott (???)

5 0

1) (n) A police officer, from the series Hawaii Five-O. *Five-O said 'freeze', and I got numb* -- Public Enemy (Bring the Noise).

2) (n) A 5.0 liter Ford Mustang, which is used as a police vehicle in some areas.

5000

(interj) A farewell bidding, from *I'm outta here*, which evolved to *I'm Audi*, and to *5000* after the Audi 5000 car, which got recalled and is a rare sight nowadays. *Yo, we outta here, 5000, G!* -- Ice Cube and Flavor Flav (*I'm only out for one thang* [1990]).

502

(n) California police code for drunk driving. *Fuck the police and a 502* -- N.W.A. (8-ball [??]).

5150

(n) Police code meaning someone is acting insane on the scene.

64

1) (n) A 64-ounce bottle of malt liquor. *40's are no more because now I'm drinkin' 64s* -- Grand Puba (Three Men at Chung King)

2) (n) A 1964 Chevrolet Impala. *Jumped in the 64* -- Cypress Hill (???)

7-11

1) (n) All-night convenience store, which was originally open from 7am to 11pm when other stores were closed. *Takin' care of business at 7-11* -- Beastie Boys (High plains drifter).

2) (n) From the dice game called craps, rolling a 7 and then 11 wins.

8-ball

1) (n) Old English 800, a popular beer in the hood.

2) (n) An eightball is literally, in drug terms, an eight of an ounce. There are twenty-eight grams in an ounce, and hence, three and one half grams in an eightball. In places where an eightball is less than three and a half grams, the laws of supply and demand have constricted the quantity in favor of a popular price.

3) (n) On to it. Ie: *on the 8-ball*, up with the play.

4) (n) The 8-ball is the last ball to pot in the billiards game of pool. If you accidentally pot it before the end of the game, you lose. So, the 8-ball also represents chance.

808

1) (n) The bassdrum from a Roland TR-808 drum machine, which is now a popular sample.

2) (n) The police code for disturbing the police. Refers to the sound of bass from stereos.

85%

See [5%](#). *Why? That's most asked by 85* -- Ladybug of Digable Planets (???)

86

(v) To kill a plan or action. In the restaurant lingo it means that you are out of a particular item - *We're 86 on the gravy!*

9, 9mm

(n) 9 mm gun. *My nine is easy to load* -- L.L. Cool J. (Mama said knock you out [1990])

9 to 5

(n) A job where you work from 9:00 am till 5:00 pm. *While your were at your job working nine to five, the Beastie Boys were at the garden cold kickin' it live!* -- Beastie Boys (No sleep till Brooklyn [1986]).

911

(n) The US phone number for emergencies. *Now I dialed 911 a long time ago* -- Public Enemy (911 is a joke).

950

(n) The Akai S-950, a widely used rackmount sampler. A nice piece of equipment that allowed the producer to *stretch* the sound wave so that the sample could be sped up or slowed down without changing the pitch. It was made popular by the Bomb Squad who used them to stack samples thus giving their tracks the dope sound. From the Alkaholiks (The next level [1994]).

98 Oldsmobile

(n) A very limited make of Oldsmobile, usually considered to be their best make of car, year after year. A real status symbol. *My 98 is tough to chase* -- Public Enemy (You gonna get yours [1987]).

97.1

(n) HOT 97, A CHR-turned-hip hop station in New York.

98.7

(n) WRKS KISS FM, a NYC radio station that helped bring hip-hop to the radio.

-- A --

a

(v) Am going to. *I'm a do it like this*

Ac

The Acura Legend, a brand car. *I'm the Mack in the Ac, all paneling* -- Notorious BIG (Unbelievable [1994]).

afro

1) (n) Hairstyle like the Jackson Five had, much hair and round like a ball.

2) (n) Person with an afro. *Don't laugh hoes, I'm down with The Afro's* -- Ice Cube (I gotta say what up!!! [1990]) (note that Cube refers to a rap group).

AK/AK-47

(n) Assault rifle of Russian origin, nowadays produced in China. The letters stand for Automatic Kalashnikov. *My AK-47 is the tool* -- Da Lench Mob (Freedom got an AK [1993]) (originally from NWA (Straight out of Compton)).

all that

(adj) in possession of all good qualities.

alpine

(n) Stereo set.

am

(n) The morning, as in A.M. *Steppin' to the am* -- 3rd Bass (The cactus album).

A&R

(n) Refers to Artist and Repetoir execs in record companies they are hooked up with an artist to help put out an image and distribute the artists albums. *First of all, who's your A & R, a mountain climber who plays an electric guitar?* -- Wu Tang Clan (Protect ya neck [1994]).

around the way

(n) From the neighbourhood. *From around the way* -- Beastie Boys (No sleep till Brooklyn [1986]).

axe

(v) Ask. *Gave her ten dollars, then she axed me for some more* -- Schoolly D. (P.S.K. (what does it mean?) [??]).

ay yo trip

(interj) Phrase to seek attention, compare *Check this out*.

-- B --

baggin' up

(v) To laugh real hard at something.

bawla

(n) Someone who is making much money in an illegitimate manner, a Blood term. The Crip version of this word is *highroller*.

bammer

(n) Person who cannot dress. *Me and the rest of the bammers* -- Question Mark Asylum (Deriving from the D.C. area [??]).

Banger

(n) Someone associated with gangs and murder.

beam me up, Scotty

(interj) Give me crack.

beamer

(n) Expensive European car: BMW, status symbol. Used by Tribe Called Quest on Low End Theory.

bean

(n) Also called a head.

beef

(n) An argument or discrepancy with another individual or group of individuals. The following citation is from the book *Juba to Jive: the dictionary of African-American slang*, by Clarence Major. Beef n. (1930s-1940s; 1960s-1970s) an *old* word dating back to general criminal use in the thirties. For young black in the sixties and later it meant roughly the same as it had earlier: a complaint or argument; a disagreement in progress.

bend

(n) A prostitute. *She was more than just a bend* -- Grand Puba

Benz

(n) Expensive European car: Mercedes Benz, status symbol. *I used to get no play, now she stays behind me, 'cause I said I had a Benz 190* -- N.W.A. (I ain't the one).

being [down] with something

(v) Favouring something, thinking the same way. *Howie Tee, are you with me?* -- The Real Roxanne and Howie Tee ((Bang zoom) let's gogo).

BG

(n) Baby gangster, as opposed to OG. An OG has shot somebody, a BG has not shot anyone yet. *I quit school cuz of recess, you fuckin BG* -- Snoop Doggy Dogg (Pump Pump).

bill

(n) A one hundred dollar banknote.

bird

(n) Kilo. *A bird in the hand* -- Ice Cube (*A bird in the hand* [1991]).

bitch

1) (n) Prostitute; girls call each other *What's up, bitch?* Doesn't necessarily have to be negative. Doesn't have to mean females either. *Cause some of y'all niggas is bitches too* -- Ice T (*Bitches 2* [1991]).

2) (v) To curse or nag about something.

bite

1) (v) To copy lyrics from other people. *I know you down south are biting my lines, and if I catch you boy, your ass is mine* -- Schoolly D. (Gucci time)

2) (v) To steal

black book

1) A small book carried by graffiti artists for others to do work in.

2) A book to carry phone numbers in.

Black Panther movement

(n) This movement was founded in Oakland, California by Huey P. Newton, H.R. Brown and Bobby Seale. Fought for the rights of black to bear arms like white people in the late 1960's and the early 1970's.

