

# English to English



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## *The Main Differences between American and British English*

*Note: Words marked with a \* show different spellings.*

<b>A</b>	
<b>AMERICAN</b>	<b>BRITISH</b>
Airplane	Aeroplane
Aluminum (alloy)	Aluminium (metal and alloy)
Apartment/Housemate (roommate)	Flat/Flatmate
Appetizer	Entree, Starter
*Archeology (common rule)	Archaeology

<b>B</b>	
<b>AMERICAN</b>	<b>BRITISH</b>
Babysitter	Minder
Baked Potato	Jacket Potato
Bathroom, John, Can	Loo, The Toilet
Band-Aid, Dressing	Elastoplast, Bandage
Bank Teller/Clerk	Cashier
Bedsread	Eiderdown, Quilt, Duvet
Billion	Trillion
Bleachers	Terrace
Braces (for teeth)	Brace

<b>C</b>	
<b>AMERICAN</b>	<b>BRITISH</b>
Call (on the phone)	Ring
Cafeteria (in institute)	Refectory, Canteen
Can	Tin
Candy	Sweets
*Catalog	Catalogue
Cents	Pence
Chapstick	Lip Balm

<b>*Check (for bill and money check)</b>	<b>Cheque; bill</b>
<b>Checkers</b>	<b>Draughts</b>
<b>Chips</b>	<b>Crisps</b>
<b>Cigarette</b>	<b>Fag, smoke</b>
<b>Closet (bedroom)</b>	<b>Wardrobe (in bedroom)</b>
<b>Clumsy</b>	<b>Cack-handed, maladroit</b>
<b>Collect Call</b>	<b>Reverse Charge Call</b>
<b>*Color</b>	<b>Colour</b>
<b>Cookie</b>	<b>Biscuit</b>
<b>Cotton Candy</b>	<b>Candy Floss</b>
<b>Commercial</b>	<b>Advertisement, ad</b>
<b>Cracker</b>	<b>Savoury biscuit, cracker</b>
<b>Crib (also slang for bed)</b>	<b>Cot (for babies)</b>
<b>Cross Walk</b>	<b>Zebra Crossing, Pedestrian Crossing</b>
<b>Crossing Guard</b>	<b>Lollipop Man</b>
<b>Cupcake (also muffins)</b>	<b>Fairy Cake (also muffins)</b>
<b>*Curb</b>	<b>Kerb</b>

## D

<b>AMERICAN</b>	<b>BRITISH</b>
<b>Dessert</b>	<b>Afters, Pudding, Sweets</b>
<b>Detour</b>	<b>Diversion</b>
<b>Diaper (noun &amp; verb)</b>	<b>Napkin, Nappy</b>
<b>Dollar Bill</b>	<b>Note</b>
<b>Drugstore, Druggist</b>	<b>Chemist, Pharmacist</b>
<b>Duplex</b>	<b>Semi-Detached House</b>

## E

<b>AMERICAN</b>	<b>BRITISH</b>
<b>Eggplant</b>	<b>Aubergine</b>
<b>Elevator</b>	<b>Lift</b>
<b>Emergency Room (ER)</b>	<b>Casualty, Accident &amp; Emergency</b>
<b>Eraser</b>	<b>Rubber</b>
<b>Expensive</b>	<b>Dear</b>

## F

<b>AMERICAN</b>	<b>BRITISH</b>
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<b>Faucet</b>	<b>Tap</b>
<b>*Favorite</b>	<b>Favourite</b>
<b>Fire Department</b>	<b>Fire Brigade</b>
<b>Flashlight</b>	<b>Torch</b>
<b>A Flirt</b>	<b>Tart, a tease</b>
<b>Freeway (Expressway)</b>	<b>Motorway, Highway, Carriageway</b>

<b>G</b>	
<b>AMERICAN</b>	<b>BRITISH</b>
<b>Garbage Man, Trash collector</b>	<b>Dustman</b>
<b>Garter Belt (for stockings)</b>	<b>Suspenders (now usually pantyhose)</b>
<b>Glue</b>	<b>Gum</b>
<b>Gasoline, gas</b>	<b>Petrol</b>
<b>Gizzards</b>	<b>Offal, entrails</b>
<b>Galoshes</b>	<b>Wellingtons, Wellies, Gumboots, rubber boots</b>
<b>*Gray</b>	<b>Grey</b>
<b>Gutter</b>	<b>Gully</b>

