



British words vs. American words

Write the common American word instead of the British English word:

She bought a tin of beer - She bought a of beer.

He bought some sweets. He bought some .

She took her clothes from the wardrobe. She took her clothes from the .

She ate a biscuit. She ate a .

They bought a pack of cards. They bought a of cards.

The baby needed a new nappy. The baby needed a new .

A pencil and a rubber are necessary tools. A pencil and an are necessary tools.

Fill up the tank with petrol. Fill up the tank with .

It was all rubbish. It was all .

What class are you in? What are you in?

The postman delivered a parcel. The delivered a .

The tube is an effective transport. The is an effective transport.

They had three weeks holiday. They had three weeks .

The car drove in the round-about. The car drove in the circle.

They approached a crossroads. They approached an .

British spelling vs. American spelling

The following words are spelled in British English - write the American spelling:

The American spelling of tonight can be .

The American spelling of colour is .

The American spelling of grey is .

The American spelling of cheque is .

The American spelling of metre is .

The American spelling of theatre is .

The American spelling of programme is .

The American spelling of defence is .

The American spelling of licence is .

The American spelling of centre is .

The American word for - and spelling of aeroplane is .

The American spelling of neighbour is .

Thanks to:

<http://www.woodlands-junior.kent.sch.uk/customs/questions/americanbritish.html>

ANSWERS

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Exercises

1. Decide if the speaker is using British English or American English, and cross out the incorrect answer.

- 1 We've decided to take our vacation in the autumn/fall this year.
- 2 At my son's high school the new term/semester starts next week.
- 3 I never eat biscuits or sweets/candy.
- 4 Put that garbage in the dustbin/trashcan.
- 5 The trousers look nice with that waistcoat/vest.
- 6 The lorry/truck came past us on the highway.
- 7 My apartment is on the fourth floor but I'm afraid there's no lift/elevator.
- 8 The people next door are on holiday/vacation. They'll be away for a fortnight.
- 9 We left the car in the car park / parking lot and took the subway to the centre.
- 10 My trainers are in the wardrobe/closet.

2. Now complete this table.

| <i>British English</i> | <i>American English</i> |
|------------------------|-------------------------|
| ..... | vacation |
| trousers | ..... |
| ..... | apartment |
| trainers | ..... |
| ..... | high school |
| biscuits | ..... |
| ..... | garbage |
| ..... | highway |
| fortnight | ..... |
| ..... | subway |

3. This text includes some words used in American English. Underline them and write the British English words on the right-hand side.

It was getting near lunchtime and I needed some gas, so I left the freeway and drove towards the nearest town. There was a gas station just outside the town and I decided to stop and have a look round. I put the car in a parking lot and took a cab to the centre. It was midday and very hot, so I stopped at a little cafe with tables on the sidewalk. I started talking to a truck driver, who gave me a history of the town, and afterwards he took me on a guided tour. It made a very nice break.

- 1
- 2
- 3
- 4
- 5
- 6
- 7

4. Here are some more American English words that are explained in different parts of this book. What is the British English equivalent?

- | | |
|---------------------------|------------------------|
| <i>American English</i> | <i>British English</i> |
| 1 stand/wait in line | |
| 2 drapes | |
| 3 collect call | |
| 4 attorney | |
| 5 check (in a restaurant) | |

Answers:

- 1**
- 1 American (because of vacation): fall
 - 2 American (because of high school): semester
 - 3 British (because of biscuits): sweets
 - 4 American (because of garbage): trashcan
 - 5 British (because of trousers): waistcoat
 - 6 American (because of truck): highway
 - 7 Probably American (because of apartment): elevator
 - 8 British (because of fortnight): holiday
 - 9 American (because of subway with this meaning): parking lot
 - 10 British (because of trainers): wardrobe

| | | |
|----------|--------------------|---------------------------|
| 2 | <i>British</i> | <i>American</i> |
| | holiday | vacation |
| | trousers | pants |
| | flat | apartment |
| | trainers | sneakers |
| | secondary school | high school |
| | biscuits | cookies |
| | rubbish | garbage |
| | main road | highway |
| | fortnight | two weeks / fourteen days |
| | underground (tube) | subway |

