

HOW TO WRITE SCHOLARLY ARTICLES IN ONE ENGLISH: THE IMPORTANCE OF BEING CONSISTENT

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Abstract

This informative and educational article aims to provide helpful guidance for non-native writers who wish to enhance their academic writing skills. One of the most common mistakes in English writing is mixing British and American English. Consistency and accuracy are crucial to successful and effective writing, whether a research paper or just a short text for a PowerPoint presentation. Failure to address this issue often leaves a negative and unprofessional impression and can lead to errors, misunderstanding, or even rejection by editors of impacted journals. First, the article highlights the importance of English as a lingua franca. Then, in the main sections, it lists the most common differences between British and American English. The article also offers strategies for maintaining consistency in the use of English and, along, reminds readers of some general rules to follow. It discusses the role of English dictionaries, and lastly, yet importantly, it looks at the advantages and disadvantages of using automatic spell-checkers and translators.

Keywords

Writing; Lingua Franca; British English; American English; Spelling; Punctuation; Dictionaries; Spellcheckers.

Introduction

Drawing upon years of proofreading experience and frequent encounters with common writing errors in scholarly articles, the author has addressed a recurring issue in English writing: the blending of British and American English. Rather than aiming to provide a scientific study based on extensive research or data collection, this article seeks to assist non-native writers in addressing this challenging matter when composing texts in English, whether it be an academic paper, an article to be submitted to a scholarly journal, or even bullet points created for a PowerPoint presentation.

The purpose of this article is not to present a comprehensive and exhaustive overview of the differences between British and American English. Instead, it offers practical guidance and tips on maintaining consistency in academic writing. It illuminates common pitfalls writers encounter when mixing the two predominant English styles in scholarly articles and provides helpful advice to prevent significant errors, as well as outlining strategies for resolving them.

1 English as a Language of International Communication, “Lingua Franca”

English is a global language, *lingua franca*. With more than 350 million people worldwide using it as a first language and more than 430 million speaking it as a second language,

English is the fastest-spreading language in human history.

According to Statista [1], English is the most spoken language in the world, followed by Chinese, Hindi, Spanish, French, Arabic, and Bengali.

Of 1,456 million speakers of English, 373 million are native speakers (those who speak English as their first language), and 1,080 million are non-native speakers (those who speak English as their second language) [2].

The English language is spoken in numerous variations across the globe, including British English, American English, Canadian English, Australian English, New Zealand English, Indian English, Singaporean English, South African English, Nigerian English, Jamaican English, and more.

English is the international language of *business* (all multinational companies mandate English as a corporate language). *Technical* and *medical* terminology is based on English/anglicised words. English is essential in the *travel and tourism industry*; it is an international language of *aviation*, pilots, and cabin crews worldwide.

The importance of English in the *military* is obvious: effective communication between the armed forces of different countries worldwide is crucial.

Undoubtedly, English is the most frequently used language for *web* content (58.8% by share of websites). [3]

2 Writing, Publishing, and Presenting in (One) English

“English has become the language of almost every leading journal across sciences, whatever its country of origin.” Andrew Robinson [4]

English is the number one language of science opening the door to the academic world. Attending international conferences and publishing in foreign/ international journals is impossible without excellent English.

British English is spoken and written in the United Kingdom; it is the most commonly used variant in most European countries, as well as English-speaking countries in Africa and South Asia (i.e. Bangladesh, India, and Pakistan).

American English is spoken and written in the United States; it is also used as a primary or secondary language in many other countries, including Canada, Mexico, the Philippines, and most countries in Central and South America. It is the preferred variant in East Asia (i.e. China or Japan).

The choice between the two varieties of (standard) English is purely personal.

However, we should consider our audience: when applying for a job with a British company, our cover letter and CV had better be in British English. On the other hand, when submitting an article for an American journal, American English would obviously be preferable.

