REVIEWING THE BRITISH ENGLISH (BRE) AND AMERICAN ENGLISH (AME) DIALECTS

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ABSTRACT

Of the many different dialects of English such as British English (hereafter BrE), American English (hereafter AmE), Australian English (AsE), or Canadian English (CnE) or even Singaporean English (hereafter Singlish), etc, the most common widely use across the globe are BrE and AmE. The two dialects of English, as a matter of fact, are dominantly used in any kinds of fields to mention a few such as politics, economics, diplomatic relationship, medical, information communication and technology (ICT), and education as well. The debate about the use of BrE and AmE often centers on education especially in the process of learning and acquiring the English itself because the two dialects of English provide some different and distinctive features. Because of their differences and distinctive features, the learners often find difficulties and often make them confused which one to use. This paper is attempting to review the unique features of BrE and AmE focusing on the spellings.

Keywords: British English (BrE); American English (AmE); Dialects

INTRODUCTION

Historically, from its root in the small colonies of the New World (the origin of the America state), beginning with Jamestown, Virginia in the early 17th century (1607), was the rise of the varieties of English (BrE and AmE). Since then, the American English has become the most of mother-tongue varieties of English. Over the years, English spoken in the United States and in England started diverging from each other in various aspects such as spelling, lexis, pronunciation, grammat-ical pattern and so forth. This finally led two dialects in the form of the American English and British English In some ways, the differences between the two are not only in terms of pronunciation and grammar particularly but also in vocabulary. American English is conservative, for example having preserved features from British. For example, the word fall has been used since the sixteenth century as a variant for the word autumn. And it is still used in the United States until now even though it has become uncommon in the United Kingdom.

It is generally known that American English is also innovative, especially in its words. Americanism, as words and meanings originating in American English are called, has enriched every facet of the vocabulary and many of them have spread to use in English worldwide. Sometimes the settlers in the American colonies took old words and used them in new senses. The word corn, for instance originally meant grain in general, and in England, often the wheat in particular. American applied it to maize instead. Another example showing that BrE is different from AmE is the word creek. The word creek in England refers to an inlet or bay from the sea but in America,

it was used for a small stream (Webster, 1996); (Hornby, 1973).

American also invented the new words which are out of old elements, as Thomas Jefferson did in coining belittle, a term that might just as well have originated in England. Garrymander, on the other hand, arouse out of a particular event in the political history of Massachusetts, and so it became the characteristics of American English. The history then noted that the most famous and successful of all American invention is the expression OK. OK is a word has pervaded not only other varieties of English but many foreign languages as well. Despites effort to relate OK to several other languages, including African ones, its history as chronicled by Allen Walker Read shows it is to be a native invention. The term was coined in a Boston newspaper in 1839 as an abbreviation of the comic misspelling ollkorrect and was subsequently popularized as the name of a political supporting President Martin Van Buren, who was nicknamed Old Kinderhook from his birth place (Webster, 1996); (Salim, 2006).

DESCRIPTION

As stated previously, this paper is attempting to review the unique different features of BrE and AmE in terms of the spelling and the tense aspects. These two aspects seemingly dominant showing their uniqueness. In the real teaching and learning process the two aspects often make confused and tend to disturb the process of communication either in the form of spoken and written.

By history, Webster, one of the most proponent American linguists with his famous dictionary entitled Webster's New World College Dictionary firstly published in 1988 proposed and reformed English spelling to be typical American English spelling for reasons both philological and nationalistic. He launched and proposed many spelling changes in AmE. In terms of spelling, the majority of spelling differences between AmE and Br falls into two categories. The first category is Latin-derived spelling and the second is Greek-derived spelling.

The Latin-derived spelling of AmE falls into many form and patterns. There are a number of Latin-derived spellings of AmE. They vary in many different forms. First, (-our) is in BrE and (-or) is in AmE.These most words end in unstressed-our in BrE (e.g. colour, flavour, harbour, humour, labour, neighbour, rumouretc) end in -or in AmE (e.g. color, flavor, harbor, humor, labor, neighbor, rumor etc).

