

# Target Language Slang Acquisition

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**ПРИКОЛЬНО**  
ИНТЕРЕСНО, ЗАНИМАТЕЛЬНО,  
ЗДОРОВО, ИЗУМИТЕЛЬНО,  
ЗАБАВНО, ОРИГИНАЛЬНО,  
ПОРАЗИТЕЛЬНО

**RUSSIAN SLANG**  
Learn to Sound like  
A Real Russian in a Week!



# Questions & Guidelines

1. How to approach slang?
2. What should be a subject for the acquisition?

regarding

autonomous learning  
andragogy  
transformative teaching  
open architecture

*Guidelines*  
(the excerpt from Dr. B.L. Leaver's  
*Educational philosophy*  
presentation)

Reasons to study  
slang/informal language

Appropriateness of the  
guidelines for 5 days 40 hour  
(short) courses

	Transformation
<i>Theory</i>	Humanistic Learning (Rogers)
<i>Class Work</i>	Self-directed study Contracts
<i>Homework</i>	Research
<i>Teacher</i>	Advisor
<i>Tests</i>	Formative
<i>Syllabus</i>	Contracts Open Architecture

A considerable  
and often  
dominant part of  
TL real life  
communication

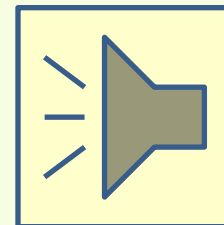
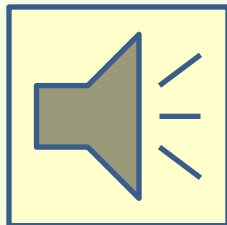
Refreshment  
"pass/fail" nature of  
the short program is  
the most comfortable  
environment for adult  
L3- L4 seasoned  
linguists

# ***Slang... Sublanguage... Informal Language***

**Slang refers to important routine social functions**



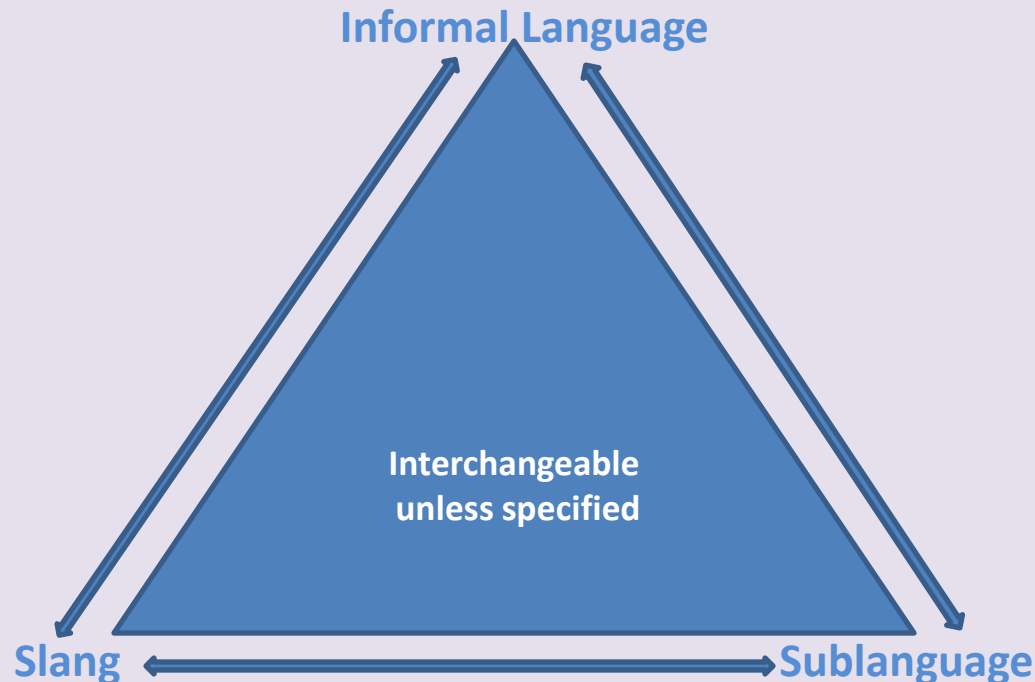
**Every single request of a customer includes slang**



