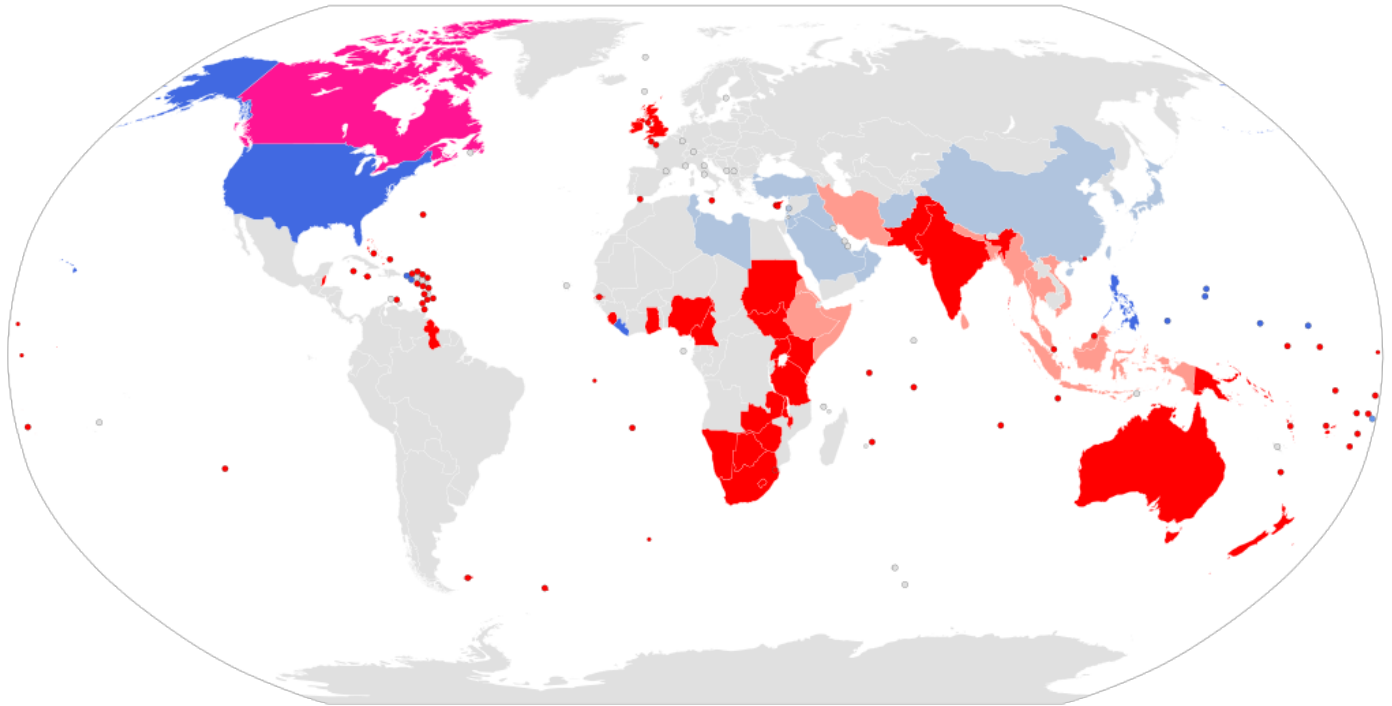


British English and American English



British and American spellings around the world:

- *defence/labour/organise/analyse* dominant, English is an official language
- *defence/labour/organise/analyse* dominant, English is not official
- *defense/labor/organize/analyze* dominant, English is an official language
- *defense/labor/organize/analyze* dominant, English is not official
- Canadian *defence/labour* dominant, but with *organize, analyze*, etc.; English is one of two official languages

Grammar

Americans use the **present perfect** tense less than speakers of British English and a British teacher might mark wrong some things that an American teacher would say are correct.

US Did you do your homework yet?

UK Have you done your homework yet?

US I already ate.

UK I've already eaten.

In British English, '**have got**' is often used for the possessive sense of '**have**' and '**have got to**' is informally used for '**have to**'. This is much less common in American English.

UK I've got two sisters.

US I have two sisters.

UK I've got to go now.

US I have to go now.

There are a number of other minor grammatical differences.