Standard English is

“the English that with respect to spelling, grammar, pronunciation, and vocabulary is substantially uniform though not devoid of regional differences, that is well established by usage in the formal and informal speech and writing of the educated, and that is widely recognized as acceptable wherever English is spoken and understood.” [5]

As far as **writing** texts in English is concerned, **excellent English** stands for adherence to ONE of the two most commonly used Englishes: British or American, and the necessity to be consistent, always and constantly, under all circumstances.

3 The Main Differences between British and American English Today

While the most notable difference between British and American English lies in their pronunciation, this informative article, which aims to assist with **academic writing**, highlights several other disparities: *Spelling, Vocabulary, Use of Language, Punctuation, Dates, Time, Titles, and Quotes*.

3.1 The Main Spelling Differences between Modern British and American English

“The story of the English writing system is so intriguing, and the histories behind individual words so fascinating, that anyone who dares to treat spelling as an adventure will find the journey rewarding.” David Crystal [6, pp. 277–278]

The differences in spelling between British and American English emerged during the British colonization of North America. English spelling was standardized in the 18th century after the American Colonies had declared independence. Noah Webster, driven by strong nationalist feelings, simplified English spellings in America. His 1828 *An American Dictionary of the English Language* was enormously influential – many of his numerous spelling changes were accepted, and survived up to day, such as dropping “u” from *colour, honour, humour* (*color, honor, humor*), “-re” replacing “-er” (*centre/center*), or “-ce” changing into “-se” (*defence/defense*). Others, such as “*masheen*” or “*wimmen*” were not accepted.

Since then, many attempts and suggestions have been made (many of them did not stick) to differentiate American English from the British one. [7]

In Table 1, you will find a list of the most commonly occurring spelling differences between modern British and American English.

Tab. 1: *The main spelling differences between British and American English with common examples*

British English	American English
ae	e
anaesthesia	anesthesia
gynaecology	gynecology
paediatrics	pediatrics
SINGLE CONSONANT	DOUBLE CONSONANT
enrol	enroll
fulfil	fulfill
skilful	skillful
DOUBLE CONSONANT	SINGLE CONSONANT
counsellor	counselor
dishevelled	disheveled
–ence (nouns)	–ense
defence	defense
licence	license
final –e (usually words of French origin)	0
glycerine	glycerin
programme (program: a computer one)	program (all usages)

British English	American English
-our	-or
behaviour	behavior
colour	color
favour	favor
flavour	flavor
harbour	harbor
honour	honor
humour	humor
labour	labor
neighbour	neighbor
-re	-er
centre	center
fibre	fiber
litre	liter
metre	meter
-ise / yse	-ize / yze
realise / analyse	realize / analyze

Source: Own processing with regard to [8]

3.2 The Main Vocabulary Differences between British and American English

There are many differences between British and American English; vocabulary is the most noticeable. The two dialects have hundreds of words that are different from each other. For instance, in America, they call the season between summer and winter *fall*; in Britain, it is known as *autumn*. Another example is the difference in sports terminology. Brits are passionate about *football*, which is not the same as American *football*. On the other hand, *soccer* is the term used in America for the game widely known as *football* in Europe.

Table 2 presents the most common differences in vocabulary between British and American English. Some tricky words are highlighted with corresponding colours.

Tab. 2: The Main Vocabulary Differences between British and American English (70 selected examples)

British English	American English	British English	American English
1. angry	mad	36. motorway	highway
2. aerial	antenna	37. nappy	diaper
3. American football	football!	38. number plate	license plate
4. autumn	fall	39. pants!	underwear / panties
5. banknote	bill	40. parcel	package
6. barrister	attorney	41. pavement!	sidewalk
7. to book	to make a reservation	42. petrol	gass / gassoline
8. boot	trunk	43. pram	baby carriage
9. biscuit	cookie	44. polo neck	turtle neck
10. chips!	french fries	45. pub	bar
11. cinema	movie theatre	46. public school!	private school
12. crisps	potato chips!	47. queue	line
13. crossroads	intersection	48. pushchair	stroller
14. cooker	stove	49. road surface	pavement!
15. curtains	drapes	50. return ticket	round trip ticket