- blend**
(n) See [marijuana](#).
- blunt**
(n) See [marijuana](#). Marijuana cigarette, herb stuffed cigar, generally phillies.
- blunted**
(v) Under influence of a [blunt](#). *Made a little record for the blunted to chill with* -- Cypress Hill (Hand on the pump)
- bone**
1) (v) To have sexual intercourse. *Your aim is to bone* -- Tribe Called Quest (Classic example of a date rape).
2) (n) One dollar.
3) (n) Core, soul. *I'm a rock hard trooper to the bone* -- Public Enemy (Louder Than A Bomb)
4) (v) To bone out, as in leaving. *I'm a bone outta here*.
- booty**
1) (adj) Not good, lacking. *The beat was fly, but them lyrics were booty* -- ??? (???).
2) (n) Bottom, ass. Or getting a piece of ass.
3) (n) Biblical, as in pirates booty or treasure. Since booty is stolen treasure, it could be good or bad. Often used in the negative today.
- boo-ya**
(n) Totally dope, incredibly fine. Probably originated from the *Boo-ya Tribe*. *That shit was straight-up boo-ya* -- ??.
- boy**
(n) Friend, possibly short for [homeboy](#). *That's my boy*.
- bozack, 'zack**
(n) Scrotum.
- Brass Monkey**
1) (n) an alcoholic concoction available in liquor stores. *Drinking Brass Monkey* -- Beastie Boys (Brass Monkey [1986]).
- break to**
1) Comes from the Biblical term *selah*. Comes from music, *on the break*, but for hip-hop refers to the break in the record that is created by the DJ. *Beats and breaks*.
2) (v) transport oneself to, often quickly.
- break off**
(v) Marijuana is sometimes sold as little blocks. So, breaking off some means to share the good stuff with others. *Break ya off something* -- Cypress Hill (???).
- brother**
(n) Man of the same group; friend. In the Bible you will read *brethern*, which is used in the same meaning.
- bucket**
(n) Old car in bad shape. *So I moved on an old car, it was a bucket, but fuck it, it had to do* -- Ice-T. (Midnight [1991]).
- buckwilding**
(v) To get buckwild means to have sex, see also [wilding](#). A *buck* is a young, unbroken horse that cowboys try to master at a rodeo. *Get buckwild with the white freaks, show 'em how to really work the white sheets* -- Body Count (KKK Bitch [1991]).
- buddah**
(n) See [marijuana](#). *I'm an addict for sneakers, 20's of buddah and bitches with beepers* -- NAS (?? [1994]).
- buddy**
1) (n) At the start of De La soul's *Buddy* video, Prince Paul makes a statement to the effect that *Buddy means body*.
2) (n) Sexual partner. A bit more than a friend.
3) (adj) Something that appears okay at first, but is actually a cheap imitation; a knockoff, ripoff or fake. Said to be from *Buddies* which are shoes that look cool but fall apart real quickly. *Get that buddy shit out of here* -- (???).

bumrush

(n) Crash the gates of a show with a pack of people, in the hope to get in without having to pay. *Yo!Bum rush the show* -- Public Enemy. (Yo!Bum rush the show) [1987].

bunk

- 1) (adj) Unpleasant, bad.
- 2) (n) A load of bunk: a lot of nonsense.

burner

- 1) (n) A large piece of graffiti usually involving many colors.
- 2) (n) gun.

bust this

(interj) Pay attention. *But bust this!* -- Ice-T (Bitches 2 [1991]).

bust slugs

(v) To fire bullets. *And bust some slugs for South Africa* -- Heather B. with BDP (Seven MC's)

busta

- 1) (n) Fake person, weak individual. *Busta ass nigga talkin' bullshit* -- Dr. Dre (Rat-a-tat-tat).
- 2) (n) A snitch, a person who tattle-tales.

butt

- 1) (n) Bottom.
- 2) (adj) Not good, lacking. *Get yourself some toilet paper 'cause your lyrics is butt* -- Tribe Called Quest (Low End Theory).

butter

(adj) Well liked, smoothed out. *It's like butta, baby, it's like sugar, honey* -- Kwame (??).

buyaka

(n) Jamaican, resembles the sound of gunshots.

-- C --

cat

1) (n) Vagina. *Sprung on the Cat* -- Sir Mixalot (*Sprung on the cat* [1992]). 2) (n) Person. Used in the 70s. *You cant take the jungle out of the cat* -- Jeru Tha Damaja (*Frustrated Nigger* [1995]).

cap

1) (n) Bullet. *I'm a pop a cap in him* -- Jules in the movie *Pulp Fiction*
2) (n) Cranium, top of the skull. *Blood's on my gear, from caps I've peeled* -- Ice-T. (*Mic contract* [1991]).

caveboy

A white person. Derived from the theory that early white man lived in caves.

-cha

You. *I'm comin' to getcha* -- Ice Cube (*I'm gonna wetcha* [1993])

cheever

(n) See [marijuana](#). Might be spelled cheeba. *Some call it cheeba, some call it weed* -- Schoolly D. (Saturday night)

chill

1) (n) Relax. *Why don't you just chill* -- L.L. Cool J. (*Eat em up L chill* [1990]).
2) (adj) Mellow.

chrome

(n) Gun. *Now I gotta follow him home with the chrome* -- Ice Cube (*Robin hood*).

chronic

(n) See [marijuana](#). Incredibly potent marijuana. *The Chronic* -- Dr. Dre.

chulo

(n) The word in Spanish directly translates to "pimp". In Spain the word means *cool*. It is synonymous with *bad ass* or *bad guy*. *Vatos, chulos, call us what you will* -- Kid Frost (*La Raza* [1990]).

cipher

(n) A circle of brothers dropping science, showing and proving.

claim

1) (v) To say one allies oneself with a gang or set.
2) (v) To claim membership in a gang.
3) (v) To say something that is not necessarily true.

click

(n) the West Coast equivalent of *crew*.

clip

(n) Gun or holder of bullets to load a gun with. *My AK-47 holdin' 50 clips* -- Da Lench Mob (*Freedom got an AK* [1993]).

clock

(v) To stay aware of what happens around you.
(v) To earn. *I clock ducats* -- Public Enemy (??? [??]).

clocking

(adj) Disturbed.

cock

1) (n) Penis.
2) (n) Vagina. *She was giving up the cock* -- Ice Cube (*Gangsta's Fairytale*)
3) (v) To pull the hammer of a gun. *Cock the hammer, it's time for action* -- Cypress Hill (*Cock the hammer* [1993])

coconut

(n) A hispanic person trying to be white. Compare with [oreo](#).

cold

(adj) intensely. *Stone cold rhymin'* -- Young MC (*Stone cold rhymin'*).

come correct

(v) To represent the real, to do something the way it should be done. *When I'm on the mic, I come correct* -- Beastie Boys (*Sure shot*)

coochie

(n) Vagina.

cool

(adj) Okay.

coqui 900

(n) A drink of some kind. (*Coqui 900* -- Schoolly D.)

CPT

(n) Compton in the phonebook. Call it CPT for ease of use. *Claimin' they are from the CPT* -- N.W.A. (Compton's in the house [1990])

cream

Money. From: *Cash Rules Everything Around Me*, by the Wu-Tang Clan.

crib

(n) Home. *Black Ceasar at the crib* -- Public Enemy (Burn Hollywood Burn [1990])

crack a brew

(v) Open a beer. *Crack another 40, smoke some kill* -- Schoolly D. (Smoke some kill)

cracker

(n) Originally a term from Reconstruction time (1870) to mean southern men. Now it means white bigot, from whip-cracker or slavedriver. *Got a little problem with the redneck cracker* -- Ice Cube (The Predator).

crazy

(adj) Besides meaning insane or extremely daring, it is kind of synonymous with mad.

(adj) Extremely or very. *Crazy fly bitches* -- Ice-T (???)

Cronkite

(n) News, after the newsreader Walter Cronkite. *Grand Puba and Studd Doogie droppin' Cronkite* -- Grand Puba (A little of this).

cruise

(v) Driving around, preferably showing off your car.

crunk

(adj) Hype, phat. *Tonight is going to be crunk* -- ??.

creep

(n) To sneak up on someone.

crew

(n) Group, band.

cut

1) (n) A record, the latest hit

2) (n) A recently received haircut.

3) (v) Cutting wax: scratching a record. *Rip the cut!* -- Just Ice (Back to the old school) [198?]

cuz

1) (n) [homeboy](#) or homegirl.

2) (n) Cousin, apparently a Crip term.

-- D --

dank

(n) See [marijuana](#). *Go on and hit the dank* -- Too Short.

dap

- 1) (n) Sort of high-five type of handshake. *Gimme a dap, I'll give you one back* -- Ice T. (Ziplock [1991])
- 2) (n) Dignity and Pride, old slang (think 70's here).

dead presidents

(n) Money. All American dollarbills have a former president of the United States on them. *I'm all for dead presidents to represent me* -- NAS (The world is yours [1994]).

deep

- 1) (n) A unit of measure. *It was a crew four deep* -- D-Nice (??).
- 2) (n) A hip hop clothing manufacturer (X-Large).
- 3) Heavy in the hippy sense of the word.

def

- 1) (adj) Okay. *But you still think our music is def, right?* -- De La Soul (Brain washed follower).
- 2) (adj) the standard of excellence.
- 3) Some more info on def: comes from the expression *Death O.J.* but I think first used on record in "Rapper's Delight". As Nelson George defines it: "In "Rapper's Delight" the term "Death OJ" is used. In current slang "death" means something good, while "OJ" is a refer ence to a big car: Erstwhile football star and all-around adman O.J. Simpson does Hertz commercials featuring Ford and Lincoln Mercury cars. If we add "death" to Ford and Lincoln Mercury cars (leaving out any disrespectful reference to Pintos), we come up with the "Rapper's Delight" character driving off in a Lincoln Continental." From *_Buppies, B-Boys, Baps & Bohos: Notes on Post-Soul Black Culture_* by Nelson George.

