

Answers

Exercises British and American English

1. Look at all the words and write them in the right category.

principal, downtown, holidays, parking lot, city centre, cookie, chips, sweets, candy, eraser, timetable, vacation, janitor, headteacher, store, restrooms

	American English	British English
School:	principal, eraser, vacation, janitor, restrooms	holidays, timetable, headteacher
City:	downtown, parking lot, store, restrooms	city centre
Food:	cookie, chips, candy,	chips, sweets

2. Read the definitions and find the correct words for AE and BE.

➔ *car park – headteacher – lift – downtown – bulletin board – caretaker – principal – noticeboard – janitor – parking lot – elevator – city centre*

- a) a place where you can park your car: **parking lot, car park**
- b) the person in charge of a school: **principal, headteacher**
- c) the main business area of a town/city: **downtown, city centre**
- d) a place where you find important information in school:
bulletin board, noticeboard
- e) a person who looks after the school: **janitor, caretaker**
- f) a machine that carries people and goods up and down: **elevator, lift**

3. Complete the following word pairs with the matching word in AE or BE

- a) eraser (AE) – **rubber** (BE)
- b) **cellphone** (AE) – mobile phone (BE)
- c) zip code (AE) – **post code** (BE)
- d) **fall** (AE) – autumn (BE)
- e) restroom (AE) – **toilet** (BE)
- f) **schedule** (AE) – timetable (BE)

g) period (AE) – **lesson, full stop** (BE)

h) **bulletin board** (AE) – noticeboard (BE)

i) **janitor** (AE) – caretaker (BE)

Going to school in the USA

Your American exchange partner has just sent some ideas for newcomers to find their way round at the new school. Replace the American English words using British English.

Our **secondary school** has about 900 pupils and is situated in the **city centre** near the **shopping centre**. Behind the school you can find a **car park** for the **staff**.

On the **ground floor** there is a **noticeboard** presenting all afternoon activities. It's an independent school. There are no marks for schoolwork and no tests. Students can choose between a traditional **timetable** or a mix of independent study and creative workshops.

There are no uniforms, but there's a dresscode. In the long hallways you can find the lockers and the **toilets** right beside the **caretaker's office**. Your backpack needs to be stored away in the locker. On the **first floor** you can find the **headteacher's** office and the **deputy head**. We have got a **lift** for disabled students.

The cafeteria offers meals at lunchtime, students prefer **chips** and often treat themselves to **sweets** or **biscuits**. :) When you are **sick** you need to go to the secretary, who then rings your family. **Mobile phones** are not allowed at school. CU soon :)