16. film	movie	51. rubbish	garbage, trash
17. first floor	second floor	52. rubbish bin	garbage can
18. fortnight	two weeks	53. solicitor	lawyer
19. flat	apartment	54. state school	public school!
20. football!	soccer	55. sweet shop	candy store
21. foyer	lobby	56. sweet	candy
22. full stop (.)	period	57. tap	faucet
23. handbag	purse	58. term	semester
24. headmaster / head teacher	principal	59. tin	can
25. high street	main street	60. torch	flashlight
26. holiday	vacation	61. trainers	sneakers
27. Hoover	vacuum cleaner	62. trousers	pants!
28. ironmonger's	hardware store	63. tyre	tire
29. larder	pantry	64. underground	subway
30. lift	elevator	65. wardrobe	closet
31. lorry	truck	66. wellington boots	rubber boots
32. luggage	baggage	67. whisky	whiskey
33. mad	crazy, insane	68. windscreen	windshield
34. maize	corn	69. zebra crossing	crosswalk
35. maths	math	70. zip	zipper

Source: Own processing with regard to [8]

3.3 Use of English Common Differences

The differences in *English grammar/use of English* between British and American usage are insignificant. However, to ensure consistency, it is important to choose one form of English and adhere to it. Table 3 outlines the most common differences that writers should be aware of.

Tab. 3: Examples of common grammar/use of English differences between British and American English

British English	American English
Present Perfect Tense <i>We have obtained the data from...</i>	Past Tense <i>We obtained the data from...</i>
Possession, questions, and answers: <i>Have got</i> <i>We have got a plan.</i> <i>Have you got a plan? – Yes, we have.</i>	Possession, questions, and answers: <i>Have</i> <i>We have a plan.</i> <i>Do you have a plan? – Yes, we do.</i>
Phrases with have <i>Let us have a look at the differences.</i>	Phrases with take <i>Let us take a look at the differences.</i>
Verb agreement in collective nouns: BOTH singular and plural are possible. <i>The research team is/are...</i>	Verb agreement in collective nouns: SINGULAR is always used. <i>The research team is...</i>

Source: Own

3.4 The Main Punctuation Differences between British and American English

“Punctuation fills our writing with silent intonation. We pause, stop, emphasize, or question using a comma, a period, an exclamation point, or a question mark. Correct punctuation adds clarity and precision to writing; it allows the writer to stop, pause, or give emphasis to certain parts of the sentence.” [9]

In writing, beyond a shadow of a doubt, wrong (or lack of) punctuation can cause misunderstanding, change the meaning, and lead to unintentional, often humorous mistakes.

Correct punctuation is crucial for clarity and precision in academic writing; many common mistakes occur when it does not follow standard conventions. The following paragraphs examine the most important punctuation rules in general and the differences between British and American English in particular.

3.4.1 The Comma: Basic Rules

It is imperative that English punctuation rules are adhered to in academic writing, as it carries significant weight in professional settings. Deviations from these conventions often lead to errors and may compromise the quality of the written work. Therefore, it is essential to ensure that all written content is punctuated correctly to convey the intended meaning accurately and effectively.

- There is **no** comma **before** a subordinate clause.
 - Example: *If you mix the wrong types of blood, the blood clots.* vs. *The blood clots if you mix the wrong types of blood.*
- If a subordinate clause is in the middle of a sentence, there **must** be a comma **before** and **after** it.
 - Example: *This matter is, as described above, crucial to our research.*
- Comma **is** used in non-defining relative clauses and **not** in defining ones.
 - Example: *My business partner, who is based in Prague, ... (= I have one partner)* vs. *My business partner who is based in Prague ... (= one of my partners)*
- Comma is used to **separate** introductory phrases from the main clause.
 - Examples: *Additionally, ... As a result, ... However, ... Therefore, ...* etc.

3.4.2 Oxford Comma

Despite the name, the Oxford Comma (or Serial Comma) is used in American English more often than in British English. It is mandatory to have the Oxford Comma in American standard; in British English, on the other hand, it is required only when it is necessary for clarity and to avoid confusion.