**Almost every business deal/transaction in RF  
assumes the slang**

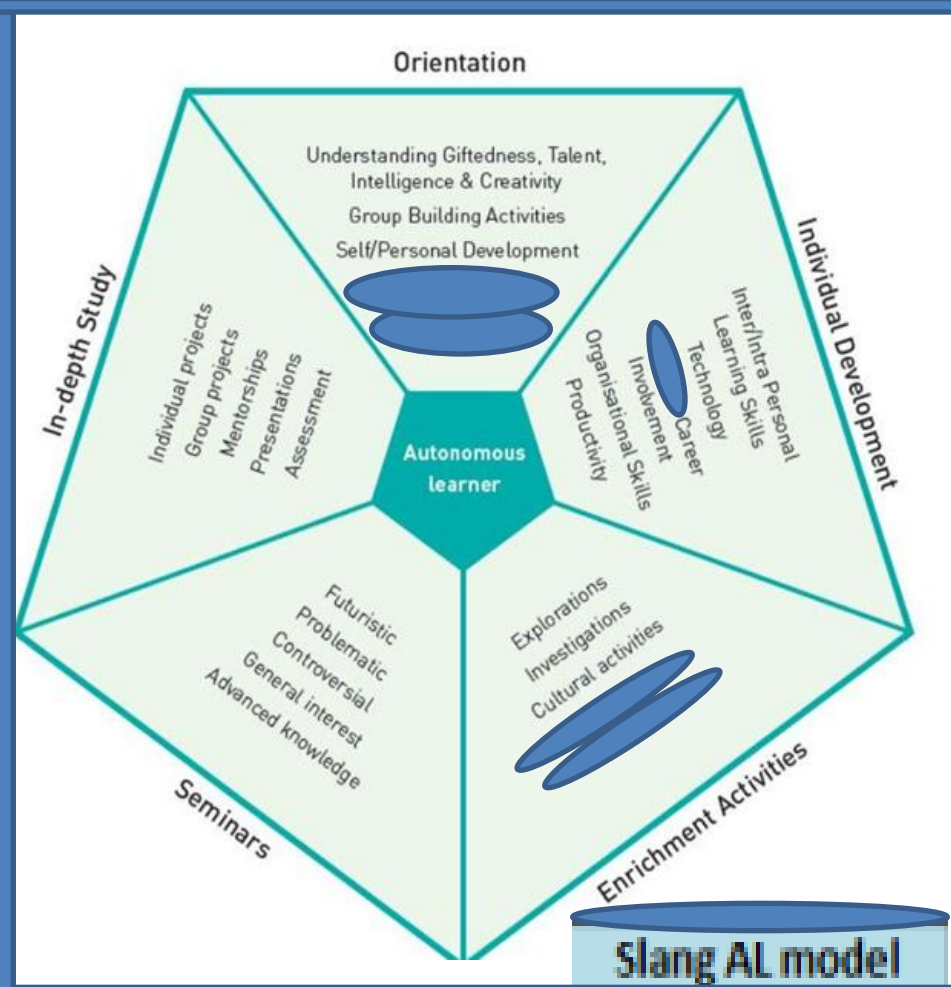
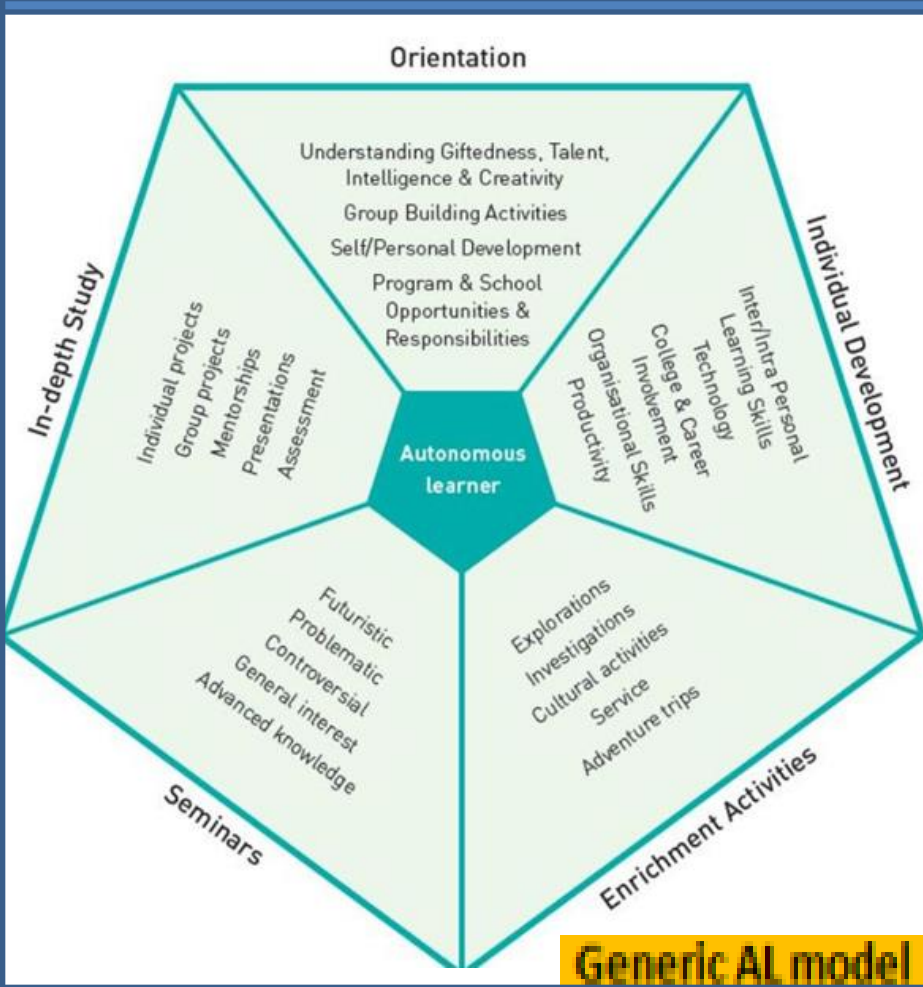
# *Slang... Sublanguage... Informal Language*

