

## British English

## American English

### A

aerial (radio/TV)

antenna

American football

football

anorak

parka

articulated lorry

trailer truck/semi trailer

aubergine

eggplant

autumn

fall

### B

bank holiday

legal holiday

bank note

bill

bap

hamburger bun

bat (ping pong)

paddle

bath

bathtub

bath (v.)

bathe

bathroom

bathroom/restroom/washroom

big dipper

roller coaster

bill

check (restaurant)

bill/account

account

billion = million million

billion = thousand million

biscuit (sweet)	cookie
black or white?(coffee)	with or without?
blackleg/scab	scab
black treacle	molasses
blind (window)	shade
block of flats	apartment house
block of flats	apartment building
blue jeans	dungarees/jeans
bomb (success)	bomb (disaster)
bonnet (car)	hood
book (v.)	make reservation
boot (car)	trunk
bootlace/shoelace	shoestring
bowler/hard hat	derby
braces	suspenders
break (school)	recess
briefs/underpants	shorts/jockey shorts
broad bean	lima bean
bureau de change	currency exchange
butter muslin/cheese cloth	cheese cloth

## C

candyfloss

cotton candy

caravan

trailer

caretaker/porter

janitor

car park

parking lot

catapult

slingshot

cattle grid

Texas gate

centre (city/business)

downtown

central reservation

median strip/divider

chairman (business)

president

chemist

druggist

chemist's shop

pharmacy/drugstore

chest of drawers

dresser/bureau

chips

French fries

cinema

movie house/theater

class/form (school)

grade

cloakroom

check room

cloakroom attendant

hat check girl

clothes peg

clothes pin

conscription

draft

contraceptive/condom	rubber
convoy	caravan
cooker	stove
corn flour	corn starch
corporation/local authority	city/municipal government
cot/crib	crib
cotton	thread
cotton reel	spool
cotton wool	cotton batting
courgette	zucchini
court shoe	pump
cream cracker	soda cracker
crisps	chips/potato chips
cul-de-sac	dead end
cupboard	closet
curtains	drapes
<b>D</b>	
desiccated (coconut)	shredded
director (company)	manager
directory enquiries	information assistance

directory enquiries

directory assistance

district

precinct

diversion

detour

drain (indoors)

sewer pipe

draper

drygoods store

draught excluder

weather stripping

draughts

checkers

drawing pin

thumb tack

dressing-gown

bathrobe

dual carriageway

divided highway

dummy

pacifier

dungarees

overalls

dustbin/bin

garbage can/trash can

dynamo

generator

## **E**

eiderdown

comforter

state agent

realtor

estate car

station wagon

## **F**

fair (fun)

carnival

filling station / petrol station	gas station
film	movie
first floor	second floor
fish slice	spatula/egg lifter
fitted carpet	wall to wall carpet
flannel	wash cloth
flat	apartment
flex	electric cord/wire
fly-over	overpass
football/soccer	soccer
fortnight	two weeks
foyer	lobby/foyer
full stop (punctuation)	period
funny bone	crazy bone

## **G**

gallery (theatre)	balcony
gangway	aisle
gaol	jail
garden	yard
gear lever	gear shift

giddy	dizzy
give a bell(to phone)	give a buzz
goods truck (railway)	freight truck
goose pimples	goose bumps
gramophone/record player	phonograph/record player
greenfingers	green thumb
grill (v.)	broil
guard (railway)	conductor
gym shoes/plimsolls	sneakers/tennis shoes
tennis shoes/trainers	sneakers/tennis shoes

## **H**

hair grip/kirby grip	bobbie pin
handbag	purse/pocket book
hardware	housewares
headmaster/mistress	principal
hire purchase	installment plan
holiday	vacation
homely (=pleasant)	homely (=ugly)
hoover (n.)	vacuum cleaner
hoover (v.)	vacuum

housing estate

sub-division

## **I**

ice/sorbet

sherbet

iced lolly

popsicle

icing sugar

powdered sugar

icing sugar

confectioner's sugar

identification parade

line-up

immersion heater(electric)

water heater

interval

intermission

ironmonger

hardware store

## **J**

jab (injection)

shot

joint (meat)

roast

jug

pitcher

jumper/sweater/pullover

sweater/pullover

## **K**

kiosk/box (telephone)

telephone booth

kipper

smoked herring

knickers (girl's)

underwear/panties

knock up (tennis)

warm up

knock up (call from sleep)      in American slang this means to get a woman pregnant