- 3**
- | | |
|--|-------------------------------|
| 1 gas/petrol | 5 cab/taxi |
| 2 freeway/motorway | 6 sidewalk/pavement |
| 3 gas station / petrol station or garage | 7 truck driver / lorry driver |
| 4 parking lot / car park | |

- 4**
- | | | | | |
|---------|------------|-----------------------|-------------|--------|
| 1 queue | 2 curtains | 3 reverse charge call | 4 barrister | 5 bill |
|---------|------------|-----------------------|-------------|--------|



Complete the sentences

During the week I _____ very hard, so at the weekend, I want to relax. On Saturday though, I _____ the housework and _____ shopping because I _____ time the rest of the week. That usually _____ most of the day. Saturday evening, I often _____ or _____ friends over for dinner. When friends _____ over, I _____ cooking although I'm not very good at desserts. As I often _____ to bed late on Saturday, I _____ late on Sunday morning. If the weather is good, I _____ some time in my garden. If not, I _____ the Sunday newspapers. In the afternoon, I _____ my mother for tea. She _____ quite close to me so I usually _____ to her house. On Sunday evening I _____ TV and then go to bed early.

enjoy don't have lives read spend do visit
work go
sleep
watch
invite
come
walk
takes
go out
Go out

Answers

During the week I work very hard, so at the weekend, I want to relax. On Saturday though, I do the housework and go shopping because I don't have time the rest of the week. That usually takes most of the day. Saturday evening, I often go out or invite friends over for dinner. When friends come over, I enjoy cooking although I'm not very good at desserts. As I often go to bed late on Saturday, I sleep late on Sunday morning. If the weather is good, I spend some time in my garden. If not, I read the Sunday newspapers. In the afternoon, I visit my mother for tea. She lives quite close to me so I usually walk to her house. On Sunday evening I watch TV and then go to bed early.

Complete the sentences



Present Simple or Present Continuous.



Complete the sentences

- He about buying a house.
I next week off.
We always at the Sofitel when we go to Lyon.
 a wireless network in your office?
He at the conference next week.
She with friends over the holidays.
We it's a good idea.
I a vitamin supplement every day.
She a baby very soon.
He French and German fluently.

's speaking stay take 'm taking 's having don't think
Do you have speaks 's staying 's thinking

Answers:

- He about buying a house.
I next week off.
We always at the Sofitel when we go to Lyon.
 a wireless network in your office?
He at the conference next week.
She with friends over the holidays.
We it's a good idea.
I a vitamin supplement every day.
She a baby very soon.
He French and German fluently.

Complete the sentences





Grammatically correct or not?

I don't drink very much coffee. ☒ ☐

He's not understanding what I'm saying. ☒ ☐

What do you think about? ☒ ☐

She doesn't believe what you're saying. ☒ ☐

The food is tasting fantastic. You're such a good cook. ☒ ☐

I see what you mean. ☒ ☐

I need to see the doctor. ☒ ☐

He isn't agreeing with me. ☒ ☐

He's looking a lot better than he did a few days ago. ☒ ☐

They're knowing him well. ☒ ☐

Exercise – present simple or present continuous

Examples of present simple:

I work here
She lives in London

I don't (do not) work here
She doesn't (does not) work here

Do you work here?
Does she work here?

Examples of present continuous:

I'm (I am) reading a book
He's (he is) reading a book

I'm (I am) not reading a book
He is not (he's not/ he isn't) reading a book

Are you reading a book?
Is he reading a book?

Use the words in brackets () to complete each of the following sentences.

Example: *I (not/like) **don't like** London*

- 1 I (not/like) _____ politics.
- 2 How many languages (you/speak) _____ ?
- 3 Where (you/live) _____ ?
- 4 What (you/do) _____ at the moment?
- 5 I (not/believe) _____ that you are a millionaire.
- 6 He (not/wear) _____ a tie today.
- 7 He often (travel) _____ abroad on business.
- 8 David is in Paris this week. He (stay) _____ at the Hilton.