**Slang.** ...synonyms: *informal language: colloquialisms, patois, argot* etc.  
*online web powered by "Oxford dictionaries"*



**Sublanguage.** ...synonyms: *informal language, colloquialisms*  
*<https://www.macmillandictionary.com/dictionary/american/sublanguage>*

# Autonomous Learning



# Contract

*educ.ualberta.ca/staff/...'* sample

<i>What are you going to learn? (Objectives)</i>	<i>How are you going to learn it? (Resources and Strategies)</i>	<i>Target date for completion</i>
<b>What are you going to learn? (Objectives)</b> Itemize what you want to be able to do or know when completed.	<b>How are you going to learn it? (Resources and Strategies)</b> What do you have to do in order meet each of the objectives defined?	<b>Target date for completion.</b> When do you plan to complete each task?
<i>How are you going to know that you learned it? (Evidence)</i>	<i>How are you going to prove that you learned it? (Verification)</i>	<i>Advising faculty member feedback (Evaluation)</i>
<b>How are you going to know that you learned it? (Evidence)</b> What is the specific task that you are to complete to demonstrate learning?	<b>How are you going to prove that you learned it? (Verification)</b> Who will receive the product of your learning and how will they evaluate it?	<b>Advising faculty member feedback (Evaluation)</b> How well was the task completed? Provide an assessment decision.

# ***Humanistic Learning Theory.***

## ***Andragogy***

### Maslow

the primary goal to be self-actualization  
The knowledge or acquisition of a set of values  
The realization of life as precious  
The acquisition of peak experiences

### Knowles

as one matures, one moves from a dependent personality to that of a self-directing human being, an adult's experience is a rich resource for learning.

Finally, we see that

Andragogy refers to methods and principles used in adult education. The word comes from the Greek *άνδρ-* *andr-*, meaning "man", and *άγωγός* *agogos*, meaning "leader of"; it literally means "leader of man", whereas "pedagogy" literally means "leading children".

### Rogers

both therapy and learning as a similar process.

# Various TL Slang Sources

**Slang (*Informal Language; Sublanguage*) is Typical for Every TL Taught in the USA**



Chinese Chat Codes

<https://www.yellowbridge.com/chinese/pagercodes.php>

Chinese Slang Dictionary

[http://www.languagerealm.com/chinese/chinese\\_slang.php](http://www.languagerealm.com/chinese/chinese_slang.php)



Arabic Slang Dictionary

<http://coolslang.com/index.php?OL=ara>

壞蛋

<https://www.ummah.com/forum/forum/library/learn-arabic-and-other-languages/313995-slang-arabic?306544-slang-arabic=>

25 Slang Phrases That Prove Mexicans Are The Best

[https://www.buzzfeed.com/javiermoreno/mexican-slang-no-mames-guey?utm\\_term=.wbqeK2BpkV#.dwWQvRJKmj](https://www.buzzfeed.com/javiermoreno/mexican-slang-no-mames-guey?utm_term=.wbqeK2BpkV#.dwWQvRJKmj)

قال بعض السلف :  
خلق الله الملايكة عقولاً بلا شهوة ، وخلق  
البهائم شهوة بلا عقول ، وخلق ابن آدم وركب فيه العقل  
والشهوة ، فمن غلب عقله شهوته التحق بالملايكة ، ومن غلبت شهوته عقله التحق بالبهائم .