Spelling

-or vs. -our		-ze vs. -se		-ll vs. -l	
US	UK	US	UK	US	UK
color	colour	analyze	analyse	enrollment	enrolment
favorite	favourite	criticize	criticise	fulfill	fulfil
honor	honour	memorize	memorise	skillful	skilful

-er vs. -re		-og vs. -ogue		-e vs. -oe or -ae	
US	UK	US	UK	US	UK
center	centre	analog	analogue	encyclopedia	encyclopaedia
meter	metre	catalog	catalogue	maneuver	manoeuvre
theater	theatre	dialog	dialogue	medieval	mediaeval


-ck or -k vs. -que		-dg vs. -dge (or -g vs. -gu)	
US	UK	US	UK
bank	banque	aging	ageing
check	cheque	argument	argument
checker	chequer	judgment	judgement

UK VS US SPELLING: Separated by a Common Language




American and British spelling differences include simple changes that affect the meaning, pronunciation and use of words. Today, native and non-native English speakers are the largest group in the world, but the dialects they speak are shockingly different.

PAST PARTICLES & SIMPLE PAST VERBS ARE OFTEN SPELLED DIFFERENTLY.



-ed
ending


smelled
spelled
dreamed
leaned



-t
ending

smelt
spelt
dreamt
leant

UK SPELLINGS FAVOR "-RE" ENDINGS WHILE AMERICAN VARIATIONS USE "-ER".




Is it the **theatre** in the town **centre**? Or the **theater** in the town **center**?

BRITISH EXTRAS

AN EXTRA "U"


"OU" COMBINATION FOUND IN THE MIDDLE OF WORDS

"-UE" ENDINGS IN "ANALOGUE", "CATALOGUE", "DIALOGUE"



glamour moustach catalogue

"LL" BEFORE THE ENDING WHEN FOLLOWING THE UK SPELLING.




-ll

Mr. Traveller

FRENCH TENDENCIES IN BRITISH SPELLING (since 1066)


EXTRA "S" ARE FREQUENTLY ADDED OR RETAINED



cheque


AGEING RETAIN THE LAST -E

Memorize!



-IZE


analyze
organize
prioritize




-ISE

analyse
organise
prioritise

The most important point to remember is consistency.
Many ESL speakers find they have a natural preference for one or the other.



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Pronunciation

<http://www.espressoenglish.net/british-english-vs-american-english-pronunciation/>

	AmE	AuE	BrE	CaE	IrE	NZE	SAE	ScE	WeE
ash	æʃ	æʃ	æʃ	a:ʃ	ɛʃ	æʃ	æʃ	ɑʃ	äʃ
all	ɑ:l	ɔ:l	ɔ:l	ɒ:l	ɔ:l	ɔ:l	ɔ:l	ɔ:l	ɔ:l
father	'fɑ:ðə	'fɑ:ðs	'fɑ:ðə	'fɑ:ðɪ	'fɑ:ðə	'fɑ:ðə	'fɑ:ðə	'fɑ:ðəɪ	'fɑ:ðs
better	'betə	'betɜs	'betə	'betɪ	'betɪə	'betə	'betɜs	'betʰəɪ	'betɜs
day	dɛɪ	dɛɪ	dɛɪ	dɛɪ	de:	dɛɪ	dɛɛ	de:	dɛɪ
earth	ə:θ	ɜ:θ	ɜ:θ	ə:θ	ə:θ	ɛə:θ	ɜ:θ	ɛ:θ	ɛə:θ
drink	dɪŋkʰ	dʒɪŋk	dɪŋkʰ	dɪŋkʰ	dɪŋkʰ	dʒɪŋk	dɪŋkʰ	dɪŋkʰ	dɪŋk
eat	i:tʰ	i:t	i:tʰ	it	it	i:t	i:tʰ	i:tʰ	it
top	tʰɒp	tʰɒp	tʰɒp	tʰɒpʰ	tʰɒp	tʰɒp	tʰɒp	tʰɒpʰ	tʰɒp
four	fɔ:ɪ	fɔ:	fɔ:	fɔ:ɪ	fɔə	fɔə	fɔ:	fɔəɪ	fɔ:
foot	fʊt	fʊt	fʊtʰ	fʊt	fʏt	fʊt	fʊtʰ	fʊtʰ	fʊt
goose	ɡʊʊs	ɡy:z	ɡʊz	ɡeʊs	ɡy:z	ɡʊz	ɡʊz	ɡʊz	ɡʊz
blood	blʌd	blɛd	blɛd	blʌd	blʌd	blɛd	blɛd	blʌd	blɛd
bone	bɒʊn	bɔ:n	bɒʊn	bɒʊn	bom	bɔ:n	bɔ:n	bɒə:n	bom
cow	kʰæʊ	kʰæʊ	kʰaʊ	kʰaʊ	kʰeɪ	kʰaʊ	kʰaʊ	kʰeɪ	kʰeɪ
nail	neɪl	neɪl	neɪl	neɪl	neɪl	neɪl	neɪl	neɪl	neɪl
bite	bäitʰ	bäit	bäitʰ	bäit	beit	bäit	bäetʰ	bäitʰ	beit
ear	iə	is	ɪə	iɪ	iə	iə	iə	iəɪ	jöe:

