

# A Close Look at the Illogic and Disorder of English Spelling

ENGLISH SPELLING		AMERICAN SPELLING
had (a)	a	had
plaid (ai)		plad
have (a-e)		hav
half (al)		haf
meringue (i-ue)		merang
guarantee (ua)		garrantee
laugh (au)		laf
dahlia (ah)		dalia
harangue (a-ue)		harang
ingenue (i)		anzhenoo

ENGLISH SPELLING		AMERICAN SPELLING
maelstrom (ae)	ae	maelstrom
made (a-e)		maed
steak (ea)		staek
rainy (ai)		raeny
playing (ay)		plaeing
sleigh (eigh)		slae
straight (aigh)		straet
gauge (au-e)		gaej
making (a)		maeking
gaol (ao)		jael
veiled (ei)		vaelde
they (ey)		thae
raise (ai-e)		raez
plagueing (a-ue)		plaeing
ballet (et)		balae
seine (ei-e)		saen
matinee (ee)		matinae
dossier (er)		dosyae
bouquet (uet)		boekae

ENGLISH SPELLING		AMERICAN SPELLING
father (a)	aa	faather
calm (al)		caam
lingerie (i)		laanzheree
eclat (at)		aeclaa
pas (as)		paa
genre (e)		zhaanra
hurrah (ah)		hooraa

ENGLISH SPELLING		AMERICAN SPELLING
barn (ar)	ar	barn
heart (ear)		hart
guardian (uar)		gardian
bazaar (aar)		bazar
are (are)		ar
sergeant (er)		sarjent
starve (ar-e)		starv
catarrh (arrh)		catar
bizarre (arre)		bizar
memoir (ir)		memwar

ENGLISH SPELLING		AMERICAN SPELLING
chair (air)	air	chair
their (eir)		thair
swearing (ear)		swairing
where (ere)		whair
cared (are)		caird
prayer (ayer)		prair
square (uare)		sqair
heir (heir)		air
wary (ar)		wair
doctrinaire (aire)		doctrinair

ENGLISH SPELLING		AMERICAN SPELLING
met (e)	e	met
many (a)		meny
burial (u)		berrial
said (ai)		sed
aesthetic (ae)		esthetic
says (ay)		sez
head (ea)		hed
heifer (ei)		hefer
friend (ie)		frend
jeopardy (eo)		jeperry
foetid (oe)		fetid
guest (ue)		gest
damage (a-e)		damej
cleanse (ea-e)		clenz
belle (e-e)		bel

ENGLISH SPELLING		AMERICAN SPELLING
seen (ee)	ee	seen
key (ey)		kee
deceit (ei)		deseet
field (ie)		feeld
people (eo)		peepl
amoeba (oe)		ameeba
team (ea)		teem
aeon (ae)		eeon
leave (ea-e)		leev
ravine (i-e)		raveen
these (e-e)		theez
league (ea-ue)		leeg
cheese (ee-e)		cheez
deceive (ei-e)		deseev
believe (ie-e)		beleev
antique (i-ue)		anteek
mosquito (ui)		moskeeto
ski (i)		skee
squeak (uea)		speek
receipt (eip)		reseet
debris (is)		debree
esprit (it)		espre

ENGLISH SPELLING		AMERICAN SPELLING
trustee (ee)	y	trustee
trusty (y)		trusty
happy (y)		hapy
happiest (i)		hapyest
archaeology (ae)		arkyolojy

ENGLISH SPELLING		AMERICAN SPELLING
pin (i)	i	pin
women (o)		wimen
busy (u)		bizy
pretty (e)		prity
lynch (y)		linch
been (ee)		bin
sieve (ie-e)		siv
guild (ui)		gild
anaesthesia (ae)		anistheezha
exhibit (hi)		exibit
give (i-e)		giv
minute (u-e)		minit
counterfeit (ei)		counterfit
bisque (i-ue)		bisk
apocalypse (y-e)		apocalips
mischievous (ie)		mischif

