Appendix 7 American English

There are a few grammatical differences between British English and American English:

Unit	BRITISH	AMERICAN
7A-B and 13A	The present perfect or past simple can be used for new or recent happenings. The present perfect is more common: I've lost my key. Have you seen it? (or I lost my key. Did you see it?) Sally isn't here. She's gone out.	The present perfect or past simple can be used for new or recent happenings. The past simple is more common: I lost my key. Did you see it? (or I've lost my key. Have you seen it?) Sally isn't here. She went out.
	The present perfect or past simple can be used with just, already and yet. The present perfect is more common: I'm not hungry. I've just had lunch. (or I just had lunch.) A: What time is Mark leaving? B: He's already left. Have you finished your work yet?	The present perfect or past simple can be used with just, already and yet. The past simple is more common: I'm not hungry. I just had lunch. (or I've just had lunch.) A: What time is Mark leaving? B: He already left. Did you finish your work yet?
17C	British speakers usually say: have a bath have a shower have a break have a holiday	American speakers say: take a bath take a shower take a break take a vacation
21D and 22D	Will or shall can be used with I/we: I will/shall be late this evening. Shall I ? and shall we ? are used to ask for advice etc. : Which way shall we go?	Shall is unusual: I will be late this evening. Should I ? and should we ? are more usual to ask for advice etc. : Which way should we go?
28	British speakers use can't to say they believe something is not probable: Sarah hasn't contacted me. She can't have got my message.	American speakers use must not in this situation: Sarah hasn't contacted me. She must not have gotten my message.
32	You can use needn't or don't need to : We needn't hurry. or We don't need to hurry.	Needn't is unusual. The usual form is don't need to: We don't need to hurry.
34A-B	After insist, demand etc. you can use should: I insisted that he should apologise. Many people are demanding that something should be done about the problem.	The subjunctive is normally used. Should is unusual after insist, demand etc.: I insisted that he apologize.* Many people are demanding that something be done about the problem.
51B	British speakers generally use Have you? / Isn't she? etc.: A: Lisa isn't very well today. B: Isn't she? What's wrong with her?	American speakers generally use You have? / She isn't? etc.: A: Lisa isn't very well today. B: She isn't? What's wrong with her?
70B	Accommodation is usually uncountable: There isn't enough accommodation.	Accommodation can be countable: There aren't enough accommodations.

^{*} Many verbs ending in -ise in British English (apologise/organise/specialise etc.) are spelt with -ize (apologize/organize/specialize etc.) in American English.