

Regency Cant

Basic Cant

<i>bamming</i>	being funny, hum-bugging
<i>bang-up</i>	most stylish, á la mode
<i>beneath my touch</i>	not good enough
<i>blunt, flimsy, pewter, rhino</i>	money
<i>bushed</i>	poor, without resources
<i>buzz</i>	talk, rumour
<i>clock</i>	face
<i>Corinthian</i>	a gentleman who is fashionable and adept at sporting activities.
<i>dandy</i>	A gentleman who is overly concerned with his dress and appearance.
<i>duds</i>	clothes
<i>dun territory</i>	in debt, i.e. likely to be “dunned” by bill collectors
<i>fagged to death</i>	tired, exhausted
<i>high ropes</i>	angry, excited
<i>leech, quack</i>	a doctor
<i>monkey</i>	£500
<i>parson's mousetrap</i>	marriage
<i>queer street</i>	of doubtful solvency
<i>rum</i>	queer, but also excellent
<i>side-slips, by-blows</i>	illegitimate children
<i>swimming in lard</i>	very rich
<i>Tick River (up or in)</i>	deep in debt, i.e. living on credit (“on the tick”)
<i>vowels</i>	An IOU, i.e. a written promise to pay someone
<i>warm</i>	wealthy

Drinking Cant

<i>above par</i>	tolerably drunk
<i>blue tape, daffy, eye-water</i>	gin
<i>cut, foxed, lushy, bosky</i>	drunk
<i>flash the hash, shoot the cat</i>	to vomit
<i>on the cut</i>	on a drinking binge
<i>wet</i>	drink

Sporting Cant

<i>blackleg</i>	sporting gambling or sharper
<i>bone setter</i>	poor quality horse
<i>bottom</i>	pluck, grit, stamina
<i>boxing a charlie</i>	trapping a watchman in his box, or upturning the box
<i>bufe nabber</i>	dog thief
<i>cross</i>	a “fixed” fight
<i>delope</i>	to fire wide deliberately
<i>displays to advantage</i>	fighting well (boxing)

<i>facier</i>	blow in the face
<i>fives</i>	fists
<i>Fancy</i>	boxing, sporting fraternity
<i>fuzz</i>	to pretend to shuffle a deck of cards
<i>jack in a box</i>	card sharp
<i>mill</i>	to box
<i>muzzler</i>	upper-cut
<i>parting company</i>	falling off a horse
<i>pick up</i>	act as a second in boxing
<i>sweet goer,</i>	fine bit of horse-flesh
<i>prime bit of blood</i>	
<i>winder</i>	a body blow

Cant concerning the ladies

<i>angelic</i>	single young woman
<i>ballum-rankum</i>	dance by naked prostitutes
<i>blue stocking</i>	a lady interested in books, learning and scholarly pursuits
<i>chipper, chit</i>	lively girl
<i>Carte Blanche</i>	paying for the patronage of a courtesan in return for exclusivity
<i>Cyprian, High Flyer,</i>	high-class prostitute or courtesan
<i>demi-rep, snug armfuls</i>	
<i>hoyden</i>	A tomboy; a girl who behaves in a boisterous and unladylike manner.
<i>muslin</i>	girl
<i>nymph of the pavey, nun,</i>	a lower class prostitute
<i>Haymarket ware</i>	
<i>skirt, mort</i>	female
<i>take</i>	a lady who did not "take" during her Season did not win any admirers or suitors.
<i>winker</i>	bright-eyed girl

Cant about High Society

<i>cit</i>	a person engaged in trade in the City (derogatory)
<i>Diamond Squad</i>	fashionable society
<i>Grand Strut</i>	Rotten Row, Hyde Park
<i>mushroom</i>	a cit who aspires to the upper class (i.e. unattractive social growths that spring up overnight)
<i>town tabby</i>	Society matron, dowager (<i>tabby</i> is an old maid)

Dodgy Cant

<i>barker</i>	pistol
<i>beak, rum beck</i>	magistrate, justice of the peace
<i>cent per centre</i>	moneylender
<i>claret, ruby</i>	blood

<i>crapped, crop</i>	hanged
<i>crash, use up</i>	kill
<i>flash</i>	loosely, relating to the underworld, also disreputable, showy
<i>free traders</i>	smugglers
<i>gammon</i>	trick
<i>grease, hush money, sop</i>	bribe
<i>Holy Land</i>	the slums of St. Giles
<i>hush</i>	murder
<i>limbo, Spike Hotel</i>	prison
<i>Paddington frisk</i>	a hanging
<i>prig</i>	to steal, a thief
<i>rapper</i>	a false witness
<i>sharp</i>	a sword
<i>sharper</i>	a con man
<i>snitch</i>	betray

Other Cant

<i>Black Beetles</i>	lower orders
<i>cut his pigtail</i>	resigned his commission
<i>gibberish</i>	thieves (or Regency) cant
<i>teize</i>	a flogging
<i>Wild Goose Nation</i>	Ireland