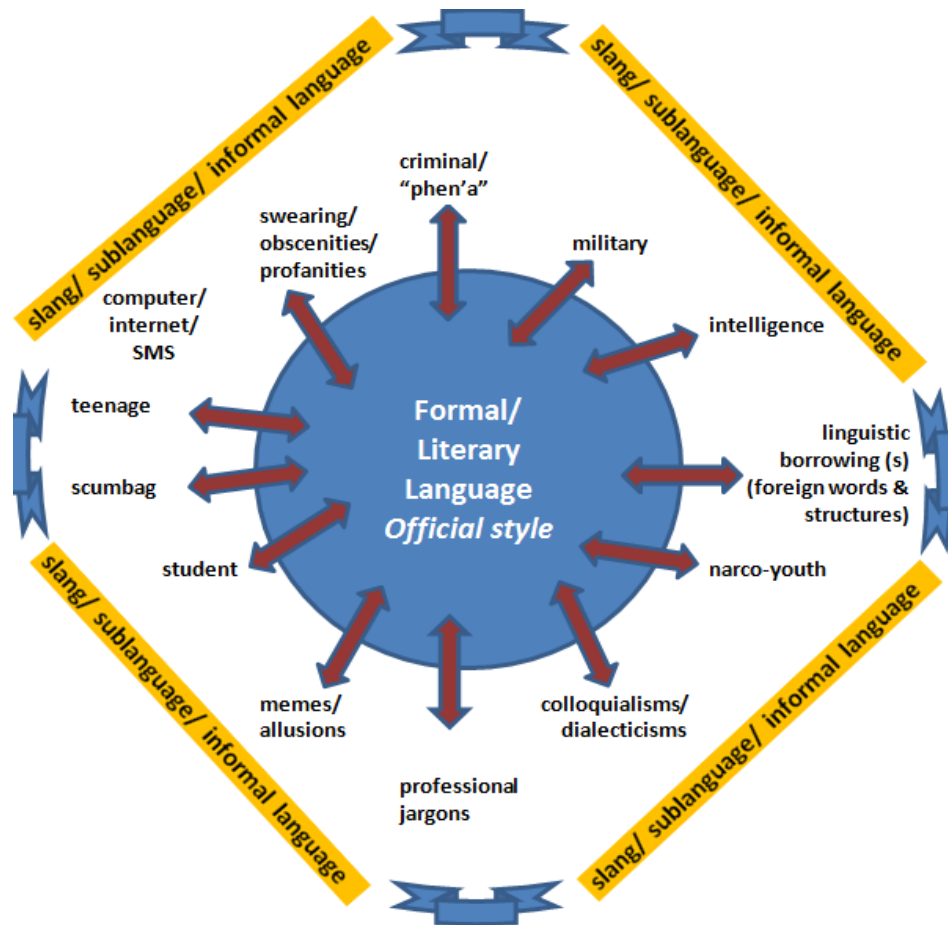


# *Types of Slang (Sublanguages) – Russian Language Features*

*(see the description in the handout)*

<b>Criminal</b>	Computer/ Internet	<b>Memes/ Allusions</b>
<b>Military</b>	Scumbag's language	Colloquialisms/ Dialecticisms
<b>Intelligence</b>	<b>Narco-Youth</b>	<b>Civic professional jargons</b>
<b>Obscenities/ Swearing/ Profanities</b>	<b>School/ Teenage</b>	<b>Student</b>
	<b>Linguistic borrowings</b>	

# Formal vs. Informal (Russian Diglossia)



# *Features to Consider*

## **Degree of self-sufficiency**

The extent to which this type of informal language has all necessary structural, vocabulary-related, and other semantical means for the expression; therefore it can be used solely without any mandatory interference neither from any sublanguage nor from formal language.