Vocabulary

There are a lot of examples of different words being used in British and American English. Here are the commonest.

US	UK	US	UK	US	UK
antenna	aerial	apartment flat	flat	apartment building	block of flats
area code	dialing code	ATM	cashpoint	attorney	barrister solicitor
baby carriage	pram	band-aid	plaster	bathroom	loo WC toilet
beet	beetroot	buddy	mate	busy (phone line)	engaged
cafeteria	canteen	can (of food)	tin	candy	sweets
check (rest.) bill	bill	chips	crisps	cookie	biscuit
corn	maize	cotton candy	candy floss	crosswalk	zebra crossing
dead end	cul-de-sac	detour	diversion	diaper	nappy
driver's license	driving license	eggplant	aubergine	fall autumn	autumn
first floor	ground floor	flashlight	torch	fries	chips
game (sports)	match	garbageman garbage collector	dustman dustbin man	guy	bloke
gas	petrol	freeway highway	motorway	to honk	to hoot to honk
hood (car)	bonnet	jello	jelly	jelly	jam
kerosene	paraffin	laundromat	laundrette	line	queue
mail	post	motor home	caravan	movie theater	cinema
napkin	serviette	one-way ticket	single ticket	overpass	flyover
pants	trousers	pacifier	dummy	parking lot	car park
period	full stop	pharmacy drugstore	chemist's shop	private school	public school
real estate agent	estate agent	red hair	ginger hair	to rent a car	to hire a car
restroom	public toilet	résumé CV	CV	semi-trailer	articulated lorry
shrimp	prawn	sidewalk	pavement	soccer	football
station wagon	estate car	store	shop	tank top	vest
trailer	carvan	trash/garbage can	rubbish bin	truck	lorry
trunk (car)	boot	turn signal	indicator	two weeks	fortnight
vest	waistcoat	windshield	windscreen	zip code	postcode
zucchini	courgette	z (pron. "zee")	z (pron. "zed")		

There are British words which many Americans will not understand and vice versa. There are also words which exist in both British and American English but have very different meanings.

American English

British English

Nancy and Sloan are friends. Nancy is American and speaks American English (AmE). Sloan is British and speaks British English (BrE).

A. Match the BrE words to their equivalents in AmE.

BrE	AmE
1. lorry	a. elevator
2. flat	b. cookie
3. film	c. truck
4. lift	d. cab
5. motorway	e. vacation
6. trousers	f. apartment
7. biscuit	g. garbage
8. holiday	h. pants
9. rubbish	i. movie
10. taxi	j. highway

B. Complete the sentences with the appropriate AmE word.

- I don't know why kids love _____ (chips).
- He's _____ (skipping) rope.
- He's a _____ (football) player.
- I'm taking the _____ (underground).
- I love _____ (sweets). Shall we go to that _____ (sweet shop) over there?
- What's she doing? She is _____ (washing up).
- She's not home. She went to the _____ (Chemist's).
- I put the letter in the _____ (post) yesterday.
- Waiter! Could you please bring the _____ (bill)?

AmE

- candies • check
- mail
- drugstore
- soccer • jump
- French fries
- do the dishes
- candy store
- subway

C. Now read the dialogue between Nancy and Sloan. Who says it? Write the names in the boxes.

1. I'm hungry. Let's have some fish and chips.

2. Where are you going on holiday this year?

5. She eats too many cookies. She's going to have bad teeth.

3. Did you like the movie? What was it about?

4. Can you please take the rubbish out?

7. Shall we go by underground? Or shall we take a taxi?

D. Choose the appropriate BrE and AmE words for each situation.

- After school, Jane visited her new _____ / _____. It has a beautiful view over the city.
- I'm always the one who _____ / _____, but today I can't. I've hurt my hand.
- Have you put the empty packets in the _____ / _____?