Def Jam

- 1) (n) A great record.
- 2) (n) One of the first big labels for rap artists, founded by Rick Reuben, led by Russel Simmon.

delf

(n) "Delf" was quoted for the first time by Parrish Smith when EPMD's last album was released in 1992. It was in a Source interview and it's about the same as "self" like going for delf (self). *Release yo delf* -- Da Method Man (Release yo delf).

deuce

(n) Two. *About to get loose with the deuce deuce* -- Ice Cube (Gangsta fairytale II [1993]).

devil

(n) an enemy, usually white people. *The devil made me do it* -- Paris (the devil made me do it) [??].

dick

(n) penis. *Mister Big Dick, who do you think you are?* -- Schoolly D. (Mr. Big Dick).

dime

- 1) (n) Ten dolar bag of [marijuana](#).
- 2) (n) "To drop a dime", to fink. The term has probably descended from the time when phone calls were 10 cents, and is related to the notion of moving gossip quickly, as one would drop a dime into the phone to make a call.

dip

- 1) (v) Dipping is what a car with a hydraulic suspension does. *Set trippin', fo' dippin'* -- Ice Cube (Friday [??]).
- 2) (v) To pay more attention to other people's business than to one's own.

dis

(v) Insult or thwart in a social manner. *Challenge BDP, you'll get dissed, expect it* -- Boogie Down Productions (Part time sucker).

DJ

(n) Disc Jockey. *My DJ Derek B is best* -- Derek B. (Get down).

DL

See [down low](#).

do

- 1) (n) Hairdo.
- 2) (v) Having sex.
- 3) (v) Killing someone.

dog

- 1) (v) To tear something up like a dog would do.
- 2) (v) To insult someone in front of his friends.
- 3) (v) To have sex the doggy way.
- 4) (p) a form of addressing: *Whutup dog?*, not meant to be offensive
- 5) (n) a friend, *That's my Dog*. Road ~: West Coast gangsta for friend.

dome

(n) A person's big head, skull, gun against your head.

dope

- 1) (n) Narcotics.
- 2) (adj) Great, addictive.

dopeman

(n) Seller of narcotics. *If you see somebody getting pussy for crack, he's the dopeman, dopeman -- N.W.A. (Tha Dopeman)*

double deuce juice

- 1) (n) 22 oz of cold 45 ml beer.
- 2) (n) Colt 45 (the Billy D. juice).

dough

(n) Money. *Don't you know when the dough get low, the juice go -- Mobb Deep (Survival of the fittest [??]).*

down low

(n) Covert, secret, *hush hush*, derived from *low profile*.

dukey robe

(n) fat gold chain.

dusting

(adj) Too high or too drunk.

dutchmasta

(n) Dutchmaster is a brand of cigars. Sometimes when rolling a serious blunt, the tobacco is removed from a cigar and replaced with [marijuana](#). *Slit a nigga back like a Dutchmasta killa -- Wu-Tang Clan (???)*.

drawers

(n) Pants, underpants.

drive-by

(n) A gang form of execution; armed with guns they drive by their victims, take a shot at them, and drive off. *With your drive-by's it took time to getcha, but now I'm gonna wetcha -- Ice Cube (I'm gonna wetcha [1993])*

drop science, drop knowledge

(v) To demonstrate wisdom or skill. *I'm droppin' science -- 7a3 (Coolin' in Cali) [1988]*

Dropping a Dime

(v) Informing.

duckets

(n) Money, from *ducats*: coins. *He's gettin' juiced for his duckets -- N.W.A. (I ain't the one)*.

-- E --

Elijah Muhammad

(n) Elijah Poole, a Georgia-born ex-factory worker who founded the black muslim movement Nation of Islam in Detroit in 1930, also known as Honorable Elijah Muhammad. *Read the book how to eat to live, from Elijah Muhammad, it's a brown paperback* -- Boogie Down Productions (Beef [1990])

ese

(n) Spanish word for [homeboy](#).

-- F --

fade

- 1) (n) the hairdo (see [high top fade](#)).
- 2) (v) Means to not listen to, erase, or get rid of (exterminate). Has mutated into various other meanings as well as has most other hip-hop lingo. It (the phrase) started from actually pulling down the fader on a mixer, which of course, results in not listening to whomever was on at the time. So Ice Cube wants you to listen to him always and not fade him or turn him off... *You can't fade me* -- Ice Cube (You can't fade me).

fag

(n) Homosexual man, short for faggot. ...*and I thought it was a gag, when I thought it was a girl, it was nothing but a fag* -- Schoolly D. (Saturday night).

fat

(adj) Rich like butter, really good, extremely well put together. *ATCQ be putting together some fat beats* -- ??? (???)

federal

- 1) (adj) Referring to the federal government. *The reasons are several, most of the federal* -- Public Enemy (Black steel in the hour of chaos [1988]).
- 2) (adj) Something of exceptional quality or of an extreme nature. Used throughout E-40 tapes, probably Bay Area in origin.

finger on the trigger

(n) Someone with the ~: someone prepared to shoot if necessary. *I got my hand in my pocket and my finger's on the trigger* -- Beastie Boys (Posse in effect [1986]).

fix

(n) Heroine.

flava

- 1) (n) Flavour
- 2) (n) Flavor Flav, Chuck D's right hand man in Public Enemy.

Flavavision

(n) The glasses of PE's Flavor. *Don't worry, Flavavision ain't blurry* -- Public Enemy (Don't believe the hype).

flay

(v) *Flay on the mix*, serious old school mixing and scratching.

flex

- 1) (v) To show one's mettle, flexing one's muscles, showing one's arsenal and readiness to put it to use, letting one's pugilistic prowess be known. To strike someone, or to get up in someone's face for intimidation. *I use my nine when suckas start to flex* -- Ice Cube (Man's best friend).
- 2) (v) Scratching, from flexing of the wrist. Rakim used to talk about Eric B being on the flex.

floss

(v) Move in and out of something. *Floss the NSX* -- DJ Quick (Dollars and sense).

fly

(adj) Attractive, beautiful. *Put on the Bally shoes and the fly green socks* -- Slick Rick and Doug E. Fresh (Ladidadi).

forty dog

(n) 40 ounce bottle of Olde English 800 malt liquor. *Forty dog, one love* -- Nas (One love [1994]).

freak

- 1) (v) Dance in a provocative way.
- 2) (v) Have sex.
- 3) (n) Person who practices the above things; sexually aggressive female (never missing a beat).

free world

(n) Free from incarceration; the world outside of prison. *I really miss my free world* -- Convicts (???) [1991]).

freestyle

(v) Freestyling is when an MC flows with lyrics right off the top of his or her head. It is impromptu and spontaneous and only the most creative rhymers can do it well. It is also a kind of competition between MC's because you have to be good to bust a good freestyle. It helps to keep MCs on their toes too, because it's like practice. *We gonna do a little freestyle for y'all, and it go like this* -- Schoolly D. (Cuttin' and scratchin')

fresh

- 1) (adj) New
- 2) (adj) Okay

front

(v) Pretend to be that which you are not; act tough. *You can't front on that* -- Beastie Boys (So what'cha want [1992]).

fuck

(n,v) This is the most powerful word in the American English language. It can be the very best or the very worst. You might enjoy getting your brains fucked out, but then again you might not.

funk

- 1) (adj) Malodorous.
- 2) (n) The essence of being, as in faking the funk.

funky drummer

(n) Famous drumtrack by Clyde Stubblefield, James Brown's drummer. Often used in hip-hop.

furilla

(adj) Contraction of the phrase *for real*; something known to be true. *On the furilla, my nigga, just call me Scarface* -- Geto Boys (Scarface [1989]).

