

Comparing Cultural Aspects: the US and the UK

I. Read the text.

Two Countries with a Common Language

The US and the UK have a lot in common: they share a language and several centuries of history. However, each culture is unique. Let me tell you about my experience. I am American, and I moved to England with my family two years ago. I was surprised to discover that there are a lot of cultural differences.



The first thing I noticed was how different we sound.

Both American and British people speak English, but our accents are different. We also use different words to name things, for example in the UK people say *lift*, but in the US, people say *elevator*. Some people believe that British English sounds more elegant and polite, but I am not so sure.

In the UK people drive on the left side of the road. This is strange for me because my dad normally drives on the right side in the US. I always forget that traffic comes from the other direction!

Another thing is sports. Back home, in the US, people play *soccer* but here it is called *football*. The most popular sports in the US are basketball, baseball, and American football. In the UK, the most popular sports are football, cricket, tennis, and rugby (I got on a team last week!).

Finally, TV is great here! They show stuff from all over the world – this is different from the US where we usually watch American movies and shows.

As you can see, although the US and the UK have the same language, they are quite different.

*Text adapted from Yes, We Can! 2 Secondary Student's Book, Richmond, 2019, p. 68

II. Drag and drop the boxes to complete the comparative chart.

on the left side of the road

English

shows from all over the world

football, rugby, and cricket

American shows

on the right side of the road

American football, basketball, and baseball

Topic	The United States	The UK
sports		
driving		
TV		
language	English	