## **L**

label      tag

larder      pantry

lavatory/toilet/w.c./loo      john/bathroom/washroom

lay-by      pull-off

leader  
(leading article in newspaper)      editorial

leader(1st violin in orchestra)      concert master

left luggage office      baggage room

let      lease/rent

level crossing (railway)      grade crossing

lift      elevator

limited (company)      incorporated

lodger      roomer

lorry      truck

lost property      lost and found

## **M**

mackintosh      raincoat

made to measure      custom made

managing director/MD

general manager

marrow

squash

methylated spirits

denatured alcohol

mileometer

odometer

motorway

freeway/throughway

motorway

super highway

## **N**

nappy

diaper

neat (drink)

straight

net curtains

sheers/under drapes

newsagent

news dealer/news stand

nought

zero

noughts and crosses

tic-tac-toe

number plate

license plate

## **O**

off license/wine merchant

liquor store

oven cloth/gloves

pot holder/oven mitt

overtake (vehicle)

pass

## **P**

pack (of cards)

deck

packed lunch	sack lunch/bag lunch
panel beater	body shop
pants (boy's underwear)	shorts/underwear
paraffin	kerosene
parcel	package
pavement/footpath	sidewalk
personal call	person-to-person call
petrol	gas/gasoline
pillar box/letter box	mail box
plaster/elastoplast	bandaid
point/power point/socket	outlet/socket
post	mail
postal code	zip code
postman	mailman/postman
postponement	raincheck
pram	baby carriage/baby buggy
prison	penitentiary
public convenience	bathroom/restroom/washroom
public school	private school
pudding	dessert

purse change purse

pushchair stroller

put down/entered(goods) bought/charged

put through (telephone) connect

## **Q**

queue (n.) line

queue (v.) stand in line/line up

## **R**

rasher (bacon) slice

reception (hotel) front desk

receptionist desk clerk

return ticket round trip ticket

reverse charges call collect

reversing lights back up lights

ring up/phone call/phone

roof/hood (car) top

roundabout (road) traffic circle

rubber eraser

rubbish garbage/trash

## **S**

saloon car	sedan
scribbling pad/block	scratch pad
sellotape	scotch tape
semi-detached	duplex
semolina	cream of wheat
shattered	exhausted
shop assistant	sales clerk/sales girl
sideboard	buffet
sideboards (hair)	sideburns
silencer (car)	muffler
single ticket	one way ticket
sitting room	living room
living room	living room
lounge	living room
drawing room	living room
skipping rope	jump rope
skirting board	baseboard
sledge/toboggan	sled
smalls (washing)	underwear
sofa	davenport/couch

solicitor	lawyer/attorney
sorbet	sherbet
spanner	monkey wrench
spirits (drink)	liquor
spring onion	scallion/green onion
staff (academic)	faculty
stalls (theatre)	orchestra seats
stand (for public office)	run
standard lamp	floor lamp
state school	public school
sellotape	adhesive tape
stone (fruit)	pit
sultana	raisin
surgery(doctor's/dentist's)	office
surgical spirit	rubbing alcohol
suspender belt	garter belt
suspenders	garters
swede	turnip/rutabaga
sweet corn	corn
sweet shop/confectioner	candy store

sweets/chocolate

candy

Swiss roll

jelly roll

## **T**

tadpole

pollywog

tap

faucet

teat (baby's bottle)

nipple

tea trolley

tea cart

telegram

wire

telephone box

phone booth

term academic (3 in a year)

semester(2 in a year)

tights

pantyhose

time-table

schedule

tin

can

tip (n. and v.)

dump

torch

flashlight

traffic lights

stop lights

traffic lights

traffic signals

traffic lights

stop signals

trousers

pants/slacks

truncheon (police)

night stick

trunk call/long distance

long distance call

tube/underground

subway

turnover

sales/revenue

turn-ups (trousers)

cuffs (pants)

## **U**

undergraduates:

undergraduates:

- 1st year

- freshman

- 2nd year

- sophomore

- 3rd year

- junior

- 4th year

- senior

unit trust

mutual fund