Second, (-re) is in BrE and (–er) is in AmE. Actually in British English (BrE), some words are derived from French, Latin or Greek end with a consonant followed by (–re), with the (–re) unstressed. In American English (AmE), most of these words have the ending (–er). However, the differences are most common for words ending (–breor –tre). British spellings (e.g. calibre, centre, litre, manoeuvre, metre, nitre, reconnoitre, saltpetre, spectre, theatere, etc) become (e.g. caliber, center, liter, manoeuver, meter, niter, reconnoiter, saltpeter, specter, theater, etc). However, most English words that today either BrE or AmE use (–er) such as chapter, disaster, enter, filter, letter, minister, monster, oyster, parameter, powder, proper, sober, tender, etc (Longman, 1982); (Webster, 1996).

In addition, still many words have (–er) in BrE. These includes Germanic words like anger, mother, timber and water and Roman words like danger, quarter, and river. Then, then ending (–acre), such as in acre, lucre,

massacre, and mediocre are used both in BrE and AmE to show that the /c/ is pronounced /k/ rather than /s/. Then, the spelling ogre and euchre are also the same both in BrE and AmE.

Third, (-ce) is in BrE and (–se) is in AmE. For the word advice/advise and device/devise, the BrE and AmE both keep the noun/verb distinction (where the pronunciation is -[s] for the noun and -[z] for the verb). For the words like licence/license or practice/practise, BrE also keeps the noun/verb distinction (the two words in each pair are homophones with -[s], though). On other hand, AmE uses license orpractise for both noun/verb (with -[s] pronunciation in both case too.

Also, the AmE has kept the Anglo-French spelling for defense and offense, which are usually defence and offence in BrE. Likewise, there are the American pretense and British pretence; but derivatives such as defensive, offensive, and pretension are always, they are spelled in both system.

Fourth, (-xion vs –action).It seems that the use of the spelling connexion is now rare in everyday British usage and it is not used at all in the United States. The word connection has become the standard worldwide. Historically, according to the Oxford English Dictionary, the older spelling is more etymologically conservative, since the original Latin word had (–xio-). While the American usage come from Webster, who abandoned (–xion) in favour of (–action) by analogy with verb like the word connect. On the other hand, the word complexion which comes from the word complex is standard worldwide but complection is rare in use.

The second is Greek-derived spellings. It is a fact that American spelling system is also influenced and enriched by Greek language. Unlike BrE, spelling uses (–iseize) in (-isation), the American spelling uses (–ize) in (-ization). The Greek-derived spelling of AmE falls into some forms and patterns such as(–ize, -yze, -og)etc.

First, (-ise) is in BrE and (-ize) is in AmE. In general, American spelling system avoid – ise ending in words like organize, realize, recognize, etc. While BrE tends to use both (–ize) and (-ise) (organise/ organize, realise/realize, recognise/ recognize) etc.The (–ize) ending is actually used world-widely in scientific writing and many international organization such as the International Organization for Standarization (IOS) and World Health Organization (WHO). However, The Cambridge University Press, on the other hand, has long preferred to using (–ise) and many reference works, including the Pocket Flower's Modern English Usage. Perhaps it is as a reaction to the ascendancy of American spelling. As mentioned previously, the (–ise) is more commonly used in UK mass media and newspaper like The Times, The Daily Telegraph, and the Economist. However (-ize) is also used in many British-based academic publications as shown by Nature, the Biochemical Journal, and The Time Literary Supplement.

Second,(-yze)is in BrEand(-yse)is in AmE. It is found that the ending (-yse) is British but –(zye) is in AmE. These two endings can be found in the world like analyse, catalyse, hydrolyse, andparalyse in BrE whereas like analyze, catalyze, hydrolyze, and paralyze. Dating back to 17th century and 18th century English, the word analyse was commonly used but many of the great dictionaries of that time such as John Kersey's of 1702, Nathan Bailey's of 1721 and Samuel Johnson's of 1775

prefered using the word analyze. In Canada, (-yze) prevails, just as in the US while in Australia and New Zealand, (-yse) stands alone.