# ENGLISH SPELLING

tried (ie)	
trying (y)	
find (i)	
like (i-e)	
buys (uy)	
height (eigh)	
highest (igh)	
rhyme (hy-e)	
stein (ei)	
island (is)	
aisle (ais-e)	
maestro (ae)	
diamond (ia)	
fiery (ie)	
fire (i-e)	
eying (ey)	
guide (ui-e)	
type (y-e)	
coyote (oy)	
eye (eye)	
aye (aye)	
bayou (ay)	

ie

# AMERICAN SPELLING

tried	
trieing	
fiend	
liek	
biez	
hiet	
hieest	
riem	
stien	
ieland	
iel	
miestro	
diemond	
fiery	
fier	
ieing	
gied	
tiep	
kieoet	
ie	
ie	
bieoo	

# ENGLISH SPELLING

alibi (i)	
buy (uy)	
high (igh)	
dye (ye)	
try (y)	
lie (ie)	
I (i)	

i

# AMERICAN SPELLING

alibi	When a word ends in the long vowel "ie" the final "e" may be dropped.
bi	
hi	
di	
tri	Before a suffix is added the "e" must be restored.
li	
I	

# ENGLISH SPELLING

hot (o)	
swamp (a)	
yacht (ach)	
knowledge (ow)	
honest (ho)	
demijohn (oh)	
bureaucracy (eau)	

o

# AMERICAN SPELLING

hot	
swomp	
yot	
nolej	
onest	
demijon	
buerocrasy	

# ENGLISH SPELLING

embargoed (oe)	
going (o)	
glowing (ow)	
sewing (ew)	
soul (ou)	
bone (o-e)	
road (oa)	
yolk (ol)	
brooch (oo)	
beaus (eau)	
depots (ot)	
owe (owe)	
yeoman (eo)	
doughnuts (ough)	
chauffeur (au)	
hautboy (aut)	
mauve (au-e)	
rogue (o ue)	
cantaloupe (ou-e)	
cologne (og-e)	

oe

# AMERICAN SPELLING

embargoed	
goeing	
gloeing	
soeing	
soel	
boen	
roed	
yoek	
broech	
boez	
deepoez	
oe	
yoeman	
doenuts	
shoefer	
hoeboi	
moev	
roeg	
cantaloep	
coloen	

# ENGLISH SPELLING

hoe (oe)	
go (o)	
glow (ow)	
sew (ew)	
beau (eau)	
though (ough)	
oh (oh)	
apropos (os)	
depot (ot)	

o

# AMERICAN SPELLING

ho	
go	When a word ends in the long vowel "oe" the final "e" may be dropped.
glo	
so	
bo	Before a suffix is added the "e" must be restored.
tho	
o	
apropo	
deepo	

# ENGLISH SPELLING

fort (or)	
store (ore)	
floor (oor)	
pour (our)	
drawer (awer)	
reservoir (oir)	
quorum (uor)	
swarm (ar)	
roar (oar)	
rapport (ort)	
dinosaur (aur)	
torque (or-ue)	

or

# AMERICAN SPELLING

fort	
stor	
flor	
por	
dror	
rezervor	
qorum	
sworm	
ror	
rapor	
dienosor	
tork	

# ENGLISH SPELLING

point (oi)	
boy (oy)	
noise (oi-e)	
buoy (uoy)	
gargoyle (oy-e)	
turquoise (uoi-e)	

oi

# AMERICAN SPELLING

point	
boi	
noiz	
boi	
gargoil	
turkoiz	

# ENGLISH SPELLING

moon (oo)	
group (ou)	
fruit (ui)	
glue (ue)	
drew (ew)	
two (wo)	
flu (u)	
canoe (oe)	
through (ough)	
rule (u-e)	
lieu (ieu)	
loose (oo-e)	
lose (o-e)	
pooh (ooh)	
coup (oup)	
bruise (ui-e)	
jiujitsu (iu)	
silhouette (hou)	
buoy (uo)	
deuce (eu-e)	
manoeuvre (oeu)	
sleuth (eu)	
rendezvous (ous)	
mousse (ou-e)	

oo

# AMERICAN SPELLING

moon	
groop	
froot	
gloo	
droo	
too	
floo	
canoo	
throo	
rool	
loo	
loos	
looz	
poo	
coo	
brooz	
joojitsoo	
silooet	
booy	
doos	
manooover	
slooth	
rondevoo	
moos	