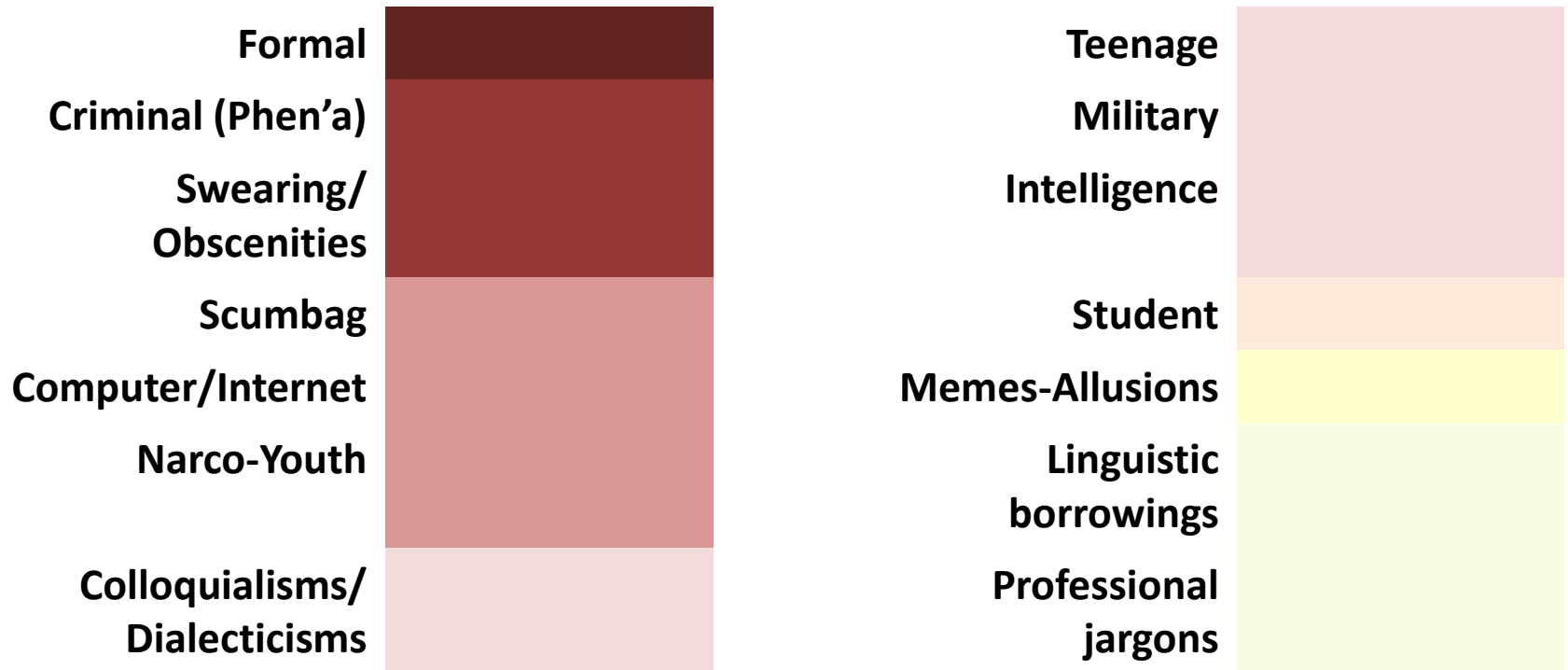
## **Degree of comprehensibility**

The extent to which this type of informal language is understood by professional Level 3 learners.

