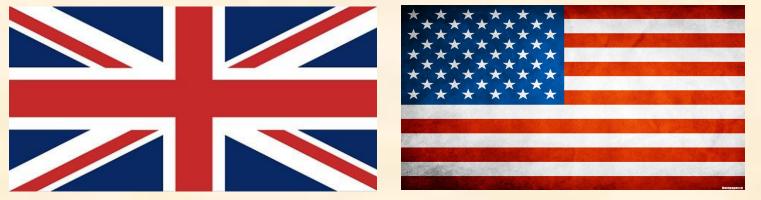
BRITISH ENGLISH US.

AMERICAN ENGLISH





TROUSERS

SOFA

UNDERGROUN

FLAT

HOOVER

SHOP





ACUUM CLEANER

APARTMENT

STORE



DUSTBIN

LORRY

SHOPPING CENTRE

ANGRY

AUTUMN





TRUCK

MALL

MAD

FALL





CHEMIST'S

LIFT

NAPPY

PAVEMENT

CUPBOARD



DRUG STORE

ELEVATOR

DIAPER

SIDEWALK

CLOSET





PETROL STATION

RUBBISH

TAP

COOKER

CAR PARK



GAS STATION

TRASH

FAUCET

STOVE

PARKING LOT





CANDIES

BISCUITS

DINNER JACKET

LET'S GO ON...

HOLIDAY!



SWEETS

COOKIES

TUXEDO

LET'S GO ON...

VACATION!

But even the same words can mean different things...





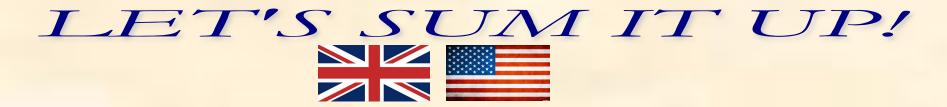












GRAMMAR

1. 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?

Brit. Have you done your homework yet?

US I already ate.

Brit. I've already eaten.

2. 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.

Brit. I've got two sisters.

US I have two sisters.

Brit. I've got to go now.

US I have to go now.





VOCABULARY

There are a lot of examples of different words used in British and American English.

angry (**Brit**.) = mad (**US**)

autumn = fall boot (of a car) = trunk chemist's = drug store cupboard = closet flat = apartment lift = elevator nappy = diaper pavement = sidewalk petrol = gas/gasoline rubbish = trash tap = faucet trousers = pants





SPELLING

There are also a number of different spelling rules between British English and American English.

1. Some words that end in '-tre' in British English end in '-ter' in American English.

US theater, center Brit. theatre, centre

2. Some words that end in '-our' in British English end in '-or' in American English.

US color, labor

Brit. colour, labour

3. Some words are shorter in American English than in British English.

US catalog, program

Brit. catalogue, programme

E-MAIL TO MY BRITISH FRIEND

Hi John,

How are you doing? What did you do on the weekend? What movies did you see recently? Did you buy a new cell phone already?

I have big news! My friend from Poland is coming on a visit this fall! I didn't see him for 2 years already! I am waiting on him so much!

I had a lots of things to do last week. And not all of them were my favorites! My mum was mad with me all the time! Well, she asked me to go to the drug store to buy some diapers for my little brother and when I was walking down the sidewalk, I hit a trash can and my pants got dirty! I had to return home without diapers and my pants were covered with trash all over me! Can you imagine that! People on the street were laughing at me and I had to walk home as I couldn't go by subway! I was really mad with myself!

Did I tell you that we are going to buy a new apartment? It's so cool! The house has a huge elevator! There is a big shopping mall and a gas station nearby, and it's almost in the center of the city, there are many theaters there as well!

I have to go now. See you soon!

E-MAIL TO MY BRITISH FRIEND

Hi John,

How are you? What did you do at the weekend? What films have you seen recently? Have you bought a new cell phone yet?

I have big news! My friend from Poland is coming on a visit this autumn! I haven't seen him for 2 years already! I am waiting for him so much!

I had a lot of things to do last week. And not all of them were my favourites! My mum was angry with me all the time! Well, she asked me to go to the chemist's to buy some nappies for my little brother and when I was walking down the pavement, I hit a dustbin and my trousers got dirty! I had to return home without nappies and my trousers were covered with rubbish all over me! Can you imagine that! People in the street were laughing at me and I had to walk home as I couldn't go by underground! I was really angry with myself!

Have I told you that we are going to buy a new flat? It's so cool! The house has a huge lift! There is a big shopping centre and a petrol station nearby, and it's almost in the centre of the city, there are many theatres there as well!

I have to go now. See you soon!

YOU ARE WELCOME TO SPEAK EITHER BRITISH ENGLISH OR AMERICAN ENGLISH. CHOOSE WHAT YOU LIKE. BUT PLEASE, PRETTY PLEASE, NEVER MIX THEM IN YOUR SPEECH!!!

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