# ENGLISH SPELLING

cut (u)	
love (o-e)	
young (ou)	
blood (oo)	
does (oe)	
judge (u-e)	
tongue (o-ue)	
brusque (u-ue)	
courageous (eou)	

u

# AMERICAN SPELLING

cut	
luv	
yung	
blud	
duz	
juj	
tung	
brusk	
keraejus	

ENGLISH SPELLING		AMERICAN SPELLING
hue (ue)	ue	hue
feud (eu)		fued
few (ew)		fue
view (iew)		vue
queue (ueue)		kue
fuse (u-e)		fuez
ewe (ewe)		ue
beauty (eau)		buety
fugue (u-ue)		fueg
coupon (ou)		cuepon
nuisance (ui)		nuesans
vacuum (uu)		vacuem
adieu (ieu)		adue
yule (yu-e)		uel
unit (u)		uenit
debut (ut)		debue
impugnity (ug)		impuenity
yew (yew)		ue

ENGLISH SPELLING		AMERICAN SPELLING
pull (u)	uu	puul
wolf (o)		wuulf
could (oul)		cuud
book (oo)		buuk
sure (u-e)		shuur
tour (ou)		tuur
pleurisy (eu)		pluurisy
bouillon (oui)		buullyon

ENGLISH SPELLING		AMERICAN SPELLING
furnish (ur)	ur	furnish
burr (urr)		bur
blurred (urre)		blurd
curve (ur-e)		curv
bird (ir)		burd
stirring (irr)		sturing
stirred (irre)		sturd
yearn (ear)		yurn
learned (ear-e)		lurnd
terminal (er)		turminal
err (err)		ur
erred (erre)		urd
worm (or)		wurm
wormed (or-e)		wurmd
serve (er-e)		surv
journey (our)		jurny
scourged (our-e)		scurjd
squirm (uir)		squirm
myrtle (yr)		murtl
myrrh (yrrh)		mur
murmur (ur ur)	er	murmer
murderer (ur er)		murderer
girder (ir er)		gurder
learner (ear er)		lurner
herder (er er)		hurder
chattering (er)		chatering
freer (r)		freer
liar (ar)		lieer
augur (ur)		auger
elixir (ir)		elixser
haemorrhage (orrh)		hemerej
nature (ure)		naecher
ogre (re)		oeger
martyr (yr)		marter
chauffeur (eur)		shoefer
pursue (ur)		persoo

ENGLISH SPELLING		AMERICAN SPELLING
auto (au)	au	auto
awkward (aw)		aukward
fault (au)		fault
exhaust (hau)		exaust
salt (a)		sault
bought (ough)		baut
taught (augh)		taut
balk (al)		bauk
broad (oa)		braud
false (a-e)		fauls
squall (ua)		sqaul
awesome (awe)		ausum
dogmatic (o)		daugmatic
sauce (au-e)		saus
law (aw)	aw	law
lawless (aw)		lawles
jaw (aw)		jaw
jawbone (aw)		jawboen

ENGLISH SPELLING		AMERICAN SPELLING
cloud (ou)	ou	cloud
house (ou-e)		hous
hour (hou)		our
flour (ou)		flour
out (ou)		out
how (ow)	ow	how
bough (ough)		bow
pow (ow)		pow
power (ow)		power
landau (au)		landow

ENGLISH SPELLING		AMERICAN SPELLING
feed (f)	f	feed
muffin (ff)		mufin
tough (gh)		tuf
calf (lf)		caf
graphic (ph)		grafic
sapphire (pph)		safier

ENGLISH SPELLING		AMERICAN SPELLING
get (g)	g	get
dagger (gg)		dager
ghetto (gh)		geto
guarded (gu)		garded
vaguely (gue)		vaegly

ENGLISH SPELLING		AMERICAN SPELLING
just (j)	j	just
judgment (dg)		jujment
bridge (dge)		bri]
soldier (di)		soeljer
magic (g)		majic
exaggerate (gg)		exajeraet
region (gi)		reejon
grandeur (de)		granjer
gorgeous (geo)		gorjus
adjust (dj)		ajust
modulate (d)		mojulaet
large (ge)		larj