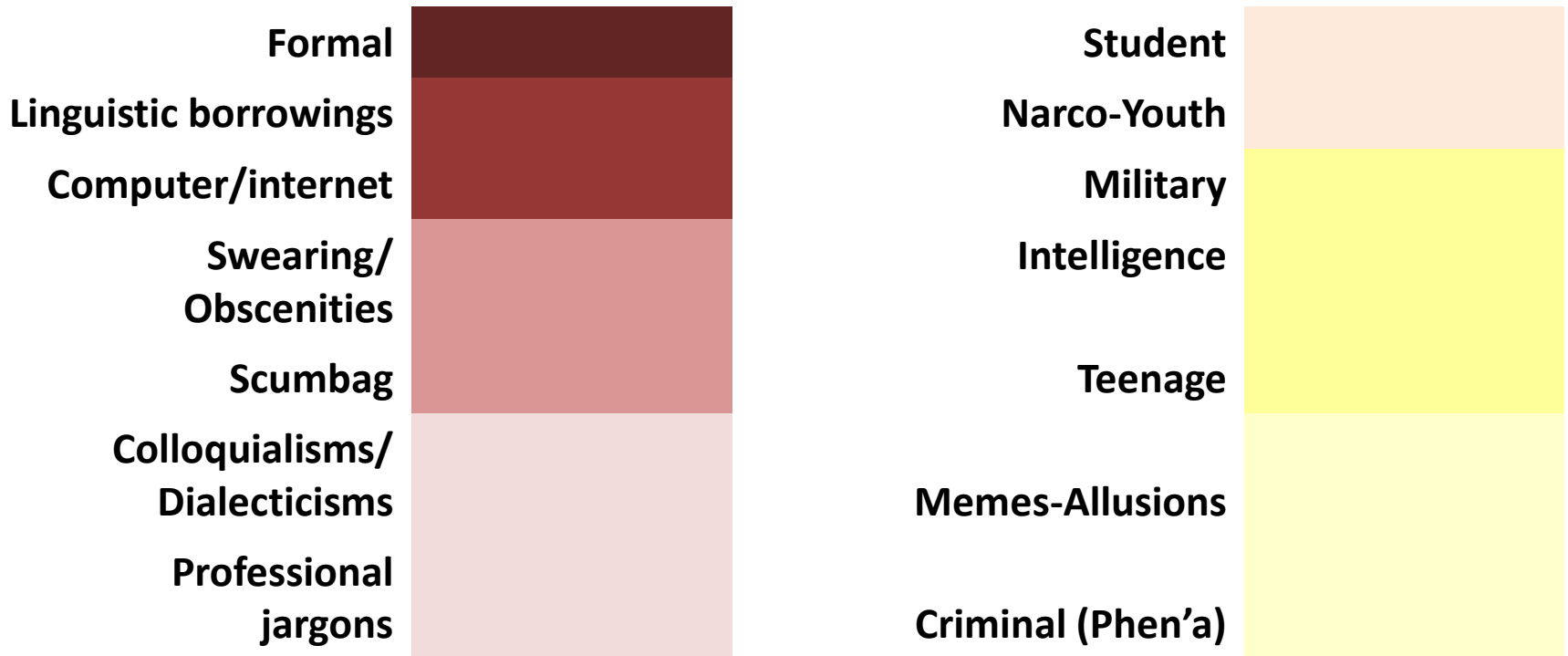
## **Degree of compatibility**

- (1) The extent, to which this type of informal language includes elements of other sublanguages; therefore, it requires knowledge of other sublanguages; and
- (2) Usage with another formal or informal language (i.e., slang or jargon)

# *Degree of Self-Sufficiency in Communication*



# *Degree of Comprehensibility by Level 3 Learners*



# ***Degree of compatibility in communication***

**1. Formal is compatible with any informal... though it does not include any informal element**

**13**

**3. Swearing/Obscenities**  
3.1. Military  
3.2. Narco-Youth  
3.3. Colloquialisms/Dialecticisms  
3.4. Formal

**4**

**2. A vernacular of *colloquialisms, dialecticisms* and street talk**

- 2.1. Criminal
- 2.2. Swearing/Obscenities
- 2.3. Narco-Youth
- 2.4. Teenage
- 2.5. Military
- 2.6. Student
- 2.7. Memes-Allusions
- 2.8. Linguistic borrowings
- 2.9. Formal

**9**

**4. Student**

- 4.1. Criminal
- 4.2. Narco-Youth
- 4.3. Memes-Allusions
- 4.4. Linguistic borrowings
- 4.5. Computer/Internet
- 4.6. Formal

**6**

# *Degree of compatibility in communication*

## **5. Teenage slang**

- 5.1. Criminal
- 5.2. Scumbag
- 5.3. Swearing/Obscenities
- 5.4. Computer/internet
- 5.5. Narco-Youth
- 5.6. Colloquialisms/  
Dialecticisms
- 5.7. Linguistic borrowings
- 5.8. Formal

**8**

## **6. Military slang**

- 6.1. Criminal
- 6.2. Swearing/Obscenities
- 6.3. Narco-Youth
- 6.4. Colloquialisms/  
Dialecticisms
- 6.5. Formal

**5**

## **7. Scumbag language**

- 7.1. Criminal
- 7.2. Swearing/Obscenities
- 7.3. Narco-Youth
- 7.4. Colloquialisms/  
Dialecticisms
- 7.5. Computer/internet
- 7.6. Memes-Allusions
- 7.7. Formal

**7**

# ***Degree of compatibility in communication***

## **8. Criminal**

- 8.1. Narco-Youth
- 8.2. Colloquialisms/  
Dialecticisms
- 8.3. Formal

**3**

## **9. Linguistic Borrowings**

- 9.1. Computer/internet
- 9.2. Memes-Allusions
- 9.3. Professional jargons
- 9.4. Formal