Third, the endings (–ogue) and (–og) are also common in English. The British and Commonwealth English use the ending –logue and gogue while American English usually uses the endings (–log) and (–gog) for the words like analogue vs analog, catalog vscatalogue, dialogue vs dialog, monologue vs. monolog etc. Sometimes, the word catalogue is also used in AmE but catalog is more common (thus the inflected forms cataloged and catalogin vs. catalogu-ed and catalogueing). Then, the word analog is standard for adjective but both analogue and analog are current for noun.

In all other cases the (–gue) ending strongly prevails, for example monologue, except for such expression as dialog box in computing, which is also used in the UK. In Australia for example, analog tends to be used in its technical and electronics sense, as in analog electronics while in Canada and New Zealand, analogue is used except analog has some currencies as a technical term (e.g. in electronics, as in 'analog electronics' as opposed to 'digital electronics' and some video-game consoles might have an analog stick). Finally, many words that are written with /aeoroe/ in BrE are written with just an /e/ in AmE. The sound in question is /i:/ (or unstressed /i/). The examples with non-American the words in BrE such as anaemia, anaethesia, diarrhoea, encyclopaedia, gynaecology, etcleukaemia become anemia, anethesia, diarrhe, encyclopedia, gynecology, etc. However, the word oenolgy is acceptable in American English but is deemed a minor variant of enology, whereas archeology exists in both AmE and BrE. Then, the words that can be spelled either way in American English include aesthetics and archaeology (which usually prevail over esthetics and archeology, as well as palaestra for which the simplified from palestra is described by Webster as "chiefly Brit[ish]."

Besides, the BrE and AmE also provide the distinctive features of spelling in the double consonants. Some words having double consonants may exist in BrE but they are not in AmE. Otherwise, the words may have single consonants in AmE but they are single in BrE. In addition, the final consonant of an English word is sometimes doubled in both American and British spelling when they are added a suffix beginning with a vowel, for example strip/stripped which prevent confusion with stripe/striped and shows the difference in pronunciation Longman, 1982); (Webster, 1996). The following examples are provided as follows.

Double in BrE but Single in AmE

The British English doubling is used for all inflections (-ed, ing, er, and est) and for the noun suffixes (–er) and (–or). Therefore, the British English usage is cancelled, counsellor, cruellest, labelled, modelling, quarrelled, signalling, traveller and travelling. While American English usually use single /l/ for canceled, counselor, cruelest, labeled, modeling, quarreled, signaling, traveler and traveling. Both in BrE and AmE, the word parallel keeps a single /l/in BrE, as in AmE (paralleling, unparalleled) to avoid the unappealing cluster (–llell). Word with two vowels before a final /l/ are spelled with (–ll) in BrE before a suffix when the first vowel either acts as a consonant (equalling and initialled); in AmE becomes (equaling and initialed).

The word endings in (–ize/-ise, -isme, -ist, and -ish) usually are not double the /l/ in BrE, for example normalise, dualism, novelist, and devilish, etc. However, the words tranquillism, duellist, medallist, panellist and sometimes triallist, the /l/ is doubled.

For (–ous) BrE has a single /l/ such as in scandalous and perilous however the (-ll) is used for marvellous and libellous.

American English sometime has an unstressed (–ll) as in the UK, in some words where the root has /l/.These are cases where the change happens in the source language, which is often Latin like cancellation, chancellor, excellent, raillery, tonsillits, etc.

Both BrE and AmE have the words compelled, excelling, propelled, and rebelling but not the words revealing, fooling and hurling.

Among consonants other than /l/, practice varies for some words, such as where the final syllable has secondary stress or an unreduced vowel. The spellings kidnaped and worship in AmE but they are kidnapped and worshipped in BrE.

Double in AmE

Conversely, there are some words where British English prefers using single /l/ but American English uses double (-ll). In AmE usage, the spellings of words do not usually change when they form the main part (not prefix or suffix) of other words, especially in newly formed words and in words whose main part is in common use. Words with this spelling difference include willful, skillful, fulfill, enrollment, thralldom etc. These words have monosyllabic cognates always which are written with (–ll) such as in will, skill, trall, fill, stall, still, etc.