-- G --

G

- 1) (n) Anything that starts with a G. E.g. God, Gangsta, Girl, Guy. As in *Whatup, G?*.
- 2) (v) To have sexual intercourse. E.g. Sir Mix-a-Lot's self titled EP has a song called *Let's G*.
- 3) (n) Money, from Grands or thousands. *I clock G's while you clock Z's* - EPMD (???)

gaffle

(n) To harass. Especially being *gaffled* by the police.

gaffled

(adj) Past tense of *to gaffle*. The state of being messed up; a misfortunate condition.

game

- 1) (v) Wooing. *Cause I'm gamin' on a female that's gamin' on me* -- N.W.A. (I ain't the one).
- 2) (v) In the game, whatever the game might be. A game is some way to make money or advance oneself, or just a game.

gang

(n) Group of organised criminals. The main gangs in Northern California are:

1. Bloods
2. Norte
3. Surenos
4. Crips

gangbang

- 1) (v) To commit crimes in a gang.
- 2) (v) To to have sex in groups.

gangsta

- 1) (n) A gangster or criminal.
- 2a) (adj) In the way of a gangster.
- 2b) (adj) A style of rap that evolved in South Central, Los Angeles.

ganja

(n) See [marijuana](#). *My medicine is the ganja* -- Nas (??? [1994]).

gank

(v) Same as skank, ie to hurt, steal from, or diss in some way.

gasface

- 1) To show someone a sign of disrespect.
- 2) Make stupid face towards someone you don't like. *The same people that got gasfaced last year* -- 3rd Bass (No master plan, no master race [1991])

gat

1) (n) A very small, easily concealed gun used by government spies and, of course, gangsters. 2) (n) Hip-Hop Clothing Co.

get busy

- 1) (v) Have sex.
- 2) (v) eat *Ya mama is so big and fat that she can get busy with 22 burritoos, but times are rough, I seen her in the back'a taco bell with handcuffs* -- Pharcyde (Ya Mama)

get/give head/skull

(v) Receive/give fellatio.

get/give props

(v) See [props](#).

G-funk

(n) Gangsta funk. Examples: Snoop Doggy Dogg, Warren G & Nate Dog.

ghetto bird

(n) Helicopter. *Is it a bird? Yep. Is it a plane? No.* -- Ice Cube (Ghetto Bird) [1993].

glock

(n) Manufacturer of guns. People usually mean the 9mm glock, which can hold up to 19 rounds. The gun is made of plastic and ceramic, so it has a futuristic 'feel' to it.

grill

1) *Guard your grill*: protect yourself, *grill* stands for your teeth, protect your face from getting punched. *I got the skill, I'll bust ya in the grill* -- House of Pain (Shamrocks and Shenanigans [??]). 2) Front of a car.

grip

1) (n) Ability on the microphone.
2) (n) money. *Where's my grip nigga* -- ??

GT

(n) Ferrari GT model, one of the rarest and therefore most expensive Ferrari's around.

-- H --

hawk

- 1) (v) To look at something.
- 2) (v) To stare down someone.

Hennessey

- (n) Brand of Cognac. *Take this Hennessey!* NAS -- (??).

herbalz

- 1) (n) [Marijuana](#), comes from herbs. *Herbalz in my mouth* -- 3rd Bass (Herbalz in my mouth).
- 2) (n) Semen (mentioned in an interview once by 3rd Bass).

[to be] high

To be intoxicated by a drug of somekind. Reported other terms for it are: blazed, blunted, bombed, charged, juiced, skunked, stressed, toked. *I want to get high, so high* -- Cypress Hill (I want to get high).

high-five

- (n) Greeting where you slap hands together in the air, as opposed to low-five, where you slap hands at waist height.

highside

- (v) To ignore or disrespect someone by not acknowledging their presence. *Bitches get mad cause we highside* -- Big Mike (Smoke 'em and & choke 'em [??]).

high top fade

- (n) Haircut high on the top, fading down to close cut on the sides *Livin' in fear of my shade or my high top fade* -- Public Enemy

hip-hop

- (n) In Jamaican ska era, 60's, a DJ would spin and cut the wax and a MC would sing or shout or dub poetry over it. That's the roots of hiphop which were brought to New York City by Kool DJ Herc, but hip-hop or rap was created in New York City.

ho

- 1) (n) Hooker, prostitute, from whore. *She ain't nothing but another ho, according to the system* -- KRS-One (Exhibit D. [1990]).
- 2) (v) To sell out.

ho cake

- (n) Vagina.

hold the fort down

- (v) To represent where you are from. *If so hold the fort down and represent to the fullest* -- Nas (One Love [1994]).

homeboy

- (n) Close friend.

homegirl

- (n) Female equivalent of [homeboy](#). *Homegirls, see a guy you like? Just grab him in the biscuits... and doowutchalike* -- Digital Underground (Doowutchalike [??]).

homey

- (n) See [homeboy](#). *But I wish he could have said it to my dead homey* -- Ice Cube (Dead Homiez [1990]).

honey

- (n) Person, generally attractive.

Honey Dip

- (n) pretty young ladies with golden brown complexions.

hood

- (n) The neighbourhood, usually a poor community.

hoodie

- (n) T-shirt with hood attached to it.

hoodlum

- (n) A criminal; drugdealer, car thief, stick up kid. *Hoodlums and hustlers and bangers with Jheri-curls* - Ice T. (Lifestyles of the rich and infamous [1991])

hoodrat

(n) female, generally sexually promiscuous, and not upwardly mobile *Homies in the hood* labeled her as a hoodrat -- Domino (ghetto jam)

hook

(n) A hook, used in load of songs, is an aspect of popular or commercial music that *grabs* people and makes it easy to like like or remember the song. For example, the riff from *Son of a Preacher Man* used in Cypress Hill's *Hits from the Bong* is an example of a hook. *Check out the hook while I drop crazy rhymes* -- ??? (???)

hooptie

(n) Old car in bad shape.

hottie

(n) A very attractive female. *This hottie got a body and I wanna get naughty* -- Sir Mixalot (Sprung on the Cat [1992]).

housenigger

(n) Person who blindly follows simple-minded people. In slavery days, you had house slaves and field slaves. The house slaves were *well behaved* and were *rewarded* by being allowed to work in the *big house* close to the master. The field slaves were *rough* and only suited for field work. Thus the people were divided and pitted against themselves, instead of the common enemy.

Huey P. Newton

(n) Founder of the Black Panther movement along with H. R. Brown and Bobby Seale. Mentioned in a few PE songs.

hype

1) (n) Statements made about something before that thing comes out, especially wild statements guessing about the things nature (whether positive or negative). For example, record companies will often put many advertisements out before a record comes out. Before Public Enemy's album came out there was much negative hype in the media. *Yo Harry! You're a writer; are we that type? Don't believe the hype...* -- Public Enemy (Don't believe the hype).

2) (adj) Cool. *Too damn hype* -- Jazzy Jeff and the Fresh Prince (??? [1988]).

-- I --

IBWC

The Intelligent Black Womens Coalition, a group that Yo-Yo is the founder(?) of.

ice

- 1) (n) Diamonds or jewelry with diamonds in it. *Hands smothered in ice.* -- Ice-T (Bitches 2 [1991]).
- 2) (n) On ice - at the morgue.
- 3) (n) Drugs.

ill

- 1) (v) To act weird, as in eating dogfood. *You be illin'* -- RUN-DMC (You be illin' [1986]).
- 2) (adj) negative.

Impala

(n) Type of popular low-cost car made by Chevrolet in the seventies. The car is popular with low riders, especially the 1964 model. '63, '62 and '65 models are also sometimes used. 64's seem to be a Mexican thang, and 63's a black thang, but this is of course just a generalisation. Ice Cube's car in *Boyz 'n the hood* was an Impala. *Knew her from the back of my homeys Impala* -- Ice Cube (You can't fade me [1990]).

in [full] effect

Present and taking place.

in the house

Present, here. *Compton's in tha house* -- N.W.A. (Compton's in tha house)

Indo

(n) [Marijuana](#) from Indonesia. *Indo smoke* -- Mr. Grimm (Indo smoke).

-- J --

jack

(v) To rob someone face to face. *Lets see who the fuck ima jack today* -- Ice Cube (Robin hood).

jam

- 1) (n) song, cut, track. *This is the dope Jam!* -- Public Enemy (night the living baseheads) [1989].
- 2) (n) The sweet stuff - like honey.

jammy

- 1) (n) Penis. *All the fly ladies are on my jammy* -- Beastie Boys (The new style [1986]).
- 2) (n) Gun. *Pulled out the jammy aimed it at the sky* -- Beastie Boys (Paul Revere [1986]).

James Brown

(n) the funkier and most sampled man alive.

jawn

(n) Another word for joint, a [marijuana](#) cigarette. *Back in Philly, they call me da jawn* -- Bahamadia (Total Wreck [??]).

jenny

(n) Vagina.

jet

(v) Leave.

Jheri-curls

(n) Wetlook, curly hairstyle. *Hoodlums and hustlers and bangers with Jheri-curls* -- Ice T. (Lifestyles of the rich and infamous [1991])

jimbrowsky

(n) See [Jimmy](#).

Jimmy

(n) Penis. *Never sleep alone because Jimmy is a magnet* -- Beastie Boys (3 Minute rule [1989]).

Jimmy hat/cap

(n) Condom.

jock

- 1) (n) Crotch. Being on someone's jock means trying to get involved with someone for his money or his status etc. The best definition can be found on Ice Cube's *Kill at will* in the full version of the song *Get off my dick and tell yo bitch to come here*.
- 2) (v) To sweat someone.

