



Avoiding Americanisms Cheat Sheet

Use these simple tables as a quick checklist to avoid the most common Americanisms when writing in Australian or British English.

Most Common Spelling Differences

<i>Australian English</i>	<i>American English</i>
'isa' (e.g. 'immunisation')	'iza' (e.g. 'immunization')
'ise' (e.g. 'realise')	'ize' (e.g. 'realize')
'isi' (e.g. 'organising')	'izi' (e.g. 'organizing')
'yse' (e.g. 'analyse')	'yze' (e.g. 'analyze')
Judgement (except in legal texts)	Judgment
Labour	Labor
Per cent	Percent
Theatre	Theater
Towards	Toward
vs.	v.

Most Common Punctuation Differences

<i>Australian English</i>	<i>American English</i>
No serial comma (e.g. 'government, investors and other stakeholders')	Serial comma (e.g. 'government, investors, and other stakeholders')
Full stop or comma goes after the closing quotation mark: 'gross domestic product'.	Full stop or comma comes before the closing quotation mark: 'gross domestic product.'
Single quotation marks: 'a'	Double quotation marks: "a"