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English Differences

(revised 2/14)

American English	British English	Australian English
911	999	000
Absolutely	Absolutely	Reckon
Adhesive tape	Surgical tape	Elastoplast
Advice columnist	Agony aunt/uncle	Either/Or
Airplane	Aeroplane	Aeroplane
Aisle	Gangway	Aisle
Alcoholic Beverage	Shandy	Grog
Alcohol rubbing	Surgical spirit	Disinfectant
Alfalfa	Lucerne	Lucerne
Alley	Lane	Lane
Aluminum	Aluminium	Aluminium
American	American	Yank
Antenna	Aerial	Either/Or
Apartment	Flat	Flat
Apartment building (tall)	Tower block	High-rise Apartments
Apartment hotel, resident hotel	Service flats	Serviced Apartments
Apple, candy	Toffee apple	Toffee Apple
Appointment	Engagement	Either/Or
Area code (phone)	STD code, dialing code	Area Code
Arugula (food)	Rocket	Rocket
Ax	Axe	Axe
Baby sitter	Child minder	Minder, Child-minder
Back-up lights (car)	Reversing lights	Reversing lights
Baggage check or room	Left luggage	Left luggage
Baked potato	Jacket potato	Baked Potato
Balcony, first (theater)	Dress circle	Dress circle
Balcony, upper or second (theater)	Upper circle	Upper circle
Banana	Banana	Nana
Band aid	Elastoplast	Band aid
Bangs (hair)	Fringe	Fringe
Bar	Pub	Pub
Barbecue	barbecue	Barbecue
Barhop	Pub crawl	Pub crawl
Bar owner	Publican	Publican
Barrette (clasp for holding hair)	Hair slide	Hair Clip
Baseboard	Skirting board	Skirting board
Bathroom, Restroom	The Loo, Toilet	Dunny, Toilet

Bathroom, female, skirt, girls, ladies, women	Long hair, skirt, ●, ○	
Bathroom, male, men, gent, boys, pants	Pants, hat, pipe, tie, ▼, ▽	
Bathroom, unisex, men and woman	Pants and skirt	
Bathroom, Powder room	Toilet, Talits, W.C., or Loo	Toilet
Bath sponge	Bed bath, blanket bath	Sponge bath
Beef bouillon	Beef tea	Beef stock
Beet	Beetroot	Beetroot
Bicycle, bike	Push bike	Bike
Billboard (road)	Hoarding	Billboard
Biscuit	Cookie, scone	Bikkie
Blackjack (cards)	Pontoon	
Blood sausage	Black pudding	Black pudding
Blueberry	Bilberry	Blueberry
Blue collar	Bodge	Battler
Bobby pin (hair)	Hair grip, kirby grip	Bobby pin
Bok choi	Chinese leaves, pak choi	Bok choi
Box end wrench	Ring Spanner	Ring spanner
Boy	Bloke	Bloke
Brag	Boast	Skite
Braid	Plait	Braid, plat
Braunschweiger, liverwurst	Liver sausage	
Breadbox	Bread bin	Either/Or
Breakfast	Breakfast	Brekkie
Broil, broiler	Grill	Grill
Busy signal	Engaged signal/tone	Engaged
Caliper	Calliper	Calliper
Call collect	Reverse the charges	Reverse charges
Caller ID	Caller display	Caller ID
Call forwarding	Call diversion	Call forwarding
Can (food)	Tin	Tin
Candy	Sweets	Lollies
Candy apple	Toffee apple	Toffee apple
Candy bar	Chocolate bar	Chocolate bar
Candy, hard	Boiled sweet	Lollies, boiled lollies
Canola	Rapeseed	Rape
Carburetor	Carbuettor	Carburettor, Carby
Car rental company	Car hire firm	Car rental company
Cattail	Bulrush, reed mace	Bulrush
Cattle guard (road)	Cattle grid	Cattle grid
Cell phone	Mobile phone	Mobile phone
Centennial	Centenary	Either/Or
Center	Centre	Centre

