



BRITISH VS AMERICAN ENGLISH

TIPS

British and American English in different contexts

AT THE OFFICE...

BRITISH ENGLISH	AMERICAN ENGLISH
barrister, solicitor	lawyer, attorney
base rate	prime rate
catalogue	catalog
curriculum vitae (CV)	résumé
engaged (tel.)	busy (tel.)
full stop	period
hire purchase	installment plan
inverted commas, quotation marks	quotation marks
Joe Bloggs	John Doe
managing director	CEO (chief executive officer)
to fill in	to fill out
to hire	to rent

TALKING ABOUT TIME/HOLIDAYS...

BRITISH ENGLISH	AMERICAN ENGLISH
at the weekend	on the weekend
bank holiday	national holiday, federal holiday
fortnight	two weeks
from Monday to Friday	from Monday through / to Friday
holiday	vacation

AT OR IN A HOUSE...

BRITISH ENGLISH	AMERICAN ENGLISH
bin, dustbin	garbage can/trash can
car park	parking lot
caretaker	facility manager
cloakroom	checkroom, coatroom
cooker	stove
first floor	second floor
flat	apartment
garden	yard
ground floor	ground floor, first floor
letter box	mail box
lift	elevator

IN A RESTAURANT/GROCERY SHOPPING...

BRITISH ENGLISH	AMERICAN ENGLISH
aubergine	eggplant
beetroot	beet
bill	check
biscuit	cookie
chips	French fries
courgette	zucchini
crisps	potato chips
dinner jacket	tux, tuxedo
fish-fingers	fish-sticks
jacket potato	baked potato
to lay the table	to set the table



Speak with Confidence

Costa Rica

San Pedro (506) 2253-9191
Sabana Norte (506) 2291-4327
Santa Ana, Fórum 1 (506) 2204-7555

Guatemala

Reforma (502) 2362-4444
Majadas (502) 2383-4444

Panamá

Marbella (507) 265-4800

800-BERLITZ
www.berlitzca.com
info@berlitzca.com



This Berlitz Language Center is independently owned and operated.