Jones

(n) A craving for something. It is said to come from Jones Alley in Manhattan where junkies used to live. E.g.: *Baseball Jones*: needing baseball, *love Jones*: a dire craving for someone, *Jonesing for some MJ*: wanting some marijuana. *I got a love Jones for your body and shin tone* -- Method Man & Mary J. Blidge (You are all I need [1994]).

juice

- 1) (n) Having hydraulics.
 - 2) (v) To squeeze the juice out of something. *You can't juice Ice Cube, girl* -- N.W.A. (I ain't the one).
 - 3) (n) *To have juice means you kiss and lick a lot of booty* -- KRS-One (Blackman in effect [1990]).
 - 4) (n) Respect.
 - 5) (n) Alcohol, as in *being juiced up* or *get juice for the party*.
-

-- K --

kani

(n) Oversized hip-hop clothing.

kangol

(n) A brand of hat. LL Cool J used to wear this along with other east coast rappers. It has a kangaroo on the side, but brothers wore them with the 'roo in front. *Went back in, I forgot my Kangol* -- Slick Rick and Doug E. Fresh (Ladidadi).

KDAY

(n) Radio station that broadcasted from Crenshaw in South Central LA, and was devoted to local underground Hip Hop. The musical director of KDAY was Greg Mack, and he single handedly turned NWA from an unknown group to superstars. It signed Dr. Dre and DJ Yella in 1983 to broadcast their own Mix Show, as the Wreckin' Crew. *It (KDAY) was perceived as a Rap station cause we played rap no one else would* (Greg Mack, as interviewed by Brian Cross in the book *It's not about a salary*). KDAY was sold in 1990, and was turned into a business network. The defunct radio station symbolizes to a lot of rappers coming out of LA area the shutting down of black voice in America. *This is K-Eazy E, wassup y'all this is Greg Mack, Mack Attack* -- Eazy-E (Radio [1988]).

key

(n) Kilo, often used in conjunction with cocaine. *Dope, like a pound or a key* -- N.W.A. (Tell 'em what your name is).

khakis

(n) Hip-hop clothing, brown/tan colored pants. *Wearin ghackis, mob while ya rhyhme, little fag tried to sag* -- Eazy-E (Real Motherphuckkin' G's).

kicks

(n) See [sneakers](#).

kill

(n) See [marijuana](#). *Crack another 40, smoke some kill* -- Schoolly D. (Smoke some kill).

[kitty] cat

(n) Vagina.

knocka

(n) A pest. *Leave Flavor Flav alone, knocka* -- Public Enemy (Cold lampin' with Flavor [1988]).

knocking boots

(v) To have sexual intercourse. When two people are in a horizontal position their feet will bang together. *Bring your friend, I likes you two's I'll knock the boots, the sneakers and the house shoes.* -- Digital Underground (Flowing on the D-line).

knuckle up

(v) Prepare to fight.

-- L --

L

(n) Another name for [blunt](#).

L train

(n) The late train. *I'm on the L train going insane* -- The Roots (Silent treatment).

'lac

(n) Short for Cadillac. *Macks drive 'lacs* -- Big Mello [1993].

lamp

1) (v) To hang out next to a streetlamp. *I'm on the street, cold lampin'* -- Public Enemy (Cold lampin' with Flavor).

2) (v) To relax while others panic.

lay pipe

(v) Having sexual intercourse. *Cause a nigga like me'll lay plenty of pipe* -- Ice Cube (I'm only out for one thang).

leather Tuscadero

(n) Female equivalent of The Fonz that appeared on Happy Days. *Now he's zipped up like leather Tuscadero* -- Ice Cube (We had to tear this motherfucker up).

lime

1) (v) Hanging around with friends of family.

2) (n) A casual gathering of friends and family. *This lime has no juice*, this gathering is dull.

lina

(n) A line of cocaine. From the spanish *una lina* which translates to one line.

llelo

(n) Cocaine, crack; it is a Spanish word, and the double l's are pronounced as y's. *The bitch came back with a bag of llelo* -- Ice Cube (Once upon a time in the projects)

loc

1) (n) Term used for local person.

2) (n) Crazy one, from the Spanish *loco*, often used for friends or locals in a positive way. *Don't you know I'm loco?* -- Cypress Hill (Insane in the brain) [1993]

3) (n) Lock or locks, as in Jheri-curls, but always pronounced with the long o as in *go*.

4) (n) Sunglasses. Inside Ice Cube's *Kill at will* album he advertizes locs as sunglasses, in the inside cover.

Long Beach

(n) City south of Compton. *Rollin' from the East Side south of Compton, see a big ass, and I say 'word', took a look at the face, and the bitch was to the curb!* -- N.W.A. (8 ball (remix) [1988])

lowriding

(v) Adjusting the suspension of a car to get it closer to the ground. Since it is illegal to drive that way, people have hydraulic systems to adjust the height of the car while driving, making it bounce.

Louies

(n) Louis Vuitton gear.

-- M --

Mac 10

(n) A gun. *The Mac 10 is in the grass and I run like a cheetah with thoughts of an assassin* -- Nas (??? [1994]).

Mack

1) (n) Pimp.

2) (v) Being a pimp. *Mackin' is a game and everybody's playing it* -- Ice Cube (Who's the mack)

3) (n) The Mack, an early 70's Blacksploitation film shot in Oakland, CA.

4) (n) Ladies Man *I love the ladies and they love me right back, now who's the Mack* Ice T. 5) (v) To steal.

mad

(adj) Extremely, very, a large quantity. *His jeep was pumpin' mad bass* -- ??? (???).

madhatter

(n) soemone who sells drugs.

Malcolm

(n) Malcolm X, civil rights activist leader, gunned down at the age of 35 at the Audubon Ballroom on the north edge of Harlem in New York in 1965 as he spoke to hundreds of followers. He represented the largely urban North. Member of Nation of Islam until 1964. Wrote many texts, interviews, notes and speeches from 1950-1963, of which some can be considered racist. Renounced these points of view in his last year.

marijuana

(n) Dried leaves and flowering tops of the pistillate hemp plant that are smoked in cigarettes for their intoxicating effect. Other reported words for it are: bammer, bomb, brown, bud, buddha, cheeba, chronic, dank, doubage, ganja, grass, green, groove weed, hash, herb, Indo, iszm, Lebanon, Mary Jane (mj), pot, sess, shake, shit, skunk, stress, tabacci, Thai, wacky and weed.

mark

(n) A sucker, a target for gaffling and crime. *You mark-ass busta, you betta raise up* -- Dr Dre (Dre)

MC

(n) Probably Jamaican, in which case it comes from the TV game shows, Master of Ceremonies (although the term existed before TV). Could also stand for Microphone Controller, Mic Checka. *The term, MC, stand for Master of Ceremonies* --- A Tribe Called Quest (Midnight Marauders).

medina

1) (n) Said to be an aphrodisiac. *Funky col' medina* -- Tone Loc (Funky cold medina [1989])

2) (n) Nickname for Brooklyn.

megablast

(n) Large breath of crack. *Oh please, oh please, oh please, just gimme just one more blast* -- Public Enemy (Megablast).

MLK

(n) Martin Luther King, civil rights leader, shot april 4th, 1968. He represented the largely rural South.

money

(n) See [brother](#), [nigga](#).

motherfucker

(n) Respectless person with no attitude.

move on

(v) To mess with. *You move on the Ice and you're going to sleep* -- Ice T (Ziplock).

MPV

(n) The Mazda Multi Purpose Vehicle, favored by groups because of their large seating and cargo capacity. *Dedicated to MPV's, phat* -- Wu-Tang Clan (Can it be all so simple [??]).

-- N --

nappy dugout

(n) The dugout is the dug-in bench at the side of a baseball field where players wait until they are up to play. Nappy comes from hair napping up, sort of the way it is on the way to dreading. The nappy dugout would be the dugout (small enclave a few steps off the main field) that has nappy hair (pubic hair).

Giving up the nappy dugout -- Ice Cube (Giving up the nappy dugout [??]).

nappy head

(n) A person who is not yet fully awake. *Keep your heads nappy* -- Fugees (Nappy Heads [1994]).

nathan

1) (adj) Nothing; nobody. *I ain't heard shit, I ain't heard nathan* -- The Coup (Genocide & Juice).

2) (n) *Nathan's* is a brand of hot dog.

newjack

(adj) New. When referring to an individual, implies that he hasn't proven himself. *He was a newjack hustler* -- Ice-T (Newjack hustler [??]).

nigga

(n) Curseword used originally by white people, taken over by black people as a name to show their proudness, and take off the edge; positive: *my nigga*: my friend. *I don't want to be called yo nigga* -- Public Enemy (Yo nigga).

nina

1) (n) [neenyah] Spanish for girl of 5 years or less. Chica is a teenage girl.

