

## VARIETIES OF ENGLISH

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**Abstract:** *English is clarified as a Germanic language, and it began in what is now the British-Isles. After years of development, English language has many varieties in different parts of the world. Different varieties differ in accent, vocabulary, grammar, discourse, sociolinguistics, and have its respective characteristics in pronunciation, tone, intonation, spelling and so on. Therefore, it is important for English language learners to observe the differences in language use. The present paper is an attempt to explore the regional characteristics of the two most commonly used varieties of the English Language—British English and American English. It is concluded that there will be intercommunications which will make the regional differences mild and easily understood. However, some differences may disappear, the others will remain so.*

**Keywords:** *English language, varieties, characteristics, differences*

### **Introduction**

English is clarified as a Germanic language, and it began in what is now the British-Isles. After years of development, English language has many varieties in different parts of the world. Different varieties differ in accent, vocabulary, grammar, discourse, sociolinguistics, and have its respective characteristics in pronunciation, tone, intonation, spelling and so on. Therefore, it is important for English language learners to observe the differences in language use. The present paper is an attempt to explore the regional characteristics of the two most commonly used varieties of the English Language—British English and American English. It is concluded that there will be intercommunications which will make the regional differences mild and easily understood. However, some differences may disappear, the others will remain so.

### **Main part**

Based on the explanation above, it can be concluded that learning English as a second language is very necessary. This is because in this global era, English has successfully placed its position as a language in multicultural and communication, as a language in international business communication, and as a language in the international language of research. English is also estimated spoken by 400 million people as a mother tongue and an additional 2 billion as a second and/or foreign language. Learning English is needed to face the fast development of the outside world. Then how to learn English as

a second language can be applied, by learning English through various sources or media and practicing it in everyday life, because the best way to master English is to practice listening speaking reading and writing skills in English

### **BRITISH ENGLISH**

British English is the English language as spoken and written in the United Kingdom or, more broadly, throughout the British Isles. Slight regional variations exist in formal, written English in the United Kingdom.

English is a West Germanic language that originated from the Anglo-Frisian dialects brought to Britain by Germanic settlers from various parts of what is now northwest Germany and the northern Netherlands. The resident population at this time was generally speaking Common Brittonic—the insular variety of continental Celtic, which was influenced by the Roman occupation. This group of languages (Welsh, Cornish, Cumbric) cohabited alongside English into the modern period, but due to their remoteness from the Germanic languages, influence on English was notably limited.

### **AMERICAN ENGLISH**

American English sometimes called United States English or U.S. English, is the set of varieties of the English language native to the United States and widely adopted in Canada. English is the most widely spoken language in the United States and is the common language used by the federal government, considered the de facto language of the country because of its widespread use. English has been given official status by 32 of the 50 state governments. If it happens that you lack writing skills to complete your English 101 essay we recommend visit

#### **British English and American English in the Future**

Although there are some differences in phonetics, vocabulary and grammar between British English and American English as discussed above, the basics of the phonetic system, word stock and grammar still make it clear that British English and American English are just two regional varieties of one language, not two different languages. However, both British English and American English have developed their own characteristics in their historical development. Many believe that those small differences will rightly remain so and will not disappear. The rapid development of modern science, technology, mass media and constant cultural and economic exchanges between the two nations will make those differences mild and easily understood That is to say, for a language learner, there should be no difficulty in understanding the other variety if he has learned either British English or American English. But a good understanding of the differences will definitely help in using the English language.

### **Conclusion**

The present paper is an attempt to explore the differences between the two most commonly used varieties of the

English Language—British English and American English.

Firstly, it is difficult to discuss the current state of anything without reference to its history. Therefore from the brief account of the historical development of the English language, it is clear to know that British English and

American English are just two regional varieties, not two different languages.

Secondly, as a language learner, it is important to observe the differences in language use. That is the key to learn a language well. This also applies to the study of English. The most remarkable difference between British English and American English lies on vocabulary. Also there are some subtle differences in phonetics, grammar and other habitual usage.

Thirdly, from the differences discussed, it is important to notice that the American English is more 'English' in accordance with the pronunciation and spelling systems.

Finally, as to the future development of British English and American English is easy to draw the conclusion that there will be intercommunications which will make the differences mild and easily understood. However, some differences may disappear, the others will remain so

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