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Differences between American and British English

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The English are all exactly the same as the Americans, except language (Oscar Wilde)

Introduction

When we begin to learn English, watch movies and read books in the original, with the time we are faced with differences of American and British English. So which version is important to teach?

When Julius Caesar landed in Britain around 2,000 years ago, the English language did not exist. After 500 years, people who have lived in the UK spoke English. In the late 16th century, during Shakespeare's time, it was the native language for 6 million Englishmen. Currently, more than 1 billion people on the planet speak English[8]. For one it is their native language, for others it's the second and third. English is the language of politicians, academics, business language and the language of the media. English is the language of pop-culture, sport and the official language of the Olympics.

The differences between the English language in the United States and Britain have long attracted attention of researchers, but in the linguistic literature no work on the comparison of the two main variants of the English language. As a rule, works devoted to this topic, distinctive elements of the American and British variants are considered separately [12] This is the scientific relevance of this problem.

British English is the language of science and international politics. Language which requires the phonetic accuracy, grammatical pedantry and stylistic accuracy. Talking to British English carries a connotation of ceremonial and artificiality.

American English promotes simplicity that knows no reasonable bounds. It is therefore not surprising that, say such a turn as I seen him, become the language norm.

Now a special distribution received American English in a wide range of areas of life and human activities, such as in the field of material culture, economy and finance, education and health care and many others. American English is becoming increasingly common throughout the world and has a tendency to oust the British.

Differences in phonetics

Stress in words: address (UK) and *address* (Amer.), *cafe* (UK) and *cafe* (Amer.).

Sounds in words: There are words in which American and British pronunciation differs in one or two sounds:

ask 'to read' [a: sk] in Britain and [æsk] – in America, dance is pronounced [da: ns] in England, and how [dɑns] in the United States. Sound [t] is pronounced weakly articulated [d], and situated in the middle of a word combination of letters tt Americans very much like [d]. They do not "swallow" the sound [r], as the English, so it seems rougher, roaring.

In many U.S. states decided to pronounce the words student, few, new, duty free spirited j; in this case, the stressed syllable pronounced long u.

For example:

- in British English duty [dju: ti], in American English [du: ti];
- in British English new [nju:], in American English [nu:];
- in British English student [stju: dnt], in American English [stu: dent];
- in American English r sound vague and quite weak, pronounced without shaking the tip of the tongue, such as: firm, farm, hurt, force;
- in British English car [ka:], in American English [kar];

- in British English sister ['sɪstə], in American English ['sɪstər].

In some words, where the American version has a place open sound [æ], the British pronounce the sound of a long [a]:

- AmE ask ['æsk] – BrE ['a: sk];
- AmE half ['hæf] – BrE ['ha: f].

3. Intonation in sentences. The British use a variety of intonation patterns, and the disposal of only two Americans – flat and descending [4].

The differences in vocabulary

Sometimes different words in American and British English, refer to the same subjects [7; 9]. For example:

UK: You have to stop at a crossroads. – Вы должны остановиться на перекрестке.

US: You have to stop at an intersection. – Вы должны остановиться на перекрестке.

Other words that are often used in everyday lives of Americans and the British, are presented in Table 1.

Table 1. The differences in vocabulary

	BrE	AmE
кинотеатр	cinema	movies
жестяная банка	tin	can
перекресток	crossroads	intersection
метро	tube/underground	metro/subway
почта	mail	post
печенье	biscuit	cookie
подгузник, пелёнка	nappy	diaper
электрический фонарь	torch	flashlight
бензин, топливо	petrol	gas
автострада	motorway	freeway
капот автомобиля; шляпа, капор, капюшон	bonnet	hood
перекресток	crossroads	intersection
правительство	government	administration

The differences in grammar

In American English:

- often formed verbal nouns (to research – research, a research – research);
- Never use a form shall, most often it will replace or gonna (short for going to);
- barely used the word slowly and really, they are replaced by slow and real;
- Many verbs, which in British English are wrong in the American steel correct (learn, spoil, spell, dream, smell, spill, burn, leap, and others);
- Instead you can use the Present Perfect Past Simple;
- nouns denoting a group of people are generally singular. (Army, government, committee, team, band);
- past participle of the word saw – sawed (in the British version sounds like a sawn);
- often used simple past perfect tense (I just arrived home), especially in the phrases with the words already, just, yet. (British are more likely to use the past perfect tense (I have just arrived home));
- most often used "I have" and "I have to", and in casual conversation may use "I got" and "I got to", respectively. (In the British version more commonly used form of "I have got" (possession) and "I have got to" (a) need for conversational speech and expression" I have "and" I have to "sound more official);

- in the subjunctive mood are more common constructions like "They suggested that he apply for the job" (for the British – "They suggested that he should apply for the job") [10].

Differences in word formation

The suffix "-ward (s)" in British English commonly used as "-wards", and the U.S. as "-ward".

For example: forwards, towards, rightwards

For American English is more common word formation through compounding. In the formation of phrases consisting of a noun and a verb-subject, speaking of his appointment, in the British version is more commonly used gerund (sailing boat), and the Americans prefer to simply glue the verb to noun (sailboat). Also formed phrases that mean the object and its owner [5].

For example: dollhouse vs. doll's house.

Differences in the spelling of words

In American English has a tendency to fall out the letter "u" from the end of "our": some words in American English end in "-or", as in British English, they have the ending "-our".

A number of words in American English end in "er", while the same words in the British version of English have the ending "re".

For example:

UK: colour – I love that colour. – I like this color.

US: color – The sky is a beautiful color today. – The sky beautiful colors today.

UK: theatre – London has many theatres. – In London, a lot of theaters.

US: theater – Toronto has many theaters. – In Toronto, a lot of theaters.

Some of the words in American English that end in "ize", in British English can both have the ending "ize", and end with "ise".

For example:

UK: realise – I realise that there are many lorries on the motorway. – I am aware that a lot of highway trucks.

US: realize – He realizes that there are many trucks on the freeway. – He understands that on the freeway a lot of trucks [6].

Other words that are often used in everyday lives of Americans and the British, are presented in Table 2

Table 2. Differences in the spelling of words

	BrE	AmE
слава, почёт, честь	honour	honor
физический труд	labour	labor
юмор; комизм; темперамент	humour	humor
центр	centre	center
цвет	colour	color
театр	theatre	theater
представлять себе, понимать	realise	realize
раскрасить, раскрашивать	colourise	colorize
поражать параличом, парализовать	paralyse	paralyze
шина; покрышка	tyre	tire
программа, план,	programme	program
пижама	pyjamas	pajamas
серый	grey	gray

Conclusion

Between American and British English is quite noticeable. However, significant differences of opinion – just a myth. In fact, there are quite a lot, but every year they become more and more.

The British version is more fastidious and meticulous. The American version is more simple. British English Americans call refined. All this speaks in favor of the British version of the study.

I think that American English is not a separate language, but only one of its variants. American English has neither a special vocabulary or grammatical structure of their special. In general, for the American version of the English language is characterized by a simplified spelling But at the same time, all these processes are carried out on the material is in English.

Indeed, one English will not be the only language in the world for the entire population of the planet, but it will long remain the dominant language, at least as long as the U.S. remains a superpower.

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The interference of German at studying English in gymnasium with in-depth study of German language

МАОУ гимназия № 6

Why people, who learns 2 or more foreign languages can confuse sometimes? This question always was very interesting for me. May be it is so, because I learn 2 foreign languages (English and German) by myself, so I've often seen that people who learns in my