ENGLISH SPELLING		AMERICAN SPELLING
kit (k)	k	kit
back (ck)		bak
lacquer (cqu)		laker
khaki (kh)		kaky
chukka (kk)		chuka
talk (lk)		tauk
chemistry (ch)		kemistry
saccharine (cch)		sakarin
buscuit (cu)		biskit
liquor (qu)		likor
clique (que)		clik

ENGLISH SPELLING		AMERICAN SPELLING
lip (l)	l	lip
telling (ll)		teling
muscle (cle)		musl
people (le)		peepl
kiln (ln)		kil
lisle (sl)		liel

ENGLISH SPELLING		AMERICAN SPELLING
men (m)	m	men
hammer (mm)		hamer
column (mn)		colum
phlegm (gm)		flem
palm (lm)		paam
lamb (mb)		lam

ENGLISH SPELLING		AMERICAN SPELLING
not (n)	n	not
runner (nn)		runer
knock (kn)		nok
gnat (gn)		nat
comptroller (mp)		controeler
pneumatic (pn)		noomatic
mnemonic (mn)		nemonic
handsome (nd)		hansum

ENGLISH SPELLING		AMERICAN SPELLING
rat (r)	r	rat
rhythm (rh)		rithm
catarrh (rrh)		catar
wrist (wr)		rist
colonel (l)		curnel
corps (rps)		cor
mortgage (rt)		morgej
quandary (ar)		qondry
velours (rs)		veluur

ENGLISH SPELLING		AMERICAN SPELLING
set (s)	s	set
city (c)		sity
fence (ce)		fens
scene (sc)		seen
blessing (ss)		blesing
psychic (ps)		siekic
schism (sch)		sizm
house (se)		hous
worsted (rs)		wuusted
listen (st)		lisen
isthmus (sth)		ismus
sword (sw)		sord
waltz (z)		waults
convalesce (sce)		convaless

ENGLISH SPELLING		AMERICAN SPELLING
hit (t)	t	hit
little (tt)		litl
indict (ct)		indiet
asked (ed)		askt
hoped (d)		hoept
debt (bt)		det
yacht (cht)		yot
veldt (dt)		velt
receipt (pt)		reseet
thyme (th)		tiem
two (tw)		too
bought (ght)		baut

ENGLISH SPELLING		AMERICAN SPELLING
zip (z)	z	zip
puzzle (zz)		puzl
fairs (s)		fairz
scissor (ss)		sizor
business (si)		biznes
scores (es)		scorz
raspberry (sp)		razberry
raise (se)		raez
asthma (sth)		azma
czar (cz)		zar
xanthic (x)		zanthic
anxiety (x)		angzieity
sneeze (ze)		sneez

ENGLISH SPELLING		AMERICAN SPELLING
chip (ch)	ch	chip
niche (che)		nich
cello (c)		chelo
match (tch)		mach
righteous (ght)		riechus
question (ti)		qeschun
structure (t)		strukcher

ENGLISH SPELLING		AMERICAN SPELLING
shop (sh)	sh	shop
machine (ch)		masheen
ocean (ce)		oeshan
special (ci)		speshal
sure (s)		shuur
fuchsia (chsi)		fuesha
crescendo (sc)		creshendo
conscience (sci)		conshens
schist (sch)		shist
nauseous (seo)		naushus
pension (si)		penshun
issue (ss)		ishoo
nation (ti)		naeshun
negotiate (t)		negoeshyaet
mission (ssi)		mishun
luxury (x)		lukshery
anxious (xio)		ankshus
appreciate (c)		apreeshyaet
mustache (che)		mustash

ENGLISH SPELLING		AMERICAN SPELLING
azure (z)	zh	azher
pleasure (s)		plezher
vision (si)		vizhun
loggia (gg)		loezhia
rescission (ssi)		resizhon
brazier (zi)		braezher
equation (ti)		eqaezhun
jabot (j)		zhabo
garage (ge)		garaazh
regime (g)		rezheem