**British, American, and other styles: What is the difference? (from Grammarly.com)**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Spelling**  English spelling conventions vary somewhat from place to place. If you compare British and American English, for example, you'll find spelling differences that concern vowels, double letters, and suffixes such as *-ize/-ise* or *-yze/-yse.* Australian and New Zealand English tend to follow British spelling conventions. Canadian English follows many British spelling conventions, but has also been influenced by American spellings. | American   * fav**o**rite * leuk**e**mia * organ**ize** * anal**yze** * cent**er** * trave**l**ed | British   * fav**ou**rite * leuk**ae**mia * organ**ise**/organ**ize** * anal**yse**/anal**yze** * cent**re** * trave**ll**ed | | Canadian   * fav**ou**rite * leuk**e**mia * organ**ize** * anal**yze** * cent**re** * trave**ll**ed |
| **Grammar**  There are a few subtle differences in grammar among English dialects. For example, in American English, collective nouns take only a singular verb, but in British, Canadian, and Australian English, they can take a singular or plural verb. | American  My family **is** fond of parties. | | British/Canadian/Australian  My family **is**/**are** fond of parties. | |
| **Punctuation**  The few major differences in punctuation among English dialects involve quotation marks and abbreviated titles. The British and Australians do not insert periods after a [person’s] title, while Americans and Canadians do. For quotations, Americans and Canadians use double quotation marks and [often] put commas and periods inside them, whereas British and Australian (including New Zealand) standards vary widely among different style guides and publications. | American/Canadian  I wouldn’t buy a used car from **Mr.** Doe.  **“**I’ve finished my homework**,”** said Mark. | | British/Australian  I wouldn’t buy a used car from **Mr** Doe.  **“**I’ve finished my homework**,”** said Mark.  **‘**I’ve finished my homework**’,** said Mark. | |