British English vs American English

The British and the Americans both speak English but they don't always use the same words.

Activity 1 → Match these American words with the pictures.

a trunk / an eraser / a hood / an egg-plant / a movie theatre / cotton candy / subway

a can / a truck / restrooms / a trash can / an elevator / trash / French fries

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | British English | American English |  |  | British English | American English |
| D:\Images\Food and drinks\chips\Image1.jpg | chips |  |  | D:\Images\Food and drinks\aubergine and co\Image43.jpg | an aubergine |  |
| D:\Images\School\rubber\Image4.png | a rubber |  |  | D:\Images\Rooms and houses\bins\Image31.jpg | a bin |  |
| D:\Images\Transports et voyages\lorries and co\lorry_tcm4-232190.jpg | a lorry |  |  | D:\Images\Chores\taking out the bin\rubbish.png | rubbish |  |
| D:\Images\Places\cinemas\Image4.png | a cinema |  |  | D:\Images\Image6.png | the boot |  |
| D:\Images\Image4.png | a tin |  |  | D:\Images\Image7.png | the bonnet |  |
| D:\Images\Image5.png | public toilets |  |  | D:\Images\Food and drinks\sweets\cottoncandy - Copie.jpg | candy floss |  |
| D:\Images\Transports et voyages\underground\under.jpg | underground |  |  | D:\Images\Routine\lift\Image11.png | a lift |  |

Activity 2 → Match the British words with the American words. Mind the odd-one-out !

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| GB |  | US |
| pudding •  flat •  post •  torch •  car park •  postman • |  | • mail  • store  • mailman  • parking lot  • flashlight  • dessert  • apartment |

Activity 3 → Is the word English or American ? Tick the correct flag.

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Mom | ❑ | D:\Independence Day\archives\pictures\flags\UK_Flag.jpg | ❑ | D:\Independence Day\archives\pictures\flags\Image5.jpg |  |  | petrol | ❑ | D:\Independence Day\archives\pictures\flags\UK_Flag.jpg | ❑ | D:\Independence Day\archives\pictures\flags\Image5.jpg |
| Mum | ❑ | D:\Independence Day\archives\pictures\flags\UK_Flag.jpg | ❑ | D:\Independence Day\archives\pictures\flags\Image5.jpg |  |  | gas | ❑ | D:\Independence Day\archives\pictures\flags\UK_Flag.jpg | ❑ | D:\Independence Day\archives\pictures\flags\Image5.jpg |
| cookies | ❑ | D:\Independence Day\archives\pictures\flags\UK_Flag.jpg | ❑ | D:\Independence Day\archives\pictures\flags\Image5.jpg |  |  | fizzy drink | ❑ | D:\Independence Day\archives\pictures\flags\UK_Flag.jpg | ❑ | D:\Independence Day\archives\pictures\flags\Image5.jpg |
| biscuits | ❑ | D:\Independence Day\archives\pictures\flags\UK_Flag.jpg | ❑ | D:\Independence Day\archives\pictures\flags\Image5.jpg |  |  | soda | ❑ | D:\Independence Day\archives\pictures\flags\UK_Flag.jpg | ❑ | D:\Independence Day\archives\pictures\flags\Image5.jpg |
| mobile phone | ❑ | D:\Independence Day\archives\pictures\flags\UK_Flag.jpg | ❑ | D:\Independence Day\archives\pictures\flags\Image5.jpg |  |  | pajamas | ❑ | D:\Independence Day\archives\pictures\flags\UK_Flag.jpg | ❑ | D:\Independence Day\archives\pictures\flags\Image5.jpg |
| cellphone | ❑ | D:\Independence Day\archives\pictures\flags\UK_Flag.jpg | ❑ | D:\Independence Day\archives\pictures\flags\Image5.jpg |  |  | pyjamas | ❑ | D:\Independence Day\archives\pictures\flags\UK_Flag.jpg | ❑ | D:\Independence Day\archives\pictures\flags\Image5.jpg |
| police car | ❑ | D:\Independence Day\archives\pictures\flags\UK_Flag.jpg | ❑ | D:\Independence Day\archives\pictures\flags\Image5.jpg |  |  | post code | ❑ | D:\Independence Day\archives\pictures\flags\UK_Flag.jpg | ❑ | D:\Independence Day\archives\pictures\flags\Image5.jpg |
| patrol car | ❑ | D:\Independence Day\archives\pictures\flags\UK_Flag.jpg | ❑ | D:\Independence Day\archives\pictures\flags\Image5.jpg |  |  | zip code | ❑ | D:\Independence Day\archives\pictures\flags\UK_Flag.jpg | ❑ | D:\Independence Day\archives\pictures\flags\Image5.jpg |
| mustache | ❑ | D:\Independence Day\archives\pictures\flags\UK_Flag.jpg | ❑ | D:\Independence Day\archives\pictures\flags\Image5.jpg |  |  | crisps | ❑ | D:\Independence Day\archives\pictures\flags\UK_Flag.jpg | ❑ | D:\Independence Day\archives\pictures\flags\Image5.jpg |
| moustache | ❑ | D:\Independence Day\archives\pictures\flags\UK_Flag.jpg | ❑ | D:\Independence Day\archives\pictures\flags\Image5.jpg |  |  | potato chips | ❑ | D:\Independence Day\archives\pictures\flags\UK_Flag.jpg | ❑ | D:\Independence Day\archives\pictures\flags\Image5.jpg |

Activity 4 → Paraphrase the British sentences using the American words below.

the faucet / movie / suspenders / after /candies / bathroom / do the dishes / Fall / kids

the check / sneakers / the highway / vacation / the sidewalk / line / the shopping mall

It is the best *film* I have ever seen.

→ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

On October 31st, it's Halloween. *Children* get a lot of *sweets* when they say "trick or treat".

→ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

I have drunk so much water, I really need to go to the *toilet*.

→ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

There are lots of *lorries* on the *motorway*  today.

→ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

There is a long *queue* of people waiting at the bus stop.

→ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

White *trainers* are fashionable this summer.

→ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

It's ten *past* two. → \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

My grandfather used to wear striped *braces* to keep his baggy trousers up.

→ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

I am on *holiday* for a week and I will return to work next Monday.

→ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

I'm going to *the shopping centre*, do you want to come with me ?

→ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

You mustn't ride your bike on *the pavement* !

→ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

I *do the washing-up*  every day after dinner.

→ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Waiter ! Could you please bring me *the bill* ?

→ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

*Autumn* is my *favourite* season.

→ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Turn off *the tap* when you clean your teeth.

→ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Activity 5 → British words can sometimes be really different from American words.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Read these American words. What do they mean in GB ? What do they mean in the US ? Write GB or US next to the correct picture. Look at the example first. | the first floor | D:\Independence Day\british vs american\pictures\Image6.png |

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| to wash up | D:\Independence Day\british vs american\pictures\Image7.png | a lavatory | D:\Independence Day\british vs american\pictures\Image11.png |
| chips | D:\Independence Day\british vs american\pictures\Image13.png | pants | D:\Independence Day\british vs american\pictures\Image5.png |
| football | D:\Independence Day\british vs american\pictures\Image9.png | a vest | D:\Independence Day\british vs american\pictures\Image8.png |
| jelly | D:\Independence Day\british vs american\pictures\Image10.png | a purse | D:\Independence Day\british vs american\pictures\Image12.png |