

Differences between British English and American English

| words and phrases | | | |
|--------------------|------------------------------|---------------------|-------------------|
| British English | American English | British English | American English |
| aluminium | aluminum | lorry | truck |
| angry | mad | mark | grade |
| athletics | track and field | Maths | Math |
| aubergine | eggplant | mobile | cell |
| biscuit | cookie | motorbike | motorcycle |
| block of flats | apartment building | motorway | highway |
| boot | trunk | mum | mom |
| brackets | parentheses | newsagent's | newsstand |
| café | coffee shop | newsreader | anchorman |
| camper | RV (Recreational vehicle) | note | bill |
| chat show | talk show | number plate | license plate |
| chemist's | pharmacy, drugstore | opposite | across from |
| chips | (French) fries | pavement | sidewalk |
| cinema | movie theater | petrol | gas |
| city centre | downtown (area) | post code | zip code |
| cooker | stove, oven | primary school | elementary school |
| crisps | potato chips | queue | line |
| CV | résumé | rubbish | trash, garbage |
| do the washing | do the laundry | Science student | Science major |
| do the washing-up | do/wash the dishes | secondary school | high school |
| doctor's surgery | doctor's office | shop | store |
| fair (hair) | blond (hair) | shop assistant | salesperson |
| film | movie | sofa | couch |
| flat | apartment | starters/appetisers | appetizers |
| flatmate | roommate | stay fit | stay in shape |
| football | soccer | surname | last name |
| fridge | refrigerator | sweets | candy |
| full stop | period | table tennis | ping-pong |
| garden | yard | tap | faucet |
| give sb a lift | give sb. a ride | the bill | the check |
| go to the cinema | go to the movies | tick | check |
| hand luggage | carry-on | tidy | neat |
| handbag | purse | till | register |
| have a temperature | have a fever | torch | flashlight |
| headteacher | principal | trainers | sneakers |
| holiday | vacation | trousers | pants |
| horse riding | horseback riding | underground | subway |
| ill | sick | windscreen | windshield |
| jumper | sweater | zebra crossing | crosswalk |
| lift | elevator | | |

Differences between British English and American English

spelling

| British English | American English |
|-----------------|------------------|
| aeroplane | airplane |
| analyse | analyze |
| apologise | apologize |
| behaviour | behavior |
| cancelled | canceled |
| centre | center |
| cheque | check |
| chilli pepper | chili pepper |
| civilisation | civilization |
| colour | color |
| cosy | cozy |
| favour | favor |
| favourite | favorite |
| grey | gray |
| humour | humor |
| jewellery | jewelry |
| licence | license |
| litre | liter |
| marvellous | marvelous |
| memorise | memorize |
| metre | meter |
| mould | mold |
| moustache | mustache |
| neighbourhood | neighborhood |
| omelette | omelet |
| organisation | organization |
| organise | organize |
| parlour | parlor |
| per cent | percent |
| practise | practice (v) |
| realise | realize |
| recognise | recognize |
| skillful | skillful |
| socialise | socialize |
| sympathise | sympathize |
| theatre | theater |
| tyre | tire |
| traveller | traveler |

grammar and usage

| British English | American English |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 16th January | January 16th |
| do well in in the team | do well on on the team |
| at the weekend | on the weekend |
| Turn right/left into a street. | Turn right/left onto a street. |
| It's ten past six. | It's ten after six. |
| learnt, learned | learned |
| spelt, spelled | spelled |