Answers:

I don't drink very much coffee. ☒ ☐

He doesn't understand what I'm saying. ☒ ☐

What are you thinking about? ☒ ☐

She doesn't believe what you're saying. ☒ ☐

The food tastes fantastic. You're such a good cook. ☒ ☐

I see what you mean. ☒ ☐

I need to see the doctor. ☒ ☐

He doesn't agree with me. ☒ ☐

He's looking a lot better than he did a few days ago. ☒ ☐

They know him well. ☒ ☐

1 I (not/like) _____ politics.
Correct answer: **don't like / do not like**

2 How many languages (you/speak) _____ ?
Correct answer: **do you speak**

3 Where (you/live) _____ ?
Correct answer: **do you live**

4 What (you/do) _____ at the moment?
Correct answer: **are you doing**

5 I (not/believe) _____ that you are a millionaire.
Correct answer: **don't believe / do not believe**

6 He (not/wear) _____ a tie today.
Correct answer: **isn't wearing / is not wearing**

7 He often (travel) _____ abroad on business.
Correct answer: **travels**

8 David is in Paris this week. He (stay) _____ at the Hilton.
Correct answer: **is staying**

Grammar Exercises

1. Fill in the blanks with the Present Simple or Present Continuous form of the verbs in brackets.

- a) I usually..... (not like) parties but tonight I..... (enjoy) your party very much.
 - b) (you/wait) for someone? Yes I..... (wait) for my sister.
We.....(walk) home together most days.
 - c) Normally I.....(start) work at 9 o'clock but tomorrow I.....(start) at half past 7.
 - d) She.....(not get on with) her parents but at the moment she.....(live) with them.
 - e) Your father..... (lie) on his bed because he is very tired.
 - f) Where..... (she/live)? She..... (live) in London at the moment, but she.....(move) to Liverpool soon.
 - g) What..... (the kids/do)? They..... (draw) in the garden.
-

Answers:

A: don't like / I am enjoying. B: Are you waiting / I am waiting / walk. C: start. I am starting
D: She doesn't get on with / She is living E: is lying* F: does she live / is living / is moving.
G. are the kids doing / are drawing

* Lie – lied – lied / lying. Mentir
Lie –lay –lain / lying. Estar tumbado/ deitado



Exercises

1 Answer these remarks with the *opposite* description.

Example: A: I thought you said he was the short, chubby one.

B: No, quite the **opposite**, *he's the tall, thin-faced one*

1 A: Was that his brother, the dark-skinned, wavy-haired one?

B: No, quite the opposite, his brother's...

2 A: She's always quite well-dressed, so I've heard.

B: What! Who told you that? Every time I see her, she's...

3 A: So Charlene's that rather plump fair-haired woman, is she?

B: No, you're looking at the wrong one. Charlene's...

4 A: So, tell us about the new boss; good looking?

B: No, I'm afraid not; rather...

5 A: I don't know why, but I expected the tour-guide to be middle-aged or elderly.

B: No, apparently she's only...

2 Write one sentence to describe each of these people, giving information about their hair and face, their height and build and general appearance.

1 you yourself

3 a neighbour

2 your best friend

4 your ideal of a handsome man/a beautiful woman

Now, in the same way, describe somebody very famous, give some extra clues about them, e.g. *pop star/politician*, and see if someone else can guess who you are describing.

3 From these jumbled words, find combinations for describing people, as in the example. Not all of the words are on the left-hand page. Some of the combinations are hyphenated. Use a dictionary if necessary. Example: *good-looking*

looking, long, round, haired, good, aged, dressed, legged, stocky, over-, well, faced, complexion, build, race, middle, mixed, red, weight, tanned

4 WANTED! MISSING! Complete the gaps in these police posters.

WANTED FOR MURDER



Ian Prowse,
height 6ft.