Cents	Pence	Cents
Chat	Chinwag	Yabber
Check (money)	Cheque	Cheque
Checkered	Chequered	Chequered
Checkers	Draughts	Either/Or
Cherimoya, sweetsop,	Custard apple	
Chicken	Chicken	Chook
Chili	Chilli	Chilli
Chinese checkers	Chinese chequers	Chinese chequers
Chocolate	Chocolate	Chokkie
Chop (lamb or pork)	Cutlet	Chop
Cigarette	Fag	Durry, Fag, Tobacco
Clapboard	Weatherboard	Weatherboard
Closet	Wardrobe, cupboard	Wardrobe
Clothes pin	Clothes peg	Peg
Collect call	Reverse-charge call	Reverse-charge
Color	Colour	Colour
Comforter	Duvet	Doona
Connection	Connexion	Connection
Conserve	Preserves	Jam
Cookie	Biscuit	Biscuit, Bickie, Bikkie
Cookie sheet	Baking tray, baking sheet	Baking tray
Cook top	Hob	Stove top
Corn	Maize	Corn
Corned beef	Salt beef	Corned beef
Corn meal	Maize meal	
Corn starch	Corn flour	Corn flour
Cotton absorbent	Cotton wool	Cotton wool
Cotton Candy	Candy floss	Fairy Floss
Couch (furniture)	Settee, Divan	Couch, sofa
Country	Bush	Bush
Coveralls	Overalls	Overalls
Cracker	Biscuit	Biscuit
Grazy or extremely angry	Yampy	Berko
Crescent wrench	Adjustable spanner	Adjustable spanner
Crew neck	Turtleneck	Turtleneck
Crib (furniture)	Cot	Cot
Crib death (SIDS)	Cot death	Cot death
Crowbar	Jemmy	Either/Or
Cuff (paints)	Turn up	Either/Or
Cunning	Dodgy	Dunny rat
Curve (road)	Bend	Bend
Day coach	Open carriage	
Deposit slip	Paying-in slip	Deposit slip
Derby (hat)	Bowler	Bowler

Detour	Diversion	Detour
Dial tone	Dialing tone	Dial tone
Diaper	Nappy	Nappy
Daikon	White radosj	Daikon
Deck (cards)	Pack	Pack
Diplomat	Diplomatist	Diplomat
Dishes, tableware	Crockery	Crockery
Dish towel	Tea towel	Tea towel
Dollar Bill	Note	Dollar Note (No bill)
Do not enter	No entry	Either/Or
Double boiler	Bain-marie, double saucepan	Double saucepan
Double sirloin	Baron of beef	Sirloin
Doughnut, donut	Ring doughnut	Doughnut
Doughnut, jelly	Doughnut	Doughnut
Downspout	Downpipe	Drainpipe
Drug Store	Chemist's	Chemist's
Dump truck	Tipper lorry	Tip truck
Dune buggy	Beach buggy	Either/Or
Edgewise	Edgeways	Edgeways
Egg	Egg	Goog
Eggplant	Aubergine	Either/Or
EKG	ECG	ECG
Elasticized	Elasticated	Elasticated
Elevator	Lift	Lift
Emergency medicine	A&E (accident and emergency) medicine	Emergency
Endive	Chicory	Endive or chicory
English person	Pommy	Pom, pome, pommy
Equipment rental	Plant hire	Either/Or
Eraser	Rubber	Rubber
Everything's okay	Everything's okay	Bob's your uncle
Excellent	Excellent	Ace
Expensive	Tony or Posh	Dear or Exy
Expiration	Expiry	Either/Or
Extension cord	Flex	Extension cord
Face card	Court card	
Fall	Autumn	Autumn
Faucet	Tap	Tap
Fave bean	Broad bean	Broad bean
Fedora (hat)	Trilby	Trilby
Fender (car)	Mudguard, wing	Mudguard
Field day	Sports day	Either/Or
Filbert	Hazelnut, Cob nut	Hazelnut
Fire truck, engine	Fire engine	Fire truck
First floor	Ground floor	Ground floor