<b>H</b>	
<b>AMERICAN</b>	<b>BRITISH</b>
<b>Hamburger Bun</b>	<b>Bap</b>
<b>*Honor</b>	<b>Honour</b>
<b>Hood (car)</b>	<b>Bonnet</b>
<b>Horny, Hot, A Babe, a Cutey</b>	<b>Randy, Spunky, a Chick</b>
<b>House (one story)</b>	<b>Bungalow</b>
<b>*Humor</b>	<b>Humour</b>
<b>Hungry, Starving</b>	<b>Peckish, Famished</b>

<b>J</b>	
<b>AMERICAN</b>	<b>BRITISH</b>
<b>*Jail</b>	<b>Gaol, Jail</b>
<b>Jell-O (gelatin)</b>	<b>Jelly</b>
<b>Jelly (for toast)</b>	<b>Jam</b>
<b>*Jewelry</b>	<b>Jewellery</b>

<b>K-L</b>	
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<b>AMERICAN</b>	<b>BRITISH</b>
<b>Kiss (passionate), Smooch</b>	<b>Snog, pash, kiss</b>
<b>Ladybug</b>	<b>Ladybird Beetle</b>
<b>Line</b>	<b>Queue</b>
<b>Living Room (sofa)</b>	<b>Lounge (settee)</b>
<b>Lawyer, Attorney</b>	<b>Barrister, Solicitor</b>
<b>Leash (for a Dog)</b>	<b>Lead</b>
<b>License Plate (on a car)</b>	<b>Number Plate</b>
<b>Liquor store (sells alcohol)</b>	<b>Off License, Offy</b>

## **M**

<b>AMERICAN</b>	<b>BRITISH</b>
<b>Mail</b>	<b>Post</b>
<b>Mailbox</b>	<b>Postbox, letterbox</b>
<b>Mail Carrier</b>	<b>Postman, Posty</b>
<b>*Maneuver (common rule)</b>	<b>Manoeuvre</b>
<b>Math</b>	<b>Maths, Arithmetic</b>
<b>Menopause, Period</b>	<b>The Maenopause, Period</b>
<b>*Mold</b>	<b>Mould</b>
<b>Movie</b>	<b>Film</b>
<b>Movie Theater</b>	<b>Cinema, Movie Theatre</b>

## **N-O**

<b>AMERICAN</b>	<b>BRITISH</b>
<b>Napkin (dining table)/Tissues</b>	<b>Serviette/Tissues</b>
<b>Nudist</b>	<b>Naturist</b>
<b>On/Off Ramp</b>	<b>Slip Road</b>
<b>Oven/Hotplate</b>	<b>Cooker/Gas Range, Electric Elements</b>
<b>Overalls</b>	<b>Dungarees</b>
<b>Overpass</b>	<b>Flyover</b>

## **P**

<b>AMERICAN</b>	<b>BRITISH</b>
<b>Pacifier</b>	<b>Dummy</b>
<b>Pants</b>	<b>Trousers, Longs, Pants</b>

<b>Paper Towel</b>	<b>Kitchen Towel, Kitchen Paper</b>
<b>Parade</b>	<b>Carnival procession</b>
<b>Parking Lot</b>	<b>Car Park</b>
<b>Picnic Basket</b>	<b>Picnic Hamper</b>
<b>Pie Base/Crust</b>	<b>Pastry Base/Topping</b>
<b>Plastic Wrap</b>	<b>Clingfilm</b>
<b>Private School</b>	<b>Public School</b>
<b>Public School</b>	<b>State School</b>
<b>*Pajamas</b>	<b>Pyjamas</b>
<b>Polystyrene</b>	<b>Foam plastic,</b>