2) (n) [neenah] 9mm. Mixture of correct Spanish pronunciation of the i and NYC or Southern dialect pronunciation of the final -er as -ah of the word *niner*. *My nina* -- Dr. Dre (The Chronic).

nino

(n) Spanish term for godfather, as in Nino Brown. From the movie *The Godfather*. Also Nino Brown in New Jack City.

NOI

(n) Nation Of Islam. *Elijah is alive, Louis Farrakhan, NOI* -- Ice Cube (Enemy [1993]).

nucker

(n) A stupid person. Possible a combination of Numb Skull/Fucker, or maybe derived from knuckle head. *You call your nigger nucker* -- Digital Underground (if it wasn't for the rapping).

nuttin'

(n) Nothing. *Nine times outta ten, she's givin' up nuttin'* -- N.W.A. (???)

Nyquil

(n) Cold medicine that basically puts you to sleep, so you won't stay up all night coughing. *Knock ya out like Nyquil* -- Ice Cube(?)

-- O --

O.E.

(n) Short for Old English, a kind of malt liquor. *Coolin' on the corner with a bottle of O.E.* -- Beastie Boys (Time to get ill [1986]).

O.G.

1) (n) Original gangster, which you are considered to be when you have killed someone. *O.G. Original Gangster* -- Ice T. (Original Gangster).

2) (adj) True; original.

3) (n) Someone who is true to the game, who never sold out.

O'Malley

(n) An Irish name, pointing to the traditionally strong represented Irish in the LAPD. *Gonna put a slug in captain O'Malley* -- Cypress Hill (We ain't goin' out like that).

one-time

(n) Police officer. *One-time tried to come in my home...* -- Cypress Hill (How could I just kill a man). The lyrics don't indicate that he is talking about a cop at all, just some punk who broke into his house and tried to steal his gun.

oowop

(n) Two Philly blunts rolled together. From Nas (One Love [1994]).

O.P.P.

1) (n) Other people's pussy.

2) (n) Other people's penis.

3) (n) Other people's property.

oreo

(n) Black person who wants to be white, or people of mixed race. An oreo is a type of cookie black on the outside with white cream filling inside. *A message to the oreo cookie* -- Ice Cube (Turn off the radio [1990]).

other level

(n) A higher degree of consciousness satisfaction; beyond the average. *Grip it on that other level* -- Geto Boys (On that other level [1992]).

ox piece

(n) Home-made type of gun that people make in the prisons. *I heared you blew a nigga with an ox for the phone piece* -- Nas (One love)

-- P --

P

- 1) (n) Partner, friend.
- 2) (n) Pussy. *The P is free* -- BDP (The P is free)

papes/papers

(n) Money. ...*and we're getting papers, three months later we run our own caper* -- Boogie Down Productions (Love's gonna getcha).

parlaying

(v) West coast slang for partying or having a good time.

Pat Duke

(n) Patty Duke, an old sitcom television show. *On the stoop doing the Pat Duke* -- Ol' Dirty Bastard (Don't you know [1994]).

P-Dog

(n) Paris. *P-Dog comin' up, I'm staying low* -- Paris (The devil made me do it).

P-funk

(n) Music of the George Clinton time period. Examples: Parliament, Funkadelic.

peace

- 1) (n) That's what rap is all about for all you mentally challenged.
- 2) (interj) Farewell bidding.

P.E.

(n) Public Enemy.

peeling

(n) What comes off when peeling a cap. *The bigger the cap, the bigger the peelin'* -- Ice Cube (Steady mobbin' [1991]) Note that Cube is paraphrasing a Parliament line, where GC says *The bigger the headache, the bigger the pill*, but the way he says it, *pill* comes out sounding like *peel*.

peeling caps

(v) Killing someone by shooting him, shots to the head often disfigure it in such a way that the cranium is *peeled back*. *One wrong move and your cap's peeled* -- Ice T. (O.G. original gangster).

peep

(v) Check this out (as in peep this).

peeps

(n) People. *To all my peeps who didn't make it* -- Nas (The world is yours [1994]).

pen

(n) Penitentiary, in other words jail.

Penelope

(n) Police -- E-40 (???)

phat

- 1) (adj) Great, addictive.
- 2) (adj) If a girl was phat, she had Plenty o' Hips And Thighs, in other words PHysically ATtractive; old slang. Think 60's or early 70's here.

phat pocket

(n) A person who has a lot of money

pie

(n) Vagina.

piece

- 1) (n) A firearm.
- 2) (n) A work of graffiti art (short for masterpiece).

pig

(n) Police officer. *pig* as a synonym for *policeman* has been around for about two hundred years (according to *Partridge's Concise Dictionary of Slang and Unconventional English*). It did, however, disappear in the late nineteenth century (or, as the dictionary says *go underground* though I'm not sure what they mean by that) and reappear in common usage around 1960. I know that during Prohibition speakeasies who had bribed the local police to not bother them were called *blind pigs* (The Blind Pig bar here in Ann Arbor actually used to be such a place). I suspect that the term has been used to mean any kind of unpleasant person since humans started domesticating the things....

play

(v) To go along with. *I don't think so. Homey don't play that* -- Homey the Clown in *In Living Colour*.

play ball

(v) To play basketball. *Got a pair that I wear when I'm playin' ball* -- RUN-DMC (My Adidas).

player

1) (n) Someone who is "true to the game", ie. someone who never sold out. *To Chuck, Flava and Griff... You're true players* -- Ice-T (M.V.P.'s).

2) (n) A kind of playboy, so a player is good at picking up honeys.

3) (n) *Players* is a black-oriented adult men's magazine.

player hater

(n) One who despises or speaks ill of another because he does not have any game of his own.

play yourself

(v) To reveal a weakness, as in poker when you played your cards too early. *No friends 'cause you dissed 'em too, no money, no crew, you're through. You played yourself* -- Ice T. (You played yourself)

PO

1) (n) Police officer, parole officer or probation officer.

2) (adj) Piece out.

3) (v) Pissed off, angry.

point blank

1) (adj) At close range.

2) (adj) Right now, right here, in your face. Used when someone is trying to prove a point or something.

po-po

(n) The Police.

posse

(n) A group of followers or fans. This doesn't necessarily mean a gang. *They got too, too, too much posse* -- Public Enemy (Too much posse)

pot

(n) See [marijuana](#). *Must have been drinking, 'cause this ain't pot* -- Cypress Hill and Sonic Youth (Mary Jane).

power U

(n) Vagina. *I got the good power U* -- Method Man & Mary J. Blige (You're all I need [1994]).

primo

(n) A first-class joint. See [marijuana](#).

project gold

(n) Huge gold hoop earrings.

props

(n) An abbreviation of *propers* or proper respects. A show sits on physical and non-physical props. At an award ceremony the winner gives props: *And I would like to thank...*

P.S.K.

(n) Park Side Killers, Philadelphia gang of which Schoolly D. used to be a member. *P.S.K., we're makin' that green* -- Schoolly D. (P.S.K. (what does it mean?)).

psych

1) (n) Dupe. Check out 70's basketball commentary. Dr. J and especially Nate Archibald used to do dribbling moves to psych out opponents. Psych as in psychological head trips they threw.

2) (interj) I duped you.

puff la

(v) To smoke marijuana. *La* is short for lazy, or weed.

pump

(n) Pump of a pump-action shotgun *Sawed off shotgun, hand on the pump* -- Cypress Hill (Hand on the pump)

punanee

1) (n) Vagina.

2) (n) Sex, this is used more commonly.

punk

(n) A stupid, usually irritating person.

pussy

(n) Vagina.