.....-faced,
..... hair,
..... skin

Wanted for Robbery



Sandra King
height 5ft 4,

..... hair,
..... build,
.....-faced

Missing



Louise Fox
age 7, Asian

.....,
.....
hair.

Wanted dead or alive



Jake 'Dagger'
Flagstone, 6ft

....., with
..... and;
..... build.

5 Make a collection of descriptions of people from newspapers and magazines. Court/crime reports, celebrity and gossip pages of magazines, and the 'personal' columns where people are seeking partners are good places to start.



.1 *Suggested answers:*

- 1 ... the fair, bald guy. *or* straight/curly-haired man.
- 2 ... scruffy and untidy.
- 3 ... that slim, dark-haired woman over there.
- 4 ... unattractive, in fact. (You could also say he/she was 'rather plain' or 'rather ordinary', if you felt they were neither attractive nor unattractive. 'Ugly' is a very strong word indeed, and could be offensive.)
- 5 ... a teenager/ in her twenties. (Another useful word is 'she's only a youngster', for a person who is a teenager or who is still very young.)

.2 1 The author who wrote this exercise is tall, with brown hair which is going grey; he's white, in his forties and thinks he's good looking! What about you?

.3 stocky build overweight middle-aged round-faced good-looking
long-haired long-legged (pronounced /'legɪd/) well-dressed mixed race
tanned complexion (tanned = brown from the sun)

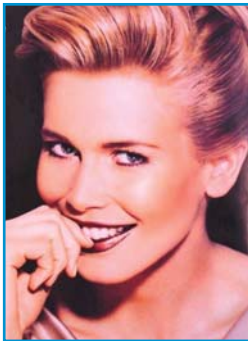
.4 *Suggested answers:*

Ian Prowse, height 6ft, thin-faced, dark, curly hair, fair skin.
Sandra King, height 5'4, dark, wavy hair, stocky build, round-faced.
Louise Fox, age 7, Asian, straight, dark hair.
Jake 'Dagger' Flagstone, 6ft, bald, with beard and moustache; muscular build.



1. *Seguindo o modelo que tes a continuación fai unha descrición dun dos personaxes que aparecen no exercicio. Emprega algunha das expresións que aprendiches na sección anterior.*

1. Follow this model composition to describe the physical appearance of one of the famous people you can see in the pictures below. Use some of the expressions you have just learnt in the previous section.



This person is in her late twenties or early thirties. She has got blonde wavy hair and blue eyes. She also has a nice smile, with nice teeth. In fact, she is very beautiful. She has a very content look on her face that 's why she looks cheerful. With regard to her height and build, I guess she 's rather tall and slim, but I can ' t really tell from the picture. Finally, I would say she 's wearing a smart dress, perhaps to go to a party. She' s definitely a very gorgeous and pretty girl.



Russell Crowe



Jennifer López



Bono

Completa as seguintes frases con expresións que estudaches anteriormente

1. Expressing Likes

I love chocolate. **I love** playing football. **I love** _____.

I like animals. **I like** dancing. **I like** _____.

***I fancy** you. **I fancy** reading. **I fancy** _____.

I enjoy foreign films. **I enjoy** running. **I enjoy** _____.

I'm crazy about Beck. **I'm crazy about** skiing. **I'm crazy about** _____.

I'm mad about Brad Pitt. **I'm mad about** singing. **I'm mad about** _____.

***I'm keen on** John. **I'm keen on** swimming. **I'm keen on** _____.

***I'm fond of** her. **I'm fond of** cycling. **I'm fond of** _____.

_____ is my favorite movie / actor / singer / book, etc.

_____ looks / sounds / smells / tastes / feels good.

2. Expressing Dislikes

I hate spiders. **I hate** writing essays. **I hate** _____.

I don't like spinach. **I don't like** being cold. **I don't like** _____.

***I don't fancy** her. **I don't fancy** playing cards. **I don't fancy** _____.

I can't stand smoke. **I can't stand** being late. **I can't stand** _____.

I can't bear lazy people. **I can't bear** eating onions. **I can't bear** _____.