Fishstick	Fish finger	Fish finger
Flashlight	Torch	Torch
Flatbed truck	Low loader	Low loader
Flatware, silverware	Cutlery	Cutlery
Flavor	Flavour	Flavour
Flight attendant	Air hostess/host	Either/Or
Floor lamp	Standard lamp	Standard lamp
Florida room	Conservatory	Conservatory
Flour, self-rising	Self-raising flour	Self-rising flour
Flour, whole wheat	Wholemeal flour	Wholemeal flour
Food	Food, Nosh	Tucker
Freight yard	Goods yard	Freight yard/Depot
French fries	Chips	Chips
Friend	Butty, Chum, Friend, Mate	Cobber or Mate
Fruit, candied	Crystallized fruit	Glace fruit
Furor	Furore	Furore
Galoshes	Wellingtons, wellies	Gum boots
Garbage can	Bin, Dust bin	Bin, Rubish bin
Garbage Truck	Dustbin lorry, bin lorry, dust cart	Rubbish truck
Garbanzo	Chick pea	Chick pea
Gas, Gasoline	Petrol	Petrol
Gelatin	Gelatine	Gelatine
German Shepard	Alsatian	Either/Or
Girls	Birds	Jillaroo
Glycerin	Glycerine	Glycerine
Go away, be quiet	Go away, be quiet	Shove off, bite your bum
Goiter	Goitre	Goitre
Gondola	Open wagon	
Goodbye	Cheerio	Hooroo
Grab bag (game)	Lucky dip	Lucky dip
Grade (road sign)	Gradient	Gradient
Grade crossing (rail)	Level crossing	Level crossing
Gray	Grey	Grey
Great, fantastic	Great, stonking	Beaut, bewdy
Ground beef, hamburger	Mince	Mince
Guard rail (road)	Crash barrier	Guard rail
Guerny, stretcher	Stretcher (wheeled)	Stretcher
Guy	Bloke	Bloke
Gyro	Doner kebab	Souvlaki
Hamburger, ground beef	Mince	Mince
Hard candy	Boiled sweet	Lollie
Hardware	Ironmonger	
Hassock	Pouffe	Either/Or
Hauler	Haulier	Haulier

Head band	Hair band	Head band
Head cheese	Brawn	Top dog
Hello	All right?	G'Day
High beam lights (car)	Full beam	High beam
Highboy (furniture)	Tallboy	Tallboy
High-profile vehicle	High-sided vehicle	4-Wheel drive
High-rise (apartment building)	Tower block	High-rise
Hiphuggers (clothing)	Hipsters	Hipsters
Hodge-podge	Hotch-potch	Either/Or
Home improvement store	DIY (do it yourself) centre	Hardware store
Honest, sincere	Honest, sincere	Fair-Dinkum
Honor	Honour	Honour
Hood (of a car)	Bonnet of the jam jar	Bonnet
Horseshoes (game)	Quoits (uses rings)	Quoits
Horse show	Gymkhana	Gymkhana/show
Horse trailer	Horsebox	Horse float
House, single family	Detached house	House
Hydroplane	Aquaplane	Either/Or
Idiot	Twit	Dill
Information (phone)	Directory enquiries	Directory enquiries
Inquire	Enquire	Enquire
Inseam (pants)	Inside leg	Inside leg/inside seam
Intense	Intense	Full on
It	It	She
IV drip	Drip	Drip
Jack (cards)	Knave	Jack
Jackhammer	Pneumatic drill	Either/Or
Jail	Gaol	Jail
Janitor	Caretaker	Caretaker
Jawbreaker	Gobstopper	Gobstopper
Jello	Jelly	Jelly
Jelly roll	Swiss roll	Swiss roll
Jewelry	Jewelry	Jewelry
Jicama	Yam bean	
Jumper (clothing)	Pinafore dress	Jumper
Jumper cable (car)	Jump lead	Jump lead
Jump rope	Skipping rope	Skipping rope
Jungle gym	Climbing Frame	Climbing frame
Karat	Carat	Carat
Ketchup	Ketchup, Tomato sauce	Tomato sauce
Kitchen container (food)	Packet	Container
Labor	Labour	Labour
Laundromat	Laundrette	Laundromat
Lawn bowling	Bowls	Lawn bowls

