

personal english



Word #8

Yiddish Words Common in English

Yiddish is a **Germanic dialect** traditionally spoken by Eastern European Jews, best known as **Ashkenazi Jews**. Given the presence of a large community of Yiddish speakers in **New York** after the end of WWII, a few Yiddish words have nowadays been incorporated into **American English** :

Shmuck = fool

L'chaim! = Cheers! (while toasting)

Oy vey! = Oh, woe! (expression of dismay)

Gesundheit! = Bless you! (upon sneezing)

Hi there, you may remember me as **Francesca Cacace** from Frosinone, but I am actually **Fran Fine**, an Ashkenazi Jew from New York. Click on my picture to watch me celebrate **Hanukkah** (Jewish 'Christmas')

...