In the UK, (-ll) is sometimes used in the words like distil (l), enrol (l), and enthral(l) ment. All of which are always spelled this way in American usage. Historically, the former British spellings of words instal, fulness, and dulness with single (-l) but now tend to be with double (-ll-) like in the words install, fullness, and dullness. However, in both AmE and BrE usages words normally spelled (–ll) usually drop the second /l/ when used as prefixes or suffixes. For example,

Full – useful – handful
All – almighty – altogether
Well – welfare – welcome
Chill – chilblain

To be noted that the BrE is fulfil and AmE is fulfill but they never be fullfil or fulfill.

Drop (e)

BrE sometimes keeps silent /e/ when adding suffixes where AmE does not. It is a fact that BrE usually drops it in only some cases in which it is needed to show pronunciation whereas AmE only uses it where needed. For example, BrE prefers to having ageing and routeing for the word age and route, but AmE often uses aging and routing. However, to avoid and to distinguish from dying, singing, and swinging (in the sense of die, sing, and swing), the words like dye, singe, and swinge become dyeing, singeing, and swingeing, both BrE and AmE keep the e letter.

In BrE, the words like likeable, liveable, rateable, saleable, sizeable, and shakeable are common otherwise, AmE prefers to dropping the (–e), so those words tend to be liveble, ratable, saleable, sizable, and shakable. However, both BrE and AmE prefer to using the words breathable, curable, datable, loveble, movable, notable

quotable, scalable, solvable, usable and also the root is polysyllabic like believable or decidable, the silent (–e) is dropped. Both systems keep the silent (–e) when it is needed to preserve a soft /c, ch, or g/ such as in traceable, cacheable, changeable; and both BrE and AmE also keep the /e/ after (–dge) like in knowledgeable and unabridgeable (Salim, 2006); (Webster, 1996).In the US, both abridgment and the more regular abridgement are current rather in UK. Likewise for the word lodg(e)ment. Both judgment and judgement or achievment and acihevement are in use interchangeably everywhere, although the former prevails in the US and the latter prevails in the UK except in the practice of law, where judgment is standard. This also holds for abridgment and acknowledgment. Both systems prefer fledgling to fledgeling, but ridgeling to ridgling. In addition, both acknowledgment, acknowledgement, abridgment and abridgement are used in Australia; the shorter forms are endorsed by Australian governments. Then, the word blue always drops the /e/ when forming the word bluish or bluing (Salim, 2006); (Webster, 1996); (Hornby, 1973).

2. Miscellaneous Spelling Differences Between BrE and AmE

Besides, actually both BrE and AmE also have miscellaneous spelling differences which often confuse us. Then, the miscellaneous different spellings are not only by BrE and AmE, but also Canadian, Australian and New Zealand English. Table 1 below shows the miscellaneous different spellings among them.

Table 1 The miscellaneous of different spellings.

UK	US	Remarks
annexe	annex	To *annex* is the verb in both British and American usage; however, when speaking of *an annex /e/* – the noun referring to an extension of a main building – the root word is spelled with an (*-e*) at the end in the UK and Australia but in the US and New Zealand it is not.
artefact, artifact	artifact	In British English, *artefact* is the main spelling and *artifact* a minor variant. In American English, *artifact* is the usual spelling. Canadians prefer *artifact* and Australians *artefact*, according to their respective dictionaries. *Artefact* reflects *Arte-fac(um)*, the Latin source.

