

Language Tips

We think we speak the same language on both sides of "the pond", but actually they are two different languages, they just have an awful lot of common words!

Lots of the words are pronounced differently and often even if they sound the same, the spelling is different!

Here are some words ending in '-our' in British English and '-or' in the USA:

Colour
Labour
Neighbour
Honour

'-ize' is often '-ise' in the UK:

Apologise
Terrorise
Finalise

And don't forget the '-tre' endings instead of the '-ter' ending used in the USA:

Centre
Litre
Theatre

Here is a list of other "interesting" spelling differences:

UK

Aluminium
Cheque
Defence
Programme

USA

Aluminum
Check
Defense
Program

Here are some phrases / words:

Carry on	Continue
Chap	Man
Cotton wool	Cotton ball
Cock/cockerel	Rooster
Cling-film	Food wrap (Saran wrap)
Clothes peg	Clothes pin
Clever	Smart / intelligent
Gone off	Spoiled / gone rotten
Made redundant	Layed off

Next door but one	Two houses/doors away
Sacked	Fired
Your go	Your turn
Ante-natal	Pre-natal
Bit	Part
Plaster	"Band-aid"
Nappy	Diaper
Tissue	"Kleenex"
Hoovering	Vacuuuming
Fortnight	Two weeks
Ladybird	Ladybug
Petrol	Gas
Jug	Pitcher
Post / letter	Mail
Rubber	Eraser
"Sellotape"	Adhesive tape
Skip	Dumpster
Spanner	Wrench
Suss out	Find out
Tap	Faucet
Toilet	Bathroom