Examples:

- American English
 - *The basic steps in research are identifying the problem, evaluating the literature, creating hypotheses, collecting data, and analyzing data.*
- British English
 - *The basic steps in research are identifying the problem, evaluating the literature, creating hypotheses, collecting data and analysing data.*
- Both American and British English:
 - *I work on the project with my colleagues, a mathematician and a physicist.* (This means that one of your colleagues is a mathematician and the other is a physicist.) vs.
 - *I work on the project with my colleagues, a mathematician, and a physicist.* (Besides your colleagues, a mathematician and a physicist are involved in the project.)

3.4.3 E.G., I.E. and ETC

The abbreviations *e.g.* (= *for example*) and *i.e.* (= *in other words / that is*) are always preceded by a comma.

Unlike in American English, in British English, *e.g.* and *i.e.* are not followed by a comma.

Examples:

- American English
 - *In diagnostic imaging, several devices are used, e.g., MRI scans, CT scans, X-rays. X-rays (i.e., radiographs) are the most common diagnostic imaging devices.*
- British English
 - *In diagnostic imaging, several devices are used, e.g. MRI scans, CT scans, X-rays. X-rays (i.e. radiographs) are the most common diagnostic imaging devices.*

As far as the comma before and after *etc.* is concerned, different grammars recommend different usage.

Nevertheless, putting a **comma before** *etc.* is advised most often – be it the last item in a sentence or placed in the middle.

The **period (full stop) after** *etc* must always be included.

This applies to the end of sentence usage when *etc.* is followed by another punctuation mark (*etc.! / etc.?*). However, at the end of a sentence, the period – the part of *etc.* – is the final punctuation mark.

Examples:

- *Textile materials come from different sources: animal, mineral, synthetic, etc.*
- *We investigate animal, mineral, synthetic, etc., sources of materials in our research.*

3.4.4 Decimal Comma vs. Decimal Point

Most European countries use the decimal comma, e.g. the Czech Republic, Denmark, France, Germany, Norway, Spain, and others.

However, in English-speaking countries, the decimal point is usually used.

U.S.A. and Canada use the decimal point, although the comma is also used in the Francophone areas of Canada.

Note the dramatic difference:

Number pi (π) /paɪ/ is an irrational number¹ that relates a circle's circumference to its diameter, or infinite decimal.

*An approximate value of π is 3.141 (three **point** one four one).*

But:

*3,141 = three **thousand** (s!) one hundred (and, BrE) forty-one.*

The **comma** is the **thousands separator** in English, which can or doesn't have to be used. Therefore, when writing a text in English, it is crucial to use a **decimal point** no matter what source you use, cite, or take data from. Confusing a decimal point with a comma can cause serious problems and misunderstandings. Let us think of a dose in medicine, monetary issues (e.g. the interest rate), data in scientific research, etc.!

3.4.5 Date in American vs. British English: The Help of the Infinite Number *Pi*

In American usage, the **month** comes **before** the **day**.

As emphasised above, it is crucial not to confuse a decimal comma with a decimal point.

¹ <https://www.livescience.com/irrational-numbers.html>

Bearing this in mind and remembering the number *pi*, it can alert us to be aware of different usage of dates in American English since there are obviously 12 months in a year. *Pi Day* is celebrated on 3/14 (the 14th of March). Due to the fact that *pi* and *pie* are homophones and the circular shape of pies and pizzas, some restaurants offer discounts and even free products on this day. Many schools and universities compete to recite the most decimal places of π .

In the UK and worldwide, the day is listed first, then the month, and finally the year.

Consider this important difference regarding deadlines and dates of important events in the case of writing and communicating with the US sphere of influence/environment!

3.4.6 Time in British vs. American English

When denoting time, the British system uses periods whereas the American system uses colons.

Example:

- British English
 - 10.40
- American English
 - 10:40

In addition, *past* is used in British English: 10.20 (*twenty past ten*) while in American English *after* is commonly used (*twenty after ten*).

Similarly, *to* is preferred in the UK: 10.40 (*twenty to eleven*). In American English, it would be *twenty before eleven*.