-- R --

rab

(n) Short for rabbi. *Told a rab get off the rag* -- Public Enemy (Welcome to the Terrordome[1991])

raw

(adj) Showing the pure essence of pure hip hop.

real McCoy

(n) The original, not a fake. One real McCoy was a late 19th century boxer who fought under the name Kid McCoy and was so good that other fighters adopted the name, whereupon he had to bill himself as *the real McCoy*. Or, it was Scotch whisky, made by A. & M. MacKay of Glasgow. In the UK the saying is *the real MacKay*. Another idea is that the expression came from heroin originating from Macao (Dictionary of Cliches, pg.215). Yet another explanation is the American scientist Eligah McCoy, who had several inventions well known throughout the African American community in America. If you owned anything during those days, you wanted it to be *the real McCoy*.

really doe

(interj) Wrong spelling of *Really though*, used to emphasize a point. Ice Cube (Really doe).

reefer

(n) See [marijuana](#). (1920s-1960s) Marijuana wrapped in cigarette paper, may be a variant of Mexican *grefa* (Juba to Jive, pg. 380).

represent

(v) New big hip-hop word. Means just what you think it means. *Represent!* -- NAS (Represent[1994])

rip

(v) Old street slang - to steal, stolen, to take aggressively.

rock

- 1) (n) Crack.
- 2) (v) To have sexual intercourse.
- 3) (n) Biblical. Alcatraz, Jamaica...

rock star

(n) Crack addict

Rodney King

- 1) (n) Rodney King was beaten up by police when he was placed under arrest. The whole incident was videotaped, leading to the infamous *Rodney King trials*, where the police officers were under trial for assault and battering. The outcome of the trial was not satisfactory to many people in LA, leading to the LA riots of 1992.
- 2) (n) To pull a Rodney King: To initiate police brutality. *He'll probably pull me over and I laugh, pull a Rodney King and I'll blast at his punk ass* -- Tupac (Souljah's Revenge [1993]).

roll

- 1) (v) To hang with a given person or crowd. *I'm rollin' with the new jack crew* -- Ice-T (Newjack hustler [1991]).
- 2) (v) To roll someone means to beat someone up.

roll up

- 1) (v) To gang up on a given person.
- 2) (v) arriving on a scene.

Rolling 60's

(n) Notorious South Central Blood set.

R.T.D.

Rough, tough and dangerous: a bus that travels in the ghetto is called because people are getting robbed or mugged on a regular basis. The former name for the Los Angeles County Mass Transit (Bus) was Rapid Transit District.

rush

- 1) (v) Bogard, physically assault.
 - 2) (v) After taking drugs, one often gets a rush
-

-- S --

SA

(n) Wrong spelling of the Mexican word *ese*, which means dude. *SA's cool, don't fuck with them boys* - Ice Cube (Really Doe).

sagging deuce

(n) A lowered Cadillac car.

school

(n) A specific era in hip-hop history. There have been many discussions about the difference between the *Old School* and the *New School*. One accepted view was put to words in alt.rap by Charles L. Isbell:

All of time can be divided pretty easily this way:

- Everything before *Run DMC* (Run DMC)
- Everything before *It Takes A Nation of Millions To Hold Us Back* (Public Enemy)

It gets harder after that, but *maybe* you'd have to label parallel movements with stuff like:

- Everything before *Straight Outta Compton* (NWA) and *Amerikkka's Most Wanted* (Ice Cube) for the West Coast Gangsta Movement
- Everything before *3 Feet High And Rising* (De La Soul) and *Low End Theory* (A Tribe Called Quest) for the Jazz/Bohemian Movement

Others seem to think we're about to enter the Everything before *93 'Til Infinity* (Souls of Mischief) era for the Ascendency of Hieroglyphics, but I'll reserve judgement on that.

There are also several dark moments: MC Hammer ushered in the HipPop Era and Vanilla *No I really used to be rich; May I take your order?* Ice ushered in something unspeakable (Snow, if nothing else).

Hmmmmm, here's a way to pass the time: what are the key moments/movements and what albums/artists best represent them? How have they influenced the direction of rap? Making no value judgements, I'd have to say that the four most influential hip-hop moments/movements are the ones I listed above and for obvious reasons.

Scooby Doo

- 1) (n) The cartoon character.
- 2) (n) A blunt. *Scooby Doo, where the fuck are you?* -- Cypress Hill (???)
- 3) The B-side on Lick a Shot (US).

scope

- 1) (v) Look at something. *Scope that bitch*
- 2) (v) Stare down someone.

scrap a lick

(v) As in *can't scrap a lick*, meaning, can't put up a fight, has a poor fighting ability. From Dr. Dre (*Fuck wit Dre day*).

screw

(v) To play a hip-hop record at a slower speed, said to accentuate the bass and facilitate mixes with ballads. Also screw mixes, get my screw on. Originated in the late 80's, when Fresh Records released 12" singles at 45 rpm. Many DJ's missed the speed designation and mistakenly played it at the slower 33 rpm speed. Many listeners began to intentionally request those records (esp. Mantronix's *Fresh is the Word*) at the slow speed. Now done with CD players with variable pitch (or vinyl).

sell out

(n) Doing something purely for the financial gain, Selling your soul. *Should Ice Cube sell out? You say hell no!* -- Ice Cube (*When will they shoot?* [??]).

sense

(n) An abbreviation of the word "sinsemellia", which is a form of [marijuana](#) that has no seeds, because it is isolated from male pollen during the blooming process. Instead of making seeds, the marijuana plant makes more THC, hence this *sense* is more potent, and generally better than standard ganja.

set

- 1) (n) A denomination of one of the larger gangs, a set is not necessarily friendly with other sets in the same gang. *Baby girl asked me what set am I claiming* - Sir MixaLot (Rapper's Reputation)
- 2) (n) The group of songs in a concert by a specific performer.

set tripping

- (v) Killing someone in your own gang, but who is in a different [set](#). i.e. a different street but in the same gang.

shife

- (adj) See [mark](#) or [newjack](#). A rookie or one who purports to be more than he is. *And he knew he was shife, he knew he was hype* -- Bust Down (Nasty bitch (intro) [1993]).

shimmy

- (n) See [booty](#). *Shimmy shimmy ya!* - Ol' Dirty Bastard (Shimmy shimmy ya [1995]).

sholda than show

- Surer than sure.

shookone

- (n) Individual who acts like he is tough, but when things get hectic or tense, he gets scared and acts like the punk he really is. They have been shook up by the reality and are labeled shookones.

shorty

- 1) (n) Little person.
- 2) (n) Female, like baby or honey. *I got myself a shorty, I got myself a forty* -- Wu-Tang Clan (Method Man).

shotty

- (n) Shotgun.

show and prove

- (v) Demonstrate.

sike

- See [psych](#).

sister

- (n) Woman of the same group; friend.

skirt

- (n) A female.

skitzing

- (v) Acting bizarre or crazy, from schizophrenic.

skunk

- (n) See [marijuana](#).

skeezer

- (n) See [freak](#). *If you wanna know what a skeezer is, it's a girl who's on my jock cause I'm in showbiz* -- LL Cool J. (???)

skill

- (n) General ability; ability on the microphone.

skins

- 1) (n) The wall of the vagina. *She likes to bend over and then she spreads the skins* -- Brand Nubian (Slow down [1990]).
- 2) (n) Condom.

slab

- (n) The ground; to lower a car to the slab: to lower down. *I'm breaking em down to the slab* -- Rage (The chronic).

slamming

- 1) (adj) Dynamic.
- 2) (adj) Something really good/attractive. *And may I say, may I say, that, that outfit you got on is slammin'* -- L.L. Cool J (MrGoodbar).

slang

- (v) The act of selling drugs.

slanted-back

- (n) A Cadillac Seville, because of the slanted trunk of the earlier models.

slap skins

1) (v) Slapping hands together.

2) (v) Having sex. Slapping skins, hitting skins, getting skins, etc. Skins being the skin of the opposite sex.

sleep [on]

(v) Ignore.

slipping

1) (adj) On the downward trend, losing the edge. *Cause you're slipping!* -- Boogie Down Productions (You're slipping).

2) (v) Not paying attention *Yeah I caught that fool slippin' and I smoked him -- ??*

slow your roll

(interj) Slow down whatever you are doing. *Slow ya roll like your leg was broken -- Kuruft (For my niggaz and my bitches [1993]).*

smashing

(v) See [slapping skins](#).

smoke

(v) Killing someone. *Right then, I knew I had to smoke his ass -- N.W.A. (Gangsta gangsta).*

snap

(n) a form of verbal jesting. Also French and English speaking Africans especially in Dakar and Paris say 'oh snap' in two contexts. 1) 'oh snap' if you get bagged on (snapped on) and 2) meaning 'oh shit' as in 'I didn't know' or 'I forgot something'.

sneakers

(n) Sportswear shoes. *I wear my sneakers but I'm not a sneak -- RUN-DMC (My Adidas).*

soggy indo

(n) A joint (see [marijuana](#)) that has been dipped in PCP or something.

