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British English Spelling

SST requires that all spelling follows the British English format. You can set your spell checker for BE to make sure your writing fulfills this requirement. You can find more information on how to enable the spellchecker in Microsoft Word in the document on Article Format Specifications.

Below are some of the most problematic differences.

1. British (BE) words ending in ‘our’ usually end in ‘or’ in American English (AE).

colour	color
flavour	flavor
humour	humor
labour	labor
neighbour	neighbor

2. Verbs in BE that can be spelled with either ‘ize’ or ‘ise’ at the end are always spelled with ‘ize’ in AE.

apologize or apologise	apologize
organize or organise	organize
recognize or recognise	recognize

3. Verbs in BE that end in ‘yse’ are always spelled ‘yze’ in American English.

analyse	analyze
paralyse	paralyze

4. In BE words that are spelled with the double vowels ae or oe tend to be spelled with an e in AE.



There are exceptions to this rule. For example, archaeology is spelt the same way as BE but archeology is acceptable in America but not the UK.

leukaemia	leukemia
manoeuvre	maneuver
oestrogen	estrogen
paediatric	pediatric



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5. Some nouns that end with ‘ence’ in BE are spelled ‘ense’ in AE.

defence

defense

licence

license

6. Some nouns that end with ‘ogue’ in BE end with either ‘og’ or ‘ogue’ in AE

analogue

analog or analogue

dialogue

dialog or dialogue

7. Punctuation in BE

To learn about the rules regarding punctuation visit
dictionary.cambridge.org/grammar/british-grammar/punctuation

Information regarding spelling differences provided by Oxford
International English schools: [www.oxfordinternationalenglish.com/
differences-in-british-and-american-spelling/](http://www.oxfordinternationalenglish.com/differences-in-british-and-american-spelling/)