axe	ax, axe	Both the noun and verb which are derived from Old English(*æx*) is acceptable and commonly used. The Oxford English Dictionary states that "the spelling /*ax*/ is better on every ground, of etymology, phonology, and analogy, than /*axe*/, which became prevalent in the 19th century; but /*ax*/ is now disused in Britain". The spelling /*axe*/ was used by Shakespeare and in the King James Bible.
camomile, chamomile	chamomile, camomile	The more common British spelling *camomile*, corresponding to the immediate French source, is the older in English. Whereas the spelling of *chamomile* more accurately corresponds to the ultimate Latin and Greek source. In the UK, according to the OED, "the spelling of *cha-* is chiefly in pharmacy, after Latin; that with *ca-* is literary and popular". In the US *chamomile* dominates in all senses.
carat	carat, karat	The spelling with a /*k*/ is used in the US only for the measure of purity of gold. The /*c*/ spelling is universal for weight.
cheque	check	In banking.hence*pay cheque* and *paycheck* are used. Accordingly, the North American term for what is known as a *current account* or *cheque account* in the UK is spelled *chequing account* in Canada and *checking account* in the US. Some American financial institutions, notably American Express, use *cheque*, but this is merely a trademarking affectation.
chequer	checker	As in *chequerboard*/*checkerboard*, *chequered*/*checkered flag* etc. are used in UK while in Canada as it is used in the US.
chilli	chili, chile	The original Mexican Spanish word (chilli) is spelled *chile*. In *Merriam-Webster's Collegiate Dictionary*, *chile* and *chilli* are given as *also* variants.
choir	choir, quire	*Quire* was given as an alternative spelling by Webster (1828, 1844 and 1913) and *Century Dictionary*. However, *Quire* is also used in the UK to refer to the area in a cathedral occupied by the choir (usually the western part of the chancel).
cosy	cozy	In all senses, they are adjective, noun, verb. Both of them are used UK And US, and Canada as well.
dyke	dike	The spelling with /*i*/ is sometimes found in the UK, but the /*y*/ spelling is rare in the US.

doughnut	doughnut, donut	In the US, both are used, with *donut* indicated as a variant of *doughnut*. Whereas, in the UK, *donut* is indicated as an American variant for *doughnut.*
draught draft	draft	British English usually uses *draft* for all senses as the verb; for a preliminary version of a document; for an order of payment (bank draft), and for military conscription (although this last meaning is not as common as in American English). It uses *draught* for drink from a cask (draught beer); for animals, itis used for pulling heavy loads (draught horse); for a current of air; for a ship's minimum depth of water to float; and for the game *draughts*, known as *checkers* in America. It uses either *draught* or *draft* for a plan or sketch (but almost always *draughtsman* in this sense; a *draftsman* drafts legal documents). American English uses *draft* in all these cases, including *draftsman* (male or female) (although in regard to drinks, *draught* is sometimes found). However, Canada uses both systems; in Australia, *draft* is used for technical drawings, is accepted for the *current of air* meaning, and is preferred by professionals in the nautical sense. The pronunciation is always the same for all meanings within a dialect (Received Prouncaition (RP) /ˈ*drɑːftl*, General American /ˈ*dræftl*/). The spelling *draught* is older, reflecting the word's connection with the verb *to draw*; *draft* appeared first in the late 16th century.
gauge	gauge, gage	Both spellings have existed since Middle English.
gauntlet	gauntlet, gantlet	When meaning *ordeal*, in the phrase *running the ga(u)ntlet*, some American style guides prefer *gantlet*. This spelling is unused in Britain and less usual in America than *gauntlet*. The word is an alteration of earlier *gantlope* by folk etymology with gauntlet (*armored glove*), always spelled thus.
glycerine	glycerin, glycerine	Scientists use the term *glycerol*, but both spellings are used sporadically in the US.
grey	gray	*Grey* became the established British spelling in the 20th century, *pace* Dr Johnson and others, and it is but a minor variant in American English, according to dictionaries. Canadians tend to prefer *grey*. The non-cognate *greyhound* was never *grayhound*. Both *Grey* and *Gray* are found in proper names everywhere in the English-speaking world. The two