## **R-S**

<b>AMERICAN</b>	<b>BRITISH</b>
<b>Raincoat/Poncho</b>	<b>Mackintosh, Parka/Cape</b>
<b>Realtor</b>	<b>Real Estate Agent</b>
<b>Rent (to)</b>	<b>Hire</b>
<b>Robe</b>	<b>Dressing Gown</b>
<b>Roundabout</b>	<b>Traffic Circle</b>
<b>Sand Box</b>	<b>Sand Pit</b>
<b>Sandwich</b>	<b>Butty, Sarny</b>
<b>Santa Clause</b>	<b>Father Christmas</b>
<b>Sell</b>	<b>Flog</b>
<b>Shopping Cart/Basket</b>	<b>Trolley</b>
<b>Sidewalk</b>	<b>Pavement</b>
<b>Sir</b>	<b>Squire, Guv'nor</b>
<b>Sneakers, Trainers</b>	<b>Trainers, Plimsolls,Pumps</b>
<b>Soccer</b>	<b>Football</b>
<b>Spelled (past tenses used)</b>	<b>Spelt (past participles used)</b>
<b>Stroller, Baby Buggy</b>	<b>Pram, Pushchair</b>
<b>Styrofoam</b>	<b>Polystyrene</b>
<b>Suspenders</b>	<b>Braces</b>
<b>Sweater</b>	<b>Pullover, Jumper, Jersey/Cardigan</b>

## **T**

<b>AMERICAN</b>	<b>BRITISH</b>
<b>Take-Out</b>	<b>Take-Away</b>
<b>Talk Show</b>	<b>Chat Show</b>
<b>Traffic Jam</b>	<b>Tailback</b>

Thumb Tack	Drawing Pin
Tic Tac Toe	Naughts and Crosses
*Tire	Tyre
Toothpick/Drink Stirrer	Cocktail Stick/Swizzle Stick
Track Housing	Housing Estate
Trailer (house)	Caravan
Trash, Litter	Rubbish, Garbage
Trash Can	Bin, Dustbin (the one outside)
Truck	Lorry
Trunk (car)	Boot
Tuxedo	Dinner Jacket

## U-Z

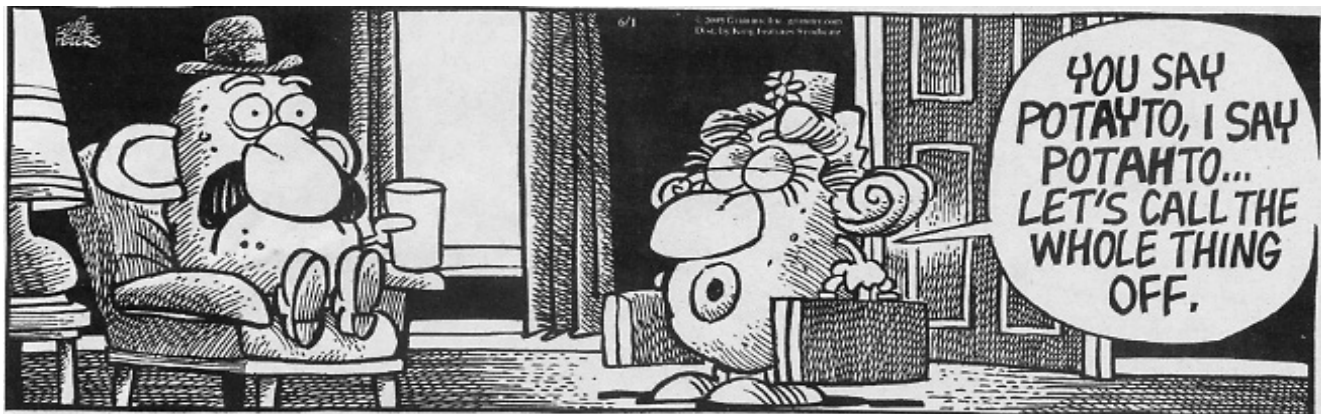
AMERICAN	BRITISH
Umbrella	Brolly
Undershirt	Vest, Singlet
Underwear, Boxers	Underpants; Briefs, Panties, Knickers (girls)
Vacation	Holiday
Vest	Waistcoat
Wallet (Woman's)	Purse, pocketbook
Washcloth	Flannel, Face Cloth
Windshield	Windscreen
Yard	Garden
Zee (letter)	Zed
Zip Code	Post Code
Zucchini	Courgette

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「我想我爱上了那个新来的家伙，因为他有假英国腔。」 「他是我的！」

「你结婚了！」 「是吗？哇！他的英国腔让我都忘了我已经结婚了。」

「我说各位啊，有没有人在电梯里看到我的伞？」 哇 「我还单身。」



「你說馬鈴薯，我說洋芋...大家就別再吵了。」

(譯註：這是一首爵士歌曲Let's Call the Whole Thing Off的歌詞，意指雖然說法不同，但是大家指的是同樣的事情，所以沒什麼好爭論的。)

Map 1. The urban dialect areas of the United States based on the acoustic analysis of the vowel systems of 240 Telsur informants

