

Word Game – The King’s English



When I, an American, traveled to England and Scotland with an Australian friend, it was obvious that the four countries each have their own variation of English. But let’s begin with England’s English. The inspiration for this quiz came from a card game called “The Queen’s English” (published in California) purchased at William Shakespeare’s birthplace gift shop. I like it because it translates colorful phrases from British English to colorful phrases in American English. For example, “Codswallup,” which means essentially nonsense or drivel, is translated as “guff, bunkum and baloney.” Find it at www.pomegranate.com.

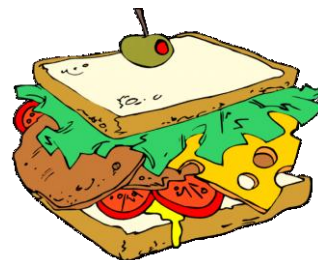
However, never satisfied with a single source, I have added samples from personal experiences and other websites (<http://www.geocities.com/Athens/Atlantis/2284/> and <http://www.hps.com/~tpg/ukdict/index.php?file=ukdict-2>). I hope you will also notice a delightful British sense of humor in all this.

As for non-American readers, do you know the American equivalents of each?

Part 1: Match these American foods to their English equivalents

If you are feeling a bit peckish (hungry) and think it must be well past time for elevenses (morning coffee break) here are some ideas for ordering a snack, but beware that English appetizers are often called entrees, and if someone says it is “off” it does not mean spoiled, but unavailable:

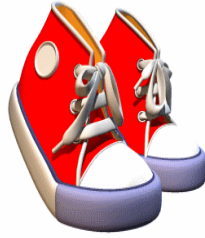
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|---|----------------------|
| 1. A “brewski” or other alcoholic drink ____ | a. Bangers |
| 2. Chips ____ | b. Bap |
| 3. Cookie ____ | c. Bevvv |
| 4. Fizz ____ | d. Biscuit |
| 5. Fried potatoes and greens (leftovers) ____ | e. Bubble and Squeak |
| 6. French fries ____ | f. Butty |
| 7. Hamburger bun ____ | g. Chips |
| 8. Jello ____ | h. Crisps |
| 9. Jelly ____ | i. Jelly |
| 10. Sandwich ____ | j. Jam |
| 11. Sausages ____ | k. Soft drink |
| 12. Sausage in Yorkshire pudding ____ | l. Toad in a hole |



Part 2: Match these American clothes to their English equivalents

In England, clothes are sometimes called “clobber.” You can see how Americans might become easily confused by overlapping terminology.

1. Boots ____
2. Garter Belt ____
3. Pants ____
4. Sneakers ____
5. Suspenders ____
6. Sweater ____
7. Tank top ____
8. Tuxedo ____
9. Undershirt ____
10. Underwear (men) ____
11. Underpanties (women) ____
12. Vest ____



- a. Beetle crushers
- b. Boob tube
- c. Braces
- d. Dinner jacket
- e. Jumper
- f. Knickers
- g. Pants
- h. Plimsolls, pumps
- i. Suspenders
- j. Trousers
- k. Vest
- l. Waistcoat

Part 3: Match American driving terms to their English equivalents

When English drivers say that their roadways are full of diversions, they don't mean attractions, but detours. Here are other terms you should know if you're planning to try driving on the left:

1. Black and white police cars in rural areas ____
2. Crosswalk ____
3. Dead-end street ____
4. Divided highway ____
5. Grassy median strip ____
6. Gutter ____
7. Hills ____
8. On/Off Ramp ____
9. Overpass ____
10. Reflectors to denote the middle of the road at night ____
11. Sidewalk ____
12. Turn signals ____

- a. Cat's eyes
- b. Central reservation
- c. Close
- d. Downs
- e. Dual carriageway
- f. Flyover
- g. Gully
- h. Pandas
- i. Pavement (often frighteningly narrow to Americans)
- j. Slip road
- k. Winkers
- l. Zebra crossing

Answers, Part 1: 1.c 2.h 3.d 4.k 5.e 6.g 7.b 8.i 9.j 10.f 11.a 12.l

Answers, Part 2: 1.a 2.i 3.j 4.h 5.c 6.e 7.b 8.d 9.k 10.g 11.f 12.l

Answers, Part 3: 1.h 2.l 3.c 4.e 5.b 6.g 7.d 8.j 9.f 10.a 11.i 12.k