**4**

## **10. Civic Professional Jargons**

- 10.1. Swearing/Obscenities
- 10.2. Colloquialisms/  
Dialecticisms
- 10.3. Memes-Allusions
- 10.4. Formal

**4**



# ***Degree of compatibility in communication***

## **8. Criminal**

- 8.1. Narco-Youth
- 8.2. Colloquialisms/  
Dialecticisms
- 8.3. Formal

**3**

## **9. Linguistic Borrowings**

- 9.1. Computer/internet
- 9.2. Memes-Allusions
- 9.3. Professional jargons
- 9.4. Formal

**4**

## **10. Civic Professional Jargons**

- 10.1. Swearing/Obscenities
- 10.2. Colloquialisms/  
Dialecticisms
- 10.3. Memes-Allusions
- 10.4. Formal

**4**

# ***Degree of compatibility in communication***

## **11. Intelligence**

- 8.1. Colloquialisms/  
Dialecticisms**
- 8.2 Criminal**
- 8.3. Formal**

**3**

## **12. Memes-Allusions**

- 9.1. Computer/internet**
- 9. 2. Professional jargons**
- 9.3. Colloquialisms/  
Dialecticisms**
- 9.4. Formal**

**4**

## **13. Narco-Youth**

- 13.1. Student**
- 13.2. Colloquialisms/  
Dialecticisms**
- 13.3. Criminal**
- 14.4. Formal**