Lavatory	Lavatory	Loo
Leash (walk animal)	Lead	Lead
Leave, depart	Leave, depart	Nick off
Legumes (beans)	Pulses	Beans
Lemon (car)	Friday afternoon car	Lemon
Lettuce, romaine	Cos	Cos
Level (tool)	Spirit level	Spirit level
License plate, tag (car)	Number plate	Number plate
Licorice	Liquorice	Liquorice
Lidocaine	Lignocaine	Not used. Anaesthetic
Lima bean	Butter bean	Butter bean
Line	Queue	Queue
Liverwurst, braunschweiger	Liver sausage	-----
Liquor store	Off-Licence	Bottle shop
Lopping shears	Loppers	Pruning shears
Lot (land)	Plot	Either/Or
Low beam, dim (car)	Dipped beam	Low beam
Mad	Angry	Either/Or
Magician	Conjuror	Magician
Mailbox	Post Box	Mail box
Mail Man	Post Man	Post Man
Main floor, orchestra (theatre)	Stalls	Stalls
Man	Chap	Bloke
Marijuana	Cannabis	Either/Or
Medium, strip (road)	Central, reservation	Medium, strip
Milk, nonfat, skim(med)	Skimmed milk	Skim milk
Milk, two percent, reduced fat	Semi-skimmed milk	
Miniature golf	Crazy golf	Mini golf
Minor car crash	Minor carivan crash	Bingle
Molasses	Treacle, golden syrup	Molasses, Treacle, Golden syrup (all different)
Mold	Mould	Mould
Mom, Mommy	Mum, Mummy	Mum
Money	Moolah	Dosh
Money		Quid
Motor	Engine	Either/Or
Motorcyclist, motorcyclist	Bikie	Bikie
Mouth-to-mouth resuscitation	Kiss of life	Either/Or
Movie Theater	Cinema	Pictures
Moving company	Removals firm	Removalist
Moving van	Removal van, pantehnicon	Moving van/truck
Muffler	Silencer	Muffler
Nail polish	Nail varnish	Nail polish
Napkin (kitchen)	Serviette	Serviette
New traffic pattern (road)	Changed priorities	

Nightgown	Nightdress	Nightie
Nightstand (furniture)	Bedside table	Bedside table
Nonsense	Nonsense	Pifle
Normalcy	Normality	Normality
Nothing	Nil	Sickie
Oats, quick	Porridge oats	Porridge oats
Oil pan (car)	Sump	Sump
Okra	Ladies fingers	
Onions green, scallion, shallot	Spring onion	Spring onion
Operating room	Operating theatre	Either/Or
Optometrist	Oculltist, Optician	Optometrist
Organization	Organisation	Organisation
Orient	Orientate	Orientate
Ottoman	Organisation	Organisation
Oven	Cooker	Oven/Stove
Overpass (road)	Flyover	Overpass/Bridge
Pacifer	Dummy	Dummy
Pajamas	Pyjamas	Pjamas
Panties	Knickers	Undies
Pants	Trousers	Strides, Daks
Pantyhose	Tights	Stockings
Paper towels	Kitchen roll	Paper towels
Parka	Anorak	Coat
Parking Lot	Car Park	Car Park
Parquet (theatre)	Orchestra stalls	Orchestra stalls
Pasta flour	Semolina	Semolina
Parterre, Parquet circle (theatre)	Rear stalls	Rear stalls
Partt (hair)	Parting	Part
Parment ends (road)	Road surface ends	Road surface ends
Pass (road)	Overtake	Overtake
Peanut oil	Groundnut oil	Peanut oil
Peas snow	Mangetout	Peas snow
Peddler	Pedler	Pedler
Pedestrian underpass (road)	Subway	Subway/Underpass
Persimmon	Sharon fruit	Persimmon
Pig's feet	Trotters	Trotters
Pitcher (kitchen)	Jug	Jug
Pluck down	Plonk down	Plonk down
Phone booth	Phone box	Phone box
Phony	Phoney	Phoney
Pick-up-sticks	Spillikins	Pick-up-sticks
Pita bread	Pitta bread	Either/Or
Plow	Plough	Plough
Police, Officer	Bobby	Officer
Politician	Politician	Polly



