

British vs American English

Word Bank:

flat | apartment | lorry | truck | biscuit | cookie | lift | elevator | petrol | gasoline | torch | flashlight

1. Ranking Exercise

Rank these British English terms from most commonly used to least commonly used in American English.

- _____ torch
- _____ flat
- _____ lorry
- _____ biscuit
- _____ petrol
- _____ lift

Explain why the first ranked item is the least commonly used. _____

2. Classifying Exercise

Classify the following words into British English or American English.

Word Bank: cookies | roundtrip | elevator | movies | pants | vacation | line | gas | truck | fall | sweater | candy | apartment | roommate | fries | chips | garbage | trashcan | trunk | hood

British English	American English

3. Sentence Transformation Exercise

Transform the following sentences from British English to American English.

1. I need to fill up my car with petrol. _____
2. Could you please pass me the torch? _____
3. The lift is out of order, we need to use the stairs. _____
4. Let's rent a lorry for our move. _____

4. True/False Statement Exercise

Indicate whether the following sentences are true or false based on British and American English differences.

1. In American English, a "flat" is a type of tire.
2. "Petrol" is the American English term for fuel used in cars.
3. In British English, "truck" refers to a large vehicle for transporting goods.
4. "Elevator" and "lift" mean the same thing in both British and American English.
5. "Flashlight" in American English is known as "torch" in British English.

Possible/Example Answers:**1. Ranking Exercise**

1. Petrol
2. Lorry
3. Flat
4. Biscuit
5. Torch
6. Lift

Explanation for the first ranked item: The term "petrol" is ranked as the least commonly used in American English because the standard American term for vehicle fuel is "gas" or "gasoline." The term "petrol" is distinctly British and is rarely, if ever, used in everyday American English.

2. Classifying Exercise

British English	American English
biscuits	cookies
return ticket	roundtrip
lift	elevator
cinema	movies
trousers	pants
holiday	vacation
queue	line
petrol	gas
lorry	truck
autumn	fall
jumper	sweater
sweets	candy
flat	apartment
flatmate	roommate
chips	fries
crisps	chips
rubbish	garbage
bin	trashcan
boot	trunk
bonnet	hood

3. Sentence Transformation Exercise

1. I need to fill up my car with gasoline.
2. Could you please pass me the flashlight?
3. The elevator is out of order, we need to use the stairs.
4. Let's rent a truck for our move.

5. True/False Statement Exercise

1. In American English, a "flat" is a type of tire.
 - False. In American English, a "flat" refers to a deflated tire, not an apartment.
2. "Petrol" is the American English term for fuel used in cars.
 - False. In American English, the term for fuel used in cars is "gasoline" or "gas," not "petrol."
3. In British English, "truck" refers to a large vehicle for transporting goods.
 - False. In British English, a large vehicle for transporting goods is typically called a "lorry," not a "truck."
4. "Elevator" and "lift" mean the same thing in both British and American English.
 - **True.**
5. "Flashlight" in American English is known as "torch" in British English.
 - **True.**