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## Scientific Writing Resources

### *Words and phrases that can confuse*

(a bit of grammatical help)

## US vs UK English





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### US vs UK English

The English language was introduced to the Americas by British colonization, from the late 16th and early 17th centuries. Similarly, the language spread to numerous other parts of the world as a result of British trade and colonisation and the spread of the British Empire, which, by 1921, ruled over a population of 470–570 million people, about a quarter of the world's population at that time.

Over the past 400 years, the form of the language used in the Americas—especially in the United States—and that used in the United Kingdom have diverged in a few minor ways, leading to the versions now sometimes referred to as American English and British English. Differences between the two include pronunciation, grammar, vocabulary, spelling, punctuation, idioms, and the formatting of dates and numbers. This can be important when writing scientific English, as US journals often expect only US spelling.

Here is a list of the most common words in both forms of English so that you can begin to get an idea of spelling.

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# US vs UK English

### UK English

aluminium  
anaemia  
anaesthesia  
analyse  
behaviour  
calibre  
cancelled  
catalyse  
centilitre  
centimetre  
centre  
colonise  
colour  
dialyse  
diarrhoea  
endeavour  
emphasise  
equalled  
equalling  
fibre  
favour  
flavour  
foetus  
grey  
gonorrhoea  
gynaecology  
haemoglobin  
haemophilia  
haemorrhage  
harbour  
hydrolyse

### US English

aluminum  
anemia  
anesthesia  
analyze  
behavior  
caliber  
canceled  
catalyze  
centiliter  
centimeter  
center  
colonize  
color  
dialyze  
diarrhea  
endeavor  
emphasize  
equaled  
equaling  
fiber  
favor  
flavor  
fetus  
gray  
gonorrhea  
gynecology  
hemoglobin  
hemophilia  
hemorrhage  
harbour  
hydrolyze

### UK English

ischaemic  
kilometre  
labelled  
labour  
litre  
leukaemia  
metre  
millilitre  
modelled  
mould  
neighbour  
odour  
oedema  
oesophagus  
oestrogen  
organise  
organisation  
orthopaedic  
paediatrics  
paralyse  
photolyse  
realise  
recognise  
rigour  
signalled  
standardise  
sulphur  
theatre  
tumour  
vapour  
vigour

### US English

ischemic  
kilometer  
labeled  
labor  
liter  
leukemia  
meter  
milliliter  
modeled  
mold  
neighbour  
odor  
edema  
esophagus  
estrogen  
organization  
organize  
orthopedic  
pediatrics  
paralyze  
photolyze  
realize  
recognize  
rigor  
signaled  
standardize  
sulfur  
theater  
tumor  
vapor  
vigor