Polyethylene	Polythene	Polythene
Pond	Waterhole	Billabong
Pork rinds	Pork scratchings	
Potato, baked	Jacket potato	Baked potato
Potato chips	Crisps	Chips
Pour (bowl to pan)	Tip	Either/Or
Powdered sugar	Icing sugar	Icing sugar
Prefrontal lobotomy	Leucotomy	Lobotomy
Prerecorded time message	Speaking clock	
Program	Progamme	Either/Or
Pruning shears	Secateurs	Secateurs
Pudgy	Podgy	Pudgy
Pump (shoe)	Court shoe	Court shoe
Punch down (dough)	Knock down, knock back	Knead
Putter around	Potter around	Potter around
Quick oats	Porridge oats	Porridge oats
Raise (pay)	Rise	Rise
Raisin, golden	Sultanas	Sultanas, Raisin (different)
Range, stove	Cooker	Stove
Realize	Realise	Realise
Recognize	Recognise	Recognise
Red cap	Porter	Porter
Reltor	Estate Agent	Estate Agent
Resident hotel	Service flats	Serviced apartments
Roadbed (rail)	Permanent way	Railway line
Roadwork	Roadworks	Roadworks
Roast (meat)	Joint	
Roast, rump	Topside	
Round-trip Ticket	Return Ticket	Return ticket
Row house	Terraced house	Terrace
Rubber	Condom	Condom
Rubbing alcohol	Surgical spirit	Disinfectant
Rump roast, crown	Silverside	
Run (stocking)	Ladder	Ladder
Rutabaga	Swede	Swede
Sailboat	Sailing boat	Either/Or
Saltine	Salted cracker	Biscuit
Salt shaker	Salt cellar	Salt shaker
Salt truck	Gritting lorry	
Sandwiches	Butty, buttie, or Bag	Cut lunch or Sanger
Santa Clause	Father Christmas	Father Christmas
Sausage	Sausage, Banger	Snagger, Snag
Savings account	Deposit account	Savings account
Scalawag	Scallywag	Scallywag

Scallion, green onions, shallot	Spring onion	Spring onion
Sedan (car)	Saloon	Sedan
Semi, semi trailer, 18-wheeler	Articulated lorry, artic, juggernaut	Semi, Semi trailer
Set the table	Lay the table	Set the table
Shallot, onions green, scallion,	Spring onion	Spring onion
Sheep	Sheep	Sheep, Jumbuck
Sheer curtains	Net curtains	Net curtains
Shell game	Thimblrig	
Shorts	Underpants	Jocks
Shot (injection)	Jab	Injection
Shoulder (road)	Verge	Shoulder/Verge
Shrimp	Prawn	Prawn
Shuffleboard	Shoveboard	
Sick	Lurgy. Ill	Crook
Sidewalk	Pavement, Footway	Footpath
Sideburns (hair)	Sideboards	Sideboards
Sidewalk	Pavement	Footpath
Silverware	Cutlery	Cutlery
Skillful	Skilful	Skilful
Slaughterhouse	Abattoir	Abattoir
Sleeping sickness	Sleepy sickness	Sleeping sickness
Snap (clothing)	Press stud	Press stud
Sneakers (shoe)	Trainers, Plimsolls	Trainers, Sneakers
Soldier	Soldier	Digger
Solitaire (card game)	Patience	Either/Or
Sourball	Acid drop	Acid drop
Soy	Soya	Soya
Spatula, slotted	Fish slice	Either/Or
Speed bump (road)	Sleeping policeman	Speed bump
Sponge bath	Bed bath, blanket bath	Sponge bath
Spool (thread)	Reel	Either/Or
Squash, patty pan	Custard marrow	Acorn squash
Squash summer	Marrow (vegetable)	Zucchini
Squash, winter	Pumpkin	Pumpkin
Subway	Underground railways	Either/Or
Station wagon	Estate car	Station wagon
Stocking cap	Wooly hat	Wooly hat
Story (floor of a building)	Storey	Storey
Stove (cooking)	Cooker	Stove
Stroller	Pram, Pushchair	Pram
Substitute teacher	Supply teacher	Substitute teacher
Subway	Underground railway	Either/Or
Sugar, confectioner's	Icing suger	Icing sugar
Sugar, granulated	Caster sugar, castor sugar	Sugar

