

A Lesson on English



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British vs American English

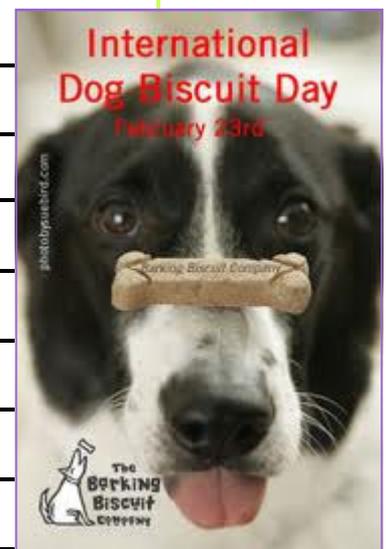
The English language was developed first in England, a part of what's now known as Great Britain.

Until 1776, the British colonies in North America spoke British English, but after the colonies declared independence and became the United States of America, British and American English began to develop in different directions.

This divergence has resulted in two separate sets of words for many everyday objects. Although British and American speakers usually can understand each other, sometimes there is confusion.

For example, a British *biscuit* is an American cookie; an American *biscuit* is a kind of bread, not sweet; it's also a dog's treat!

BRITISH	AMERICAN
row	argument
loo or WC	bathroom
biscuit	cookie
lift	elevator
dual carriageway	freeway or expressway
flat	apartment
rubber	eraser
chemist	pharmacist



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American breakfast biscuit



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Sara and Jarda Tusek in Florida

"A Lesson on English" is a series of short lessons created for people who want to become fluent in conversational English. The lessons are practical and useful for students learning English in a traditional classroom setting or on their own.

A Lesson on English (ALOE)

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BRITISH	AMERICAN
autumn	fall
petrol	gas
torch	flashlight
queue	line
post	mail
nought	nothing
trousers	pants
car park	parking lot
full stop	period
holiday	vacation
postal code	zip code
lorry	truck
jumper	sweater
football	soccer (American football is a different game)