SP-12

(n) The E-MU SP-12 (or SP-1200), a high-end sampling drum machine for rap music production. These pieces of equipment came out around 1985 and 87 respectively. The SP-12 did not have an internal disk drive, but EMU saw the problems since it only worked with a Commodore diskdrive. So they made the next model with an internal drive. Incidentally Ced-Gee of Ultra-Magnetics was the first person in hip-hop to use this machine which has become one of the most sought after pieces of equipment to date. So much that EMU has reissued the SP-1200. *Just me, a mic, and an SP-12 -- Young MC (Album Filler).*

spliff

(n) See [marijuana](#). Jamaican marijuana cigarette.

spray

(v) Firing a round of bullets. *Pulled out the uzi, cruised by and sprayed him -- Ice Cube (Gangsta's Fairytale).*

squab

(n) Shortened form of *to squabble*; to fight, physically confront. *Quick to squab, always down for the job -- E-40 featuring Suga T (Sprinkle me [??]).*

squeeze the trigger

(v) To shoot a gun. *Yo homeboy, squeeze the trigger! -- Ice T. (squeeze the trigger) [198?]*

stake

(v) Making money, often used in conjunction with paper, i.e. *stakin' paper*.

steel

(n) Pistol. *Finger on the trigger with my hand upon the steel -- Cypress Hill (Hand on the pump)*

stilo

(n) Pronounced as *steelo*, is a term that like a lot of other hip-hop terms originated in New York City. It is Spanish, and it means style.

step off

(v) Back away from a confrontation.

step to

(v) Engage a confrontation. *So don't step to me 'cause you boys 'll get wacked -- Ice-T (Power).*

step up

(v) See [step to](#).

stupid

1) (adj) Creative.

2) (adv) Very. *Evil's got the funky beat, a stupid dope loop* -- Ice-T (Fried chicken [1991]).

strapped

1) (adj) Strapped in: armed.

2) (adj) Rich.

stunt

1) (n) Sexual act.

2) (n) A person who performs stunts.

3) (n) To pull a stunt, to try something difficult.

sucka

(n) person easily duped.

Swayze

(n) I'm out of here, I'm ghost. From the movie *Ghost* which features the actor Patrick Swayze.

sweat

1) (vt) over-patronize.

2) (v) Worry, as in *don't sweat it*.

3) (v) Harrass or scrutinize. *There's one or two narcs in the area that's sweatin' me* -- Digital Underground (Sex packets).

swerver

(n) Car.

swing

(n) To have sexual intercourse (Grand Puba).

swing low

(n) To have oral sex (Kool Moe Dee).

switch

(n) Your average toggle switch. Low-riding drivers use them to control the hydraulics or any other electrical device in their cars. *Rollin' in my fo' with sixteen switches* Dr. Dre -- (Let Me Ride).

-- T --

tag

- 1) (n) A persons graffiti nickname.
- 2) (v) The act of writing graffiti on an object (tagging up).

Tanqueray

(n) A brand of distilled English Gin, used to make cocktail drinks. It was recently popularized by several rap and also by a very creative advertising campaign in the US, featuring an elderly white man named Mr. Jenkins: *Mr. Jenkins doesn't understand all the Hip-hop lyrics at his friend's record release party, but he understands gin and juice very clearly.* is the line that was used. *My homey Dr. Dre came through with a gang of Tanqueray* -- Snoop Doggy Dogg (Gin and Juice [??]).

tastey

(n) A fly honey.

tax

1) (vt) Beat up or down physically. 2) (v) to take away something after you kick a sucka's ass. *and Ima tax that ass like the government* -- BDK (Pimpin ain't easy).

thang

(n) Thing; *your own thang*: your own way.

thai stick

(n) See [marijuana](#).

three-wheel motion

(n) Ride upon three wheels with a low rider car. You can see it in videos for *Ain't nuthin but a G thang* and *Today was a good day*. One of the back corners of the car is really close to the ground and the opposite corner is picked up off the road.

through

(n) Drunk or high to the point of almost being unconscious.

throw-up

- 1) (n) A non-complex piece of graffiti usually involving only two colors.
- 2) (n) To tag your graffiti on something ("Watch my back as I throw up this tag").

tical

1) (n) Emphasis, like an exclamation point at the end of a sentence. *Let's go uptown and hit the spot kid, tical* 2) (n) See [marijuana](#). *Smoke a bag of tical* -- Method Man (???)

tight

(adj) A state of mind, feeling really good at the moment. Straight, legitimate, all-good.

tip

- 1) (n) Penis (Get off my tip).
- 2) (n) Q-Tip from a Tribe Called Quest
- 3) (n) The end, the fullest. *To the tip!* -- Schoolly D. (Mr. Big Dick).

Tipper Gore

Tipper has become a synonym for narrowmindedness. She had to do with the committee that decides which CD's get the *Parental advisory* stickers. *You gotta be high to believe that you can change the world with a sticker on a record sleeve* -- Bodycount (Freedom of speech [1991]).

toy

- 1) (n) A poor or beginner graffiti artist.
- 2) (v) To purposefully write over another graffiti artists work (toy someone out).
- 3) (n) A sucker.
- 4) (n) Short for Trouble On Your System.

Tragniew Park Crips

(n) Compton crip set, associated with MC Eiht. *Tragniew Park you say...* -- DJ Quik (Dollaz & Sense [1994]).

trap

(v) to sell drugs.

trill

(adj) Rough, street-wise person; *Trill ass nigga* -- Underground Kingz (The Southern way [1992], also on Too hard to swallow [1994]).

tripping

- 1) (v) Literally making a misstep, figuratively doing something wrong.
- 2) (v) Responding to the effects of narcotics.
- 3) (v) Freak for any reason. *Don't start tripping, or we'll go toe to toe* -- ??

truck jewelry

(n) big gold jewelry.

TTP

Tree Top Piru, a notorious Compton Blood set, associated with DJ Quik (addressed to MC Eiht) *Westside Trees sprayin' all tha fleas* -- DJ Quik (Dollaz+Sense [1995]).

twenty sack

(n) An eight of an ounce of marijuana. See [marijuana](#). From Nas (NY state of mind).

-- U --

uncle L.

(n) L.L. Cool J. *Like uncle L. said, I'm rippin' up shows* -- Public Enemy (Shut 'em down).

uncle tom

1) (n) A black man who wants to be white. From the book *Uncle Tom's Cabin*.

2) A tattler; a person who befriends another only to deceive him, usually in the workplace.

USG

(n) United States Ghettos (Onyx).

uzi

(n) Israeli semi-automatic gun. *Hold it, rock! Miuzi weighs a ton* -- Public Enemy (Miuzi weighs a ton).

-- V --

vacuum lungs

(n) Taking a deep smoke. *Cause fools be havin' them vacuum lungs* -- The Luniz (???)

vato

(n) East LA hispanic slang, meaning homeboy. *Vato, cholo, call us what you will* -- Kid Frost (La Raza [1990]).

vexed

(v) Very angry.

vmb

(n) Video Music Box, a NYC hip-hop video music show.

-- W --

wack

- 1) (adj) Negative: crazy or weird. Mostly this is meant
- 2) (adj) Positive: extremely good.
- 3) (v) To kill someone. *So don't step to me 'cause you boys'll get wacked* -- Ice-T (Power).

watching Andy Griffith

(v) refers to masturbating. Martin Lawrence (You so crazy).

wax

- 1) (n) Record album(s). *And we put it on wax, it's the new style* -- Beastie Boys (The New Style [1986]).
- 2) (v) Synonym to tax as in *wax his ass* from the black popular *mop up the floor with your ass*.
- 3) (adj) Describing refinement as in 'waxed, buffed and simonized' from the Mister Magic radio show.

wet

- 1) (v) Kill someone. As in wet from blood when someone is sprayed. *Now I gotta wetcha* -- Ice Cube (I'm gonna wetcha)
- 2) (v) Excite a female. **WHBI-FM (105.9)**
(n) The first radio station in New York that had a hip-hop show (Mr. Magic, the Awesome Two, Afrika Izlam). The station later changed its call letters to WNWK-FM.

wheels of steel

(n) Turntables. *My DJ Code Money on the wheels of steel* -- Schoolly D. (Gucci time).

who ride

- 1) (v) To get [buckwild](#). *The darkside where the real G's who ride* -- Macadoshish from Thug Life (Don't get twisted [1994])
- 2) (n) The who ride is the act of getting wild and crazy, like a riot or an assassination, or any wild activity.

wigga

(n) A white man who wants to be black, from *wannabe nigga*.

wilding

(adj) Acting recklessly.

wild thing

(n) Sexual intercourse. *Hey you two, I was once like you and I loved to do the wild thing* -- Tone Loc (Wild thing).

willy

(n) Penis.

word

(n) Biblical (John1:1). *logos*: truth.

word is bond

(interj) Saying this means that what you are saying is absolutely correct, and you do not have to put up money to prove it, you just say it. *Cause I'm frontin' in my ride, and my word is bond* -- LL Cool J (The boomin' system [1990]).

wreck

- 1) (v) To accomplish something.
 - 2) (v) To destroy or break up. *All they wanted to do is wreck and flex* Public Enemy (Burn Hollywood, burn [1990]).
-

-- Y --

y'all

(n) Short for *you all*. Also sometimes used for *you*, singular.

yo

(interj) the shout that gets the most attention.