

1 Complete the summary with suitable words and phrases from the box.

- sounds
- widespread
- communication technology
- alphabet
- popular
- laptop computers
- communicating
- characters
- messaging

Arabish is a modern way of _____¹ online when the regular Arabic _____² is not available. Instead of Arabic letters, it uses _____³ from English to represent the _____⁴ of Arabic. Since modern _____⁵ first appeared in the 1990s, emails and text messaging have become very _____⁶ in the Arab world, particularly with young people.

2 English text messaging has its own style too. Match the abbreviations with the phrases.

1 CUL8er	a see you later
2 GR8	b tomorrow
3 2EZ	c thanks
4 2moro	d laughing out loud (or lots of love)
5 2nite	e tonight
6 1CE	f great
7 LOL	g too easy
8 THX	h once

3 Write the following messages in good English.

1 CU 2nite – don't B L8

See you tonight – don't be late!

2 can U pick me up at 6?

3 where R U?

4 im w8ing for U at bus stop

5 wot R U doing 2day?

6 Gr8 joke! LOL!
