

**Have fun and learn - Don't you want to improve your technical English skills & comprehension? Then test your understanding by reading below, and then use the 'Questionnaire link' to answer questions, which are based on these texts. Please send your answers → Mr. 'H', LTE News Editor.**

## 'Spelling Wars'

**Comparing British-English (BrE) vs. American-English (AmE):** Since our last issue dealt with capitalization usage, our Newsletter respondents requested to also prepare a lesson on some differences between British English and American English. After all, many here in Europe were schooled in *Oxford English*, but many more in the technical & life science fields are coming more in contact with AmE.

Although, as both languages are so similar, there are still many facets to compare between both systems such as differences in expressions, nouns of multitude, grammar issues, or the differences in pronunciations. Latter, of course, you can only experience in one of my courses, and for the sake of convenience, we will start here taking issue with spelling nuances.

When you have studied the charts, then go to the questionnaire link for your quiz - good luck, Mr. 'H'.



vs.



## Spelling Comparison: -our vs. -or

BrE	AmE	Exceptions!
<i>Arm-our</i>	<i>Arm-or</i>	same spelling for both
<i>behavi-our</i>	<i>behavi-or</i>	BrE & AmE;
<i>colour</i>	<i>color</i>	<i>savior</i>
<i>flavour</i>	<i>flavor</i>	<i>glamour</i>
<i>harbour</i>	<i>harbor</i>	
<i>honour</i>	<i>honor</i>	
<i>humour</i>	<i>humor</i>	
<i>labour</i>	<i>labor</i>	
<i>neighbour</i>	<i>neighbor</i>	

Sources: Same as below

## Some selected Spelling Differences with Remarks

BrE	AmE	Remarks
<i>aluminium</i>	<i>aluminum</i>	<i>Aluminium</i> is the international standard in sciences (IUPAC- International Union of Pure and Applied Chemistry), which was adopted to conform to the -ium ending of many elements. In the US the spelling <i>aluminum</i> is nonetheless used
<i>arse</i>	<i>ass</i>	vulgar expressions for the physiological terms <i>buttocks</i> / <i>anus</i> – in BrE <i>ass</i> is another word for donkey
<i>barmy</i>	<i>balmy</i>	<i>balmy</i> in AmE means warm, mild as in the weather. In BrE <i>barmy</i> or <i>balmy</i> means <i>crazy</i>
<i>carburettor</i>	<i>carburetor</i>	the squirt box of a motor, in AmE the pronunciation lies on the third syllable (et) is pronounced <i>ay</i> , in BrE the pronunciations lies on the first syllable.
<i>coupé</i>	<i>sport sedan</i>	the horse-drawn carriage is a <i>coupé</i> in both, BrE & AmE
<i>fillet</i>	<i>fillet, filet</i>	For meat or fish and pronounced the French way, with an <i>ay</i> sound at the end
<i>furor</i>	<i>furor</i>	Both derived from Latin
<i>hauler</i>	<i>hauler</i>	a cargo contractor; <i>haulier</i> is the older spelling
<i>maths</i>	<i>math</i>	Abbreviations for the subject <i>mathematics</i>
<i>moustache</i>	<i>mustache</i>	In the US, according to the Merriam-Webster Dictionary, the BrE spelling is an <i>also-ran</i> , but the second-syllable stress pronunciation is a common variant.
<i>mum(my)</i>	<i>mom(my)</i>	Mother. <i>Mom</i> is sporadically regionally found in the UK (West Midlands English); some British dialects have <i>mam</i> . In New England (US), especially in the case of the Boston accent, the British pronunciation of <i>mum</i> is often retained, while it is still spelt <i>mom</i> .
<i>speciality</i>	<i>specialty</i>	used interchangeably by either system, in BrE the standard usage is <i>speciality</i>

Sources: Merriam-Webster Dictionary / Wikipedia / Roget's Thesaurus

## Check your understanding Capitalization Usage!

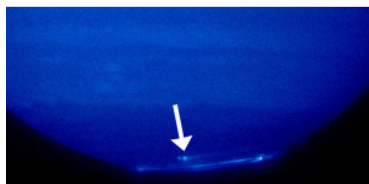


**If you click on the LTE Newsletter's 'Questionnaire link', you will find questions on the above text & chart to answer. Then please send your answers to Mr. 'H'. We look forward to helping you.**

## Round-the-World Life Science News & Updates

### Astronomy

**Jupiter's other spots;** NY Times, March 22, 2008 /  
Photo: University of Liege, Belgium



Charged particles traveling in Jupiter's magnetic fields generate an auroral light show, just like Earth's polar regions.

Io, a Jupiter moon, actually generates its own bright spot on Jupiter, shown with an arrow in this ultraviolet image taken by the Hubble space telescope. The light comes from charged particles originating from Io's volcanoes.

### Nutrition & Health

**Vegan diet promotes Atheroprotective Antibodies in Patients with Rheumatoid Arthritis;** Arthritis Research & Therapy, 18 March 2008

A gluten-free vegan diet may improve the health of patients with rheumatoid arthritis, according to new research from the Karolinska Institute, Sweden. The diet has a beneficial effect on several risk factors for cardiovascular disease.

Rheumatoid arthritis is associated with an increased risk of atherosclerosis (hardening of the arteries) and cardiovascular diseases. The underlying causes are unknown, but researchers suspect that the disturbed balance of blood fats seen in patients with rheumatoid arthritis may be part of the explanation.



If you'd like to share this LTE Newsletter with friends and colleagues, feel free to forward this issue and invite them to subscribe to receive the next issue on their own.

**Mr. 'H' says: Don't let language be a barrier to your success!**

### CONUS Business, Advice & Training

**D:** Kruppstr. 18, 52072 Aachen, Tel. +49 241 81987 / Fax: +49 241 81928

**NL:** Spinnewiel 18, 1252 DB Laren, Tel. +31 35 5435911

**USA:** 269-10 Grand Central Pkwy., NYC, NY 11005, Tel. 718 279 4025

Vegan food had a positive effect on symptoms of the disease, which were more pronounced in the control group. Blood levels of oxidised LDL-cholesterol, a risk factor for atherosclerosis, were also lower in the group which kept to the vegan diet. The vegan group also had higher levels of anti-PC, a type of antibody that the researchers believe has a protective effect against atherosclerosis.

### Medical & Health

**Childhood Asthma - For Minority Kids, No Room to Breathe;** Photo & article from NY Times



Among Americans with asthma, minority children are in by far the worst situation. The numbers are striking: in the US, 20% of children with Puerto Rican heritage

have asthma. Among African-American youngsters, the rate is 13%, compared with the national childhood average of 8%. In addition, since 1999 asthma-related mortality rates have dropped for Americans as a whole, but not for minority children.

### REACH Q&A sessions

The Cosmetics & Toiletries' REACH Question & Answer Round Table with Dr. Annelie Struessmann, Technical Director CONUSBAT & REACH 'Only Representative' is now online.

**Click ⇒ [C&T.com](http://C&T.com) | [Reach Roundtable](#)**

[www.conusbat.com](http://www.conusbat.com)  
Copyright 2008 - CONUSBAT