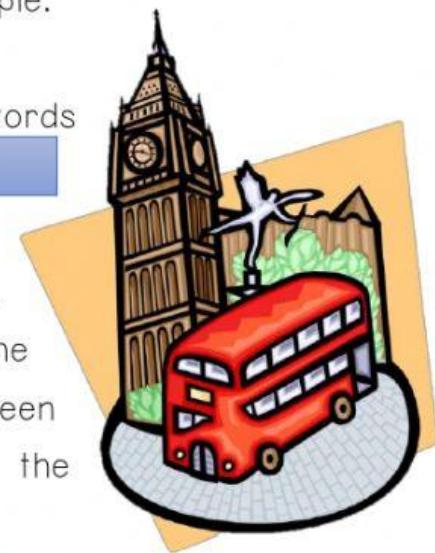


American and British English



Students of English all over the world are aware that there are differences between British and American English. But how large are the differences really? The varieties of English have historical roots. When pilgrims left England in the seventeenth century, the language has evolved, giving rise to changes in vocabulary, grammar and spelling. Many of the obvious differences are in the vocabulary used in the two countries. Many of the words that we use today did not exist in the seventeenth century. "Pavements" in Britain, and "sidewalks" in the USA, only became common later, for example.

The two countries also borrowed words from different sources: courgettes were imported to Britain from France and zucchini were brought to America by Italian immigrants. Printing was a relatively new invention back then and the spelling of most words had not yet been formalized, which accounts for many of the differences in spelling.



Taken and adapted from <https://www.english-grammar.at/index.htm>