**4**

# ***Degree of Compatibility in Communication***

## **14. Computer/Internet**

**14.1. Colloquialisms/  
Dialecticisms**

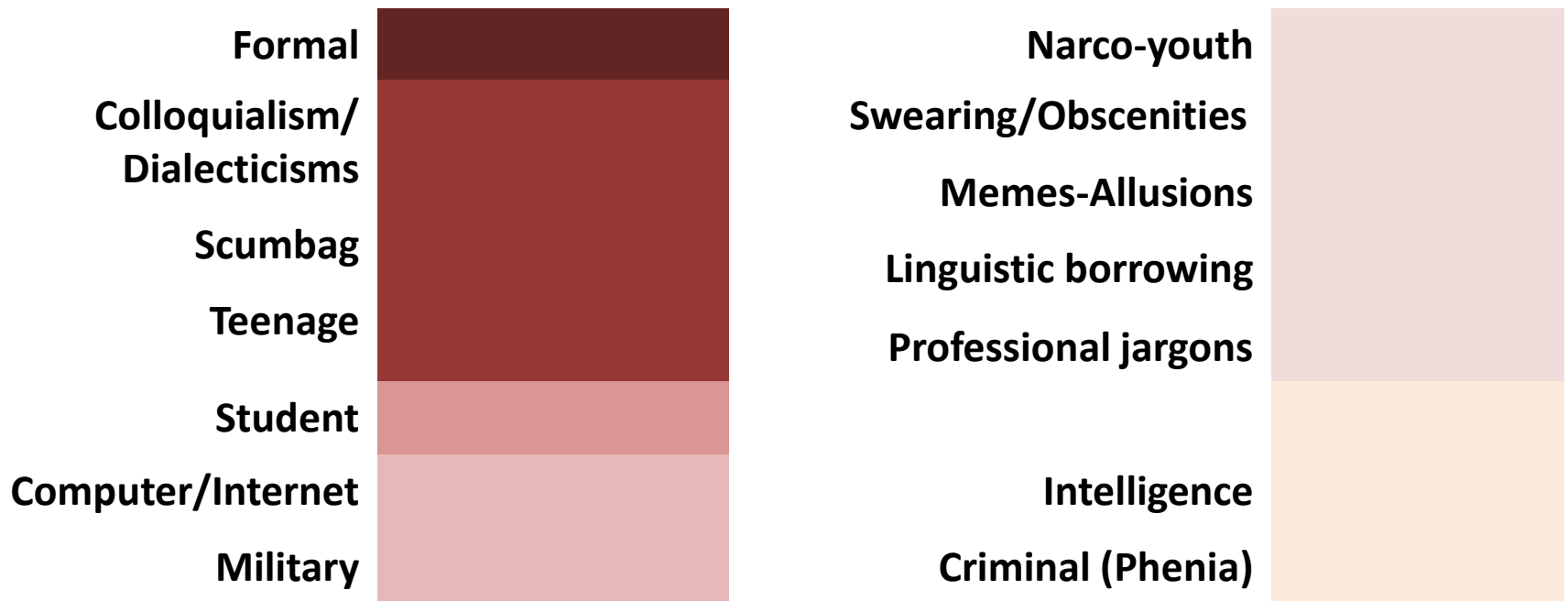
**14.2. Student**

**14.3. Teenage**

**14.4. linguistic borrowings**

**14.5. Formal**

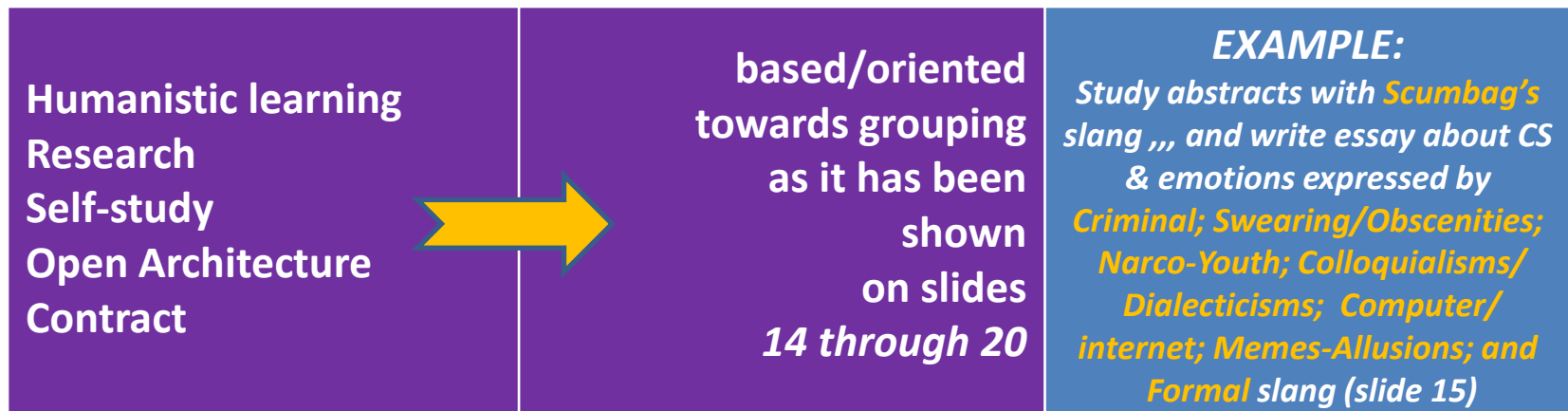
# *Degree of Compatibility in Communication*



# Course Development Implications

1. Comparative analysis of the first two degrees → Which sublanguage is the most crucial to be acquired (slides 12 &13)?

2. Degree of Compatibility



# Examples of the identifying speaker's biodata. Quiz

## 3. Following an informal language approach one can describe a social status of a speaker and events of her or his biography.

A speaker is often saying: <i>школа, ботаник, бюджетник, атакёр, вписка, кочумарить, лайба.</i>	What can you say about this person?
A speaker is often saying: <i>хрусты</i> (instead of <i>бабло</i> ), <i>начальник, обезьянник, пассажир, бродяга.</i> He has an Orthodox church with nine cupolas tattooed on his stomach.	What can you say about this person?
A speaker is often using profanities along with the criminal slang. He has got a big cross tattooed across his torso.	What can you say about this person?
A speaker is often using doubled “redundant” profanities and lengthy, extremely rude obscenities, referring to genitals and (or) assuming sexual act in all his references – no matter which topic has been addressed.	What can you say about this person?
A speaker is often using such words as <i>крокодил, приход, вставить</i> in the figurative meaning:	What can you say about this person?

# Conclusion

- Having concluded that slang acquisition fits the modern *education philosophy*, that assumes autonomous, transformative & contract-based learning (slides **2 through 7**), the andragogy specialist, i.e., instructor & program developer, should consider the following steps:
- Select and analyze types of slang, identifying main specifics of each sublanguage (slides **8 & 9**);
- Identify place and correlation of sublanguages within informal language via determining their *degrees of self-sufficiency, comprehensibility and compatibility*;

➤ ***The aforementioned correlation should be reflected in developing the course***



**Humanistic learning  
Research  
Self-study  
Open Architecture  
Contract**

- Orient students' research towards the following: (1) determining speaker's biodata on the basis of the informal language produced; (2) determining correspondence of formal & the informal language and between sublanguages.

# *Literature*

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