3.4.7 Titles

In American English, the **period is used** after *Mr.*, *Mrs.*, *Ms.*, and *Mx.* (gender-neutral term of address). On the other hand, in British English, the **period is not used** (*Mr* etc.).

3.4.8 Quotes

Quoting is very common in scholarly articles. In order to be consistent, it is important to be aware of the **opposite usage of quotation marks** in American and British English.

British English uses single quotation marks for initial quotations, and double quotation marks are used when there is a quotation inside the quotation.

It is the opposite in American English: single quotation marks are used inside double quotation marks.

British English puts **commas** and **periods (full stops) outside** quotation marks

American English puts **commas** and **periods inside** quotation marks.

Examples:

- British English
 - *'Marketing'*, the lecturer explained, *'is an integral part of business, and, as Friedrich Nietzsche said, "What does not kill us, makes us stronger."'*
- American English
 - "Marketing," the lecturer explained, "is an integral part of business, and, as Friedrich Nietzsche said, 'What does not kill us, makes us stronger.'"

Needless to say, quotation marks are always at the top of a line, never at the bottom!

4 Dictionaries

When writing in English, it is always a good idea to consult a dictionary to choose the appropriate English variety.

The most popular and prestigious English dictionaries where the main dialect is British English are *Collins English Dictionary*, *Concise Oxford Dictionary*, and *Oxford Dictionary*. The dictionaries using American English as a main dialect are represented by e.g. *The Merriam-Webster Dictionary* and *New Oxford American Dictionary* [10].

Above, we referred to *Webster* and his dictionary. Nowadays, *Merriam-Webster* stands as the most frequently utilized American English dictionary, offering accurate spellings, pronunciations, and transcriptions of words in American English.

Let us examine a word frequently appearing in nanotechnology articles: AmE *fiber*, BrE *fibre*.

When you look up *fiber* in Merriam-Webster [11], the result is in Figure 1.



Source: [11]

Fig. 1: The result of query “*fiber*” in Merriam-Webster Dictionary

Though long and thorough, the entry does not instantly refer to the different British spelling, which is time-consuming and a bit confusing.

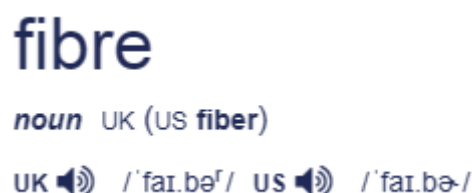
When typing in *fibre*, you, only and solely, get the result in Figure 2.



Source: [12]

Fig. 2: The result of query “*fibre*” in Merriam-Webster Dictionary

On the other hand, when consulting the word *fibre* with the Cambridge Dictionary [13], you get the result in Figure 3 showing both variants including pronunciation and examples.



Source [13]

Fig. 3: The result of query “*fibre*” in Cambridge Dictionary

5 Spell Checking

For consistent English writing, it is important to choose either British or American spelling and stick with it. To ensure this, set your preferred language variant in your Office application before typing. Select all> Revision> Language (> Spell Check).

5.1 (Free) Grammarly and Other Spell Checkers

Many free grammar checkers are readily available online. According to [14], *Grammarly Free* ranks 4th, with a correction score of 11 out of 20.

Grammarly [15] has become a popular writing tool among students, academics, and internet users worldwide. It can improve everyday writing and even turn a draft into a professional scholarly article. Most users prefer a free version since the premium version is quite expensive. The *Premium Version* costs \$12.00 per month when paid annually, totalling \$144.00, \$20.00 per month when paid quarterly, and \$30.00 per month when paid monthly. However, the free version has limitations in academic writing, although it is more powerful than Word processors' spell checkers [16].

To ensure consistency in writing, it is important to select language preferences. To do so, open Grammarly and tap “Grammarly Settings”. Next, tap “Language Preference” and choose your preferred setting – British or American English.

It is not uncommon for writers to fall into a trap when relying solely on the Word spellchecker. After selecting a language and receiving a “*Spelling and grammar check complete*” message, they may feel confident in their work. However, if they fail to choose the same language preference when using *Grammarly* for a final check, the end result can be a text that mixes British and American English. This can be both confusing and unprofessional. To ensure maximum consistency, it is essential to maintain the same language preference throughout the document, regardless of the correction tool being used.