I can't put up with Mike. **I can't put up with** lying. **I can't put up with** _____.

I'm fed up with Jill. **I'm fed up with** wasting money. **I'm fed up with** _____.

I'm sick of homework. **I'm sick of** going to the movies. **I'm sick of** _____.

I'm tired of vegetables. **I'm tired of** being sick. **I'm tired of** _____.

_____ really bugs me.

_____ makes me mad / angry.

_____ drives me crazy.

_____ annoys me.

3. Expressing Indifference

Do you mind if I open the window?

I don't mind.

Does it bother you if I smoke?

It doesn't bother me.

Do you want to go here or there?

It doesn't matter to me.

Which movie should we watch?

It makes no difference to me.

Which book do you like more?

It's all the same to me.

What do you want for dinner?

I don't care.

Do you want this one or that one?

I couldn't care less.

Exercises.

Want + Infinitive

Want + Object + Infinitive

A. Choose the correct answer:

1. The doctor said to his patient
 - a. I want to take these pills
 - b. I want you to take these pills
2. The waiter said,
 - a. Do you want to order now
 - b. Do you want me to order now
3. Sam said to his girlfriend
 - a. Which film do you want me to go to?
 - b. Which film do you want to go to?

B. Rewrite the sentences using the words given

1. Will you please come home early tonight?

I want

2. I'm going to buy a car

Jane wants

3. You must try harder, Jim

The teacher wants

4. Anna, please turn off the television

John wants

Answers:

A. 1. b 2. a 3. b

- B.** 1. *I want you to come home early tonight*
2. *Jane wants to buy a car*
3. *The teacher wants Jim to try harder*
4. *John wants Anna to turn off the television*

CAN'T STAND LOSING YOU

(Sting & Police)

I've called you so many times today
And I guess it's all true what your girl-friends say
That you don't ever want to see me again
And your brother's gonna kill me and he's six feet ten
I guess you'd call it cowardice
But I'm not prepared to go on like this

I can't, I can't, I can't stand losing
I can't, I can't, I can't stand losing
I can't, I can't, I can't, I can't stand losing you
I can't stand losing you
I can't stand losing you
I can't stand losing you

I see you sent my letters back
And my L.P. records and they're all scratched
I can't see the point in another day
When nobody listens to a word I say
You can call it lack of confidence
But to carry on living doesn't make no sense

I can't, I can't, I can't stand losing
I can't, I can't, I can't stand losing
I can't, I can't, I can't stand losing
I can't, I can't, I can't stand losing
I can't, I can't, I can't stand losing
I can't, I can't, I can't stand losing

I guess this is our last goodbye
And you don't care, so I won't cry
But you'll be sorry when I'm dead
And all this guilt will be on your head
I guess you'd call it suicide
But I'm too full to swallow my pride
I can't, I can't, I can't stand losing
I can't, I can't... (repeat to fade)

Ctrl + Click here to watch and listen

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9bXMi3PSyW8>

British vs American English (1)

At the **top** are **words** in both **British** and **American** English.































Below are **pictures** of different **things** and **actions**.

The **British** words should go **under** the **British flags** and the **American** words under the **American flags**.



Can you put the pictures in the right boxes?

| | | | | |
|--------|---------|----------|---------|---------------|
| diaper | tap | yard | rubbish | elevator |
| queue | jelly | trousers | lift | jam |
| faucet | mailman | garden | postman | stand in line |
| candy | sweets | nappy | pants | garbage |

| | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|--|---|
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
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|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| <input type="text"/> | <input type="text"/> | <input type="text"/> | <input type="text"/> | <input type="text"/> | <input type="text"/> |

Answers:

| | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---------|
| trousers |  | pants | faucet |  | tap |
| sweets |  | candy | garbage |  | rubbish |
| queue |  | stand in line | mailman |  | postman |
| nappy |  | diaper | elevator |  | lift |
| jam |  | jelly | yard |  | garden |
|  |  |  |  |  | |

Tks to: <http://www.learnenglish.org.uk>