		spellings are of equal antiquity, and the Oxford English Dictionary states that "each of the current spellings has some analogical support.
grille	grill, grille	In the US, the word *grille* refers to that of an automobile, whereas the word *grill* refers to a device used for heating food. However, it is not uncommon to see both spellings used in the automotive sense, as well as in Australia, and New Zealand.
hearken	harken	This word comes from *hark*. The spelling *hearken* was used by Shakespeare and the King James Bible. It was probably influenced by *hear*.
idyll	idyll, idyl	*Idyl* was the spelling of the word preferred in the US by the Merriam-Webster dictionary, for the same reason as the double consonant rule; *idyll*, the original form from Greek *eidullion*, is now generally used in both the UK and US.
jail, gaol	jail	In the UK, *gaol* and *gaoler* are used sometimes, apart from literary usage, chiefly to describe a medieval building and guard. Both spellings go back to Middle English: *gaol* was a loanword from Norman French, while *jail* was a loanword from central (Parisian) French. In Middle English the two spellings were associated with different pronunciations. In current English the word, however spelled, is always given the pronunciation originally associated only with the *jail* spelling /ˈdʒeɪl/. The survival of the *gaol* spelling in British English is "due to statutory and official tradition".
kerb	curb	For the noun designating the edge of a roadway (or the edge of a British pavement/ American sidewalk/ Australian footpath).*Curb* is the older spelling, and in the UK and US it is still the proper spelling for the verb meaning *restrain*.
(kilo)gram, (kilo)gramme	(kilo)gram	*(Kilo)gramme* is used sometimes in the UK but never in the US. *(Kilo)gram* is the only spelling used by the International Bureau of Weights and Measures.
liquorice	licorice	The American spelling is nearer the Old French source *licorece*, which is ultimately from Greek *glykyrrhiza*. The British spelling was influenced by the unrelated word *liquor*. *Licorice* prevails in Canada and it is common in Australia, but it is rarely found in the UK. *Liquorice* is all but nonexistent in the US ("Chiefly British", according to dictionaries).

mollusc	mollusk, mollusc	The related adjective may be spelled *molluscan* or *molluskan* both in UK and US.
mould	mold	In all senses of the word. Both spellings have been used since the sixteenth century. In Canada, both words have wide currency. When speaking of the noun describing a form for casting a shape, the US will also use the *mould* spelling, but defaults to the word *mold* when referring to the fruiting bodies of tiny fungi. In New Zealand, the word *mold* is the spelling adopted when describing a form for casting a shape while the word *mould* is used when referring to a fungus
omelette	omelet, omelette	The *omelet* spelling is the older of the two, in spite of the etymology (French *omelette*). *Omelette* prevails in Canada and in Australia.
plough	plow	Both spellings have existed since Middle English. The OED records several dozen variants. In the UK, *plough* has been the standard spelling for about 300 years. Although *plow* was Noah Webster's pick, *plough* continued to have some currency in the US, as the entry in *Webster's Third* (1961) implies. Newer dictionaries label *plough* as "chiefly British". The word *snowplough*/*snowplow*, originally an Americanism, predates Webster's dictionaries and was first recorded as *snow plough*. Canada has both *plough* and *plow*, although *snowplough* is much rarer there than *snowplow*. In the US, the word *plough* sometimes describes a horsedrawn kind while *plow* refers to a gasoline (petrol) powered kind.
primaeval	primeval	The word *primeva*l is also common in UK but etymologically *'ae'* is nearer the Latin source *primus* first + *aevum* age.
rack and ruin	wrack and ruin	Several words such as *rack* and *wrack* have been conflated, with both spellings thus accepted as variants for senses connected to torture (orig. *rack*) and ruin (orig. *wrack*, cf. *wreck*). In *(w)rack* and *ruin*, the /*w*/-less variant is now prevalent in the UK but not the US. The term, however, is rare in the US.
sceptic (-al, -ism)	skeptic (-al, -ism)	The American spelling, *akin* to Greek, is the earliest known spelling in English. It was preferred by Fowler, and is used by many Canadians, where it is the earlier form. *Sceptic* also pre-dates the European settlement of the US, and it follows the