Sugar, powdered	Icing sugar	Icing sugar
Sun porch	Conservatory	Sun room
Suspenders	Braces	Braces
Sweater	Pullover, Jumper	Jumper
Sweets	Sweets	Lollies
Sweetsop, cherimoya	Custard apple	
Swimsuit	Swimsuit, Bathing costume, Swimming costume	Bathers, Togs
Switch (rail)	Points	Points
Switchman	Pointman	
Switchyard	Shunting yard	Shunting yard
Tableware, dishes	Crockery	Crockery
Talk excessively	Talk excessively	Crap-on
Tangerine	Clementine	
Tape adhesive	Surgical tape	Elastoplast
Tartar sauce	Tartare sauce	Tartare sauce
Tease (hair)	Backcomb	Tease
Tenderloin	Fillet (steak), undercut	Filet/Tenderloin
Theater	Theatre	Theatre
Thumbtack	Drawing pin	Drawing pin
Tic Tack Do	Naughts and Crosses	Naught and Crosses
Tie (rail)	Sleeper	Sleeper
Tire	Tyre	Tyre
Toilet, Outdoor	Outdoor plover	Dunny
Toll-free number (e.g. 800)	Freefone	Free call
Tongue depressor	Doctor's spatula	
Townhouse, row house	Terraced house	Terraced house
Tow truck	Breakdown lorry, breakdown van	Tow truck
Tracklayer, section hand (rail)	Plate layer	
Traffic jam	Tailback	Tow truck
Trailer (accommodation), manufactured home	Caravan	Caravan
Transom (above door)	Fanlight, transom window	
Trash Can	Dustbin	Rubbish bin
Truck	Lowery	Utility/Ute
Sidewalk	Pavement	Footpath
Teacher	Teacher	Chalkie
Tire	Tyre	Tyre
Toilet	WC, Toilet	Loo, Dunny
Truck	Lorry	Truck
Trundle bed	Truckle bed	Rolla-Bed
Trunk (of a car)	Boot	Boot
Turtleneck	Polo neck	Turtleneck
Turn lane (road)	Filter	Turning lane

Turn signal, blinker (car)	Indicator	Indicator
Tuxedo	Dinner jacket	Tux
Tub pan	Angel cake pan	Cake tin
TV	Telly	Idiot Box
Umbrella	Brolly	Brolly, Umbrella
Underwear	Pants, Knickers	Grundles, Knickers
Underpass	Subway	Either/Or
Undershirt	Vest	Singlet
Unlisted (phone number)	Ex-directory	Silent number/Unlisted number
US Air Force	Royal Air Force	RAAF, Royal Australian Air Force
US Army	British Army	The Australian Army
US Marine Corps	Royal Marines	No Marines in Australia
US Navy	Royal Navy	Royal Australian Navy
Vacation	Holiday	Holiday
Vacuum cleaner	Hoover	Vacuum
Valance (curtain)	Pelmet	Either/Or
Variety meat	Offal	Offal
Vegetables	Greens	Vegies
Very	Bleedin	Bloody
Vest	Waistcoat	Either/Or
Vomit	Puke	Chunder, Chuck
Whining complaint	Whinge	Whinge
Willful	Wilful	Wilful
Whole milk	Full cream milk	Full cream milk
Windshield (car)	Windscreen	Windscreen
Wingtip (shoe)	Brogue	Brogue
Woolen	Woollen	Woolen
Worshipped	Worshipped	Worshipped
Wrench (tool)	Spanner	Spanner
Wreck	Crash	Crash
Yard (enclosure around building)	Garden	Yard/Garden

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Thank you!