

Jargon/phrase	Meaning	Subtext
brainstorm	Think up ideas in a group	I'm out of date with office jargon and don't know that people find this non-PC.
thought shower	As above but more politically correct (PC)	I'm more PC and modern than executives using brainstorm
Idea shower	As above!	I want people to talk and tell me ideas and not sit thinking, like those thought shower people.
peeled the onion	Look at the layers of a problem	I'm going to keep you in this meeting until you all cry.
circle back	Defer talking about an issue	I don't want to talk about this anymore, I have a migraine.
get granular	Look very, very closely at a problem	This meeting will be very long and very tedious, but hey, I'm a sadist.
wheelhouse	An area of expertise	One day I'm going to own a boat and sail away, but until then, I'll use nautical expressions to keep me motivated.
deep dive	Get to the very bottom of an issue	It's another tedious meeting, let's all pretend to be deep-sea divers.
synergize	Work as a team	If I pretend you are all rocket scientists, maybe this accounts meeting will seem more cool and futuristic.
wordsmithing	Borrowed from blacksmithing – work hard at getting your words together	Typing can be awesome if I pretend I'm fashioning a sword from raw materials, you know, like a blacksmith.
take a data dump	Transfer data from one system to another – or perform a data back up	Backing up your computer and saving your files safely is just as satisfying as, well, you know ... taking a dump.
low-hanging fruit	take the easy solution to resolve a problem	I'm far too lazy to look for a better solution, so let's take the first one we come across.

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open the kimono	Reveal the inner workings of a company	Once you've seen what's below this outer layer, you'll be too frightened to leave the company. We're like the Freemasons, only more sinister.
don't let the grass grow too long on this one	Work fast to get a job done	Guys, just work harder, do more and take fewer coffee breaks, already.
run it up the flag pole	Try out an idea by making it visible	Now that we have an idea, let's show everyone the idea so we can brag about it.
square the circle	Do something that is considered impossible	We're going to get this done even if we have to bludgeon our way to success.
Tiger Team	A team of specialists assembled to tackle a problem	I like to pretend my office team are the X-Men and I'm Charles Xavier. We can all be super heroes if data entry Kevin stops being cynical.
bio break	A bathroom break during a meeting	I hate to use the word 'toilet' or 'bathroom' at work and I don't think we can say "Take a crap break."
ice in your veins	Be fearless and full of confidence	This next task will be very, very tedious, so I'm trying to motivate you all like a Swat Team commander.
think outside the box	Think creatively to solve a problem	Does any one of you around here have a clue as to what we should do? Help!
knocked it out of the park	Performed well on a task or project	I sent five emails today.
slam dunk	Get something done quickly and with style	I sent six emails today.
game of inches	Make slow but steady progress	I sent seven emails today.
drink the Kool-Aid	To buy into a corporate philosophy without questioning it. Referring to the 1978 Jonestown commune suicide/massacre when their cult leader persuaded the members to drink poisoned Kool-Aid	Maybe it's time to transfer to a place with a less egotistical boss or go freelance?