Singlish


http://www.time.com/time/magazine/article/0,9171,322685,00.html

Singlish is simply Singaporean slang, whereby English follows Chinese grammar and is liberally sprinkled with words from the local Chinese, Malay and Indian dialects. Take jiat gentang, which combines the Hokkien word for "eat" (jiat), with the Malay word for "potato" (gentang). Jiat gentang describes someone who speaks with a pretentious Western accent (since potatoes are considered a European food), as in "He went to Oxford to study, now he come back to Singapore, only know how to jiat gentang." As for "talking cock," the phrase means to spout nonsense.

Singlish is crude precisely because it's rooted in Singapore's unglamorous past. This is a nation built from the sweat of uncultured immigrants who arrived 100 years ago to bust their asses in the boisterous port. Our language grew out of the hardships of these ancestors. And Singlish is a key ingredient in the unique melting pot that is Singapore. This is a city where skyscraping banks tower over junk boats; a city where vendors hawk steaming pig intestines next to bistros that serve haute cuisine. The SGEc's brand of good English is as bland as boiled potatoes. If the government has its way, Singapore will become a dish devoid of flavor. And I'm not talking cock.


EX
Although sometimes used to describe one's former girl-friend/boyfriend/whatever, in current Singlish, 'ex' is more often a short form of 'expensive', and used to express incredulity, or in some cases, envy.
1. Wah lau, original DVDs a bit the ex one, man, better go JB and buy.
2. Julie very high-class one you don't know meh? She always dress very ex

DUN
(doh'n)
A local variant of 'Don't' (much like 'don'ch'), which has become especially popular in the wake of text messaging on cellphones.
"Dun lai dat, lah!" (Please don't be like that.)
See also: Don'ch

TERROR
Singlish for "terrifying", "powerful" or "outrageous". Not necessarily derogatory.
1. "Tonight you sure got date with Ah Lian, one. See you dress so terror."
2. "Did you see Paramjeet run the 2.4? Wah lao, damn terror, man."
See also: Heong Fierce Powderful