		French *sceptique* and Latin *scepticus*. In the mid-18th century, Dr Johnson's dictionary listed *skeptic* without comment or alternative, but this form has never been popular in the UK; *sceptic*, an equal variant in the old *Webster's Third* (1961), has now become "chiefly British". Australians generally follow the British usage (with the notable exception of the Australian Skeptics). All of these versions are pronounced with a hard /*c*/, though in French that letter is silent and the word is pronounced like *septique*.
slew, slue	slue, slew	This means *to turn sharply*; *a sharp turn*, the preferred spelling differs. Meaning *a great number* is usually *slew* in all regions.
smoulder	smolder	Both spellings go back to the sixteenth century, and have existed since Middle English. The*smoulder* is used In BrE whereas, *smolder* is used in AmE.
storey	story	Level of a building. The plurals are *storeys* and *stories* respectively. The letter /*e*/ is used in the UK and Canada to differentiate between levels of buildings and a story as in a literary work. *Story* is the earlier spelling. The Oxford English Dictionary states that this word is "probably the same word as story [in its meaning of "narrative"] though the development of sense is obscure. One of the first uses of the (now British) spelling "storey" was by Harriet Beecher Stowe in 1852 (Uncle Tom's Cabin xxxii).
sulphur	sulfur, sulphur	*Sulfur* is the preferred spelling by the International Union of Pure and Applied Chemistry (IUPAC) and by the UK's Royal Society of Chemistry (RSC). *Sulphur* is used by British and Irish scientists, and it is actively taught in British and Irish schools. It prevails in Canada and Australia, and it is also found in some American place names (e.g. Sulphur, Louisiana and White Sulphur Springs, West Virginia). American English usage guides suggest *sulfur* for technical usage, and both *sulfur* and *sulphur* in common usage and in literature. The variation between /*f*/ and /*ph*/ spellings is also found in the word's ultimate source: Latin *sulfur*, *sulphur*.
through	through, thru	The *thru* is typically used in the US as shorthand.
tyre	tire	In Canada as in the US, *Tire* is the older spelling, but both were used in the 15th and 16th centuries (for a metal tire). *Tire*

		became the settled spelling in the 17th century but *tyre* was revived in the UK in the 19th century for rubber / pneumatic tyres, possibly because it was used in some patent documents, though many continued to use *tire* for the iron variety. *The Times* newspaper was still using *tire* as late as 1905. For the verb meaning "to grow weary" both American and British English use only the *tire* spelling.
vice	vise, vice	Americans and Canadians retain the very old distinction between *vise* (the tool) and *vice* (the sin, and also the Latin prefix meaning a "deputy"), both of which are *vice* in the UK and Australia. Thus, Americans have *Vice-Admiral*, *Vice-President*, and *Vice-Principal*, but never *Vise-* for any one of these.
yoghurt, yogurt	yogurt, yoghurt	*Yoghurt* is an *also*-ran in the US, as is *yoghourt* in the UK. Although the Oxford Dictionaries have always preferred *yogurt*, in current British usage *yoghurt* seems to be prevalent. In Canada, *yogurt* prevails, despite the Canadian Oxford preferring *yogourt*, which has the advantage of satisfying bilingual (English and French) packaging requirements. Australian usage tends to follow the UK. Whatever the spelling is, the word has different pronunciations: in the UK /ˈjɒgəˑt/ or /ˈjoʊgəˑt/, only /ˈjoʊgəˑrt/ in America, Ireland, and Australia. The word comes from the Turkish language word *yoğurt*. The voiced velar fricative represented by ğ in the modern Turkish (Latinic) alphabet was traditionally written *gh* in romanizations of the Ottoman Turkish (Arabic) alphabet used before 1928.

CONCLUSION

There are several areas in which British and American spelling are different. The differences often come about because British English has tended to keep the spelling of words. It has absorbed from other languages (e.g. French), while American English has adapted the spelling to reflect the way that the words actually sound when they're spoken.

For practice, if you're writing for British readers, you should only use British spellings. In one or two cases, the preferred American spellings are acceptable in British English as well, especially the -ize/-ization endings. While you can use both the -ise/-isation or the -ize/ization endings in British English, it's important to stick to one style or the other throughout the same piece of writing.

Thus, it is important to note where the two typical English dialects are used. Geographically, the American English is the form of English used in the US including all English dialects used within the United States of America. But, the British English is the form of English used in the United Kingdom covering all English dialects used within the United Kingdom.

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