5.2 Automatic Translation

Many non-native authors, including academics, often use automatic translation apps or seek help to translate a text from their native language to English quickly. If you have been using *Google Translate* for a while, you probably noticed that its quality has significantly improved in recent years. A decade ago, the tool would produce a semi-translated output that was barely usable for academic writing without further thorough corrections. Today, tools like *Google Translate* or *DeepL* (launched in 2017 and considered more accurate) will produce better outputs than in previous years. However, it is still highly likely that the output may not be completely accurate.

Therefore, if you lack the courage or confidence to write in English, paste the machine translation into Word and, as mentioned above, use tools such as *Grammarly* to correct spelling, grammar, and punctuation errors.

Undeniably, *Grammarly Premium* is an incredibly helpful tool. It provides invaluable assistance with grammar checks and spell checks.

It is important to remember that you do not have to accept all suggestions from spellcheckers. Feel free to dismiss them.

Grammarly Premium deserves credit not only for providing multiple writing styles and suggesting changes but also for emphasizing the importance of making one's own decisions. If you are unsure about a particular suggestion, it is advisable to research the sentence or phrase by searching it on Google.

Conclusion

“It is not true that British English is more traditional or that American English is simplified. Even though both forms have been changing since the 16th century, there is very little difference between them in formal registers (mostly in pronunciation and a few grammar rules). Differences in informal registers are more significant, but there are no objective reasons to consider any dialect superior to another.” Jakub Marian [17]

English is a widely used language that serves as a “*lingua franca*” for international communication. Although there are numerous differences between British and American English, most British people can understand American English and vice versa.

However, it is important for non-native writers to choose a particular style of English and stick with it to avoid confusion and misunderstanding.

Maintaining consistency is crucial when writing in English, especially in formal settings. Mixing the two styles can create a bad impression, particularly in professional writing. Non-native authors should be mindful of their choice when composing professional articles.

Despite the fact that this article is more of an informative and educational guide than a scientific study, the author sincerely hopes it will assist writers in improving their academic writing.

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JAK PSÁT VĚDECKÉ ČLÁNKY V JEDNÉ ANGLIČTINĚ A BÝT VŽDY KONZISTENTNÍ

Tento naučně-informativní článek, jehož primárním účelem je nabídnout pomoc autorům (písačům v angličtině jako cizím jazyce) zlepšit svoje akademické psaní, se zaměřuje na jednu z nejčastějších chyb, které se při psaní textů dopouštějí: směšování britské a americké angličtiny. Důslednost a přesnost jsou klíčem k úspěšnému a efektivnímu psaní, ať už se jedná o vědecký článek nebo jen krátké texty určené pro prezentaci v PowerPointu. Nedodržení této zásady často zanechává negativní a neprofesionální dojem a může vést k chybám, nepochopení nebo dokonce k odmítnutí ze strany redaktorů impaktovaných časopisů. Článek se nejprve zabývá významem angličtiny jako lingua franca. Poté, v hlavních částech, poskytuje výčet nejzásadnějších rozdílů mezi britskou a americkou angličtinou. Článek také nabízí strategie pro zachování konzistence při psaní v angličtině a zároveň připomíná některá obecná pravidla, která je třeba dodržovat. Rozebírá úlohu anglických slovníků, a v neposlední řadě se věnuje také výhodám a nevýhodám používání automatických kontrol pravopisu a překladačů.

WIE MAN WISSENSCHAFTLICHE ARTIKEL IN EINEM ENGLISCH SCHREIBT UND DABEI STETS KONSISTENT BLEIBT

Dieser informative Artikel, dessen Hauptzweck darin besteht, Schriftstellern (die auf Englisch als Fremdsprache schreiben) Hilfestellung zu bieten, um ihr akademisches Schreiben zu verbessern, konzentriert sich auf einen der häufigsten Schreibfehler: die Vermischung von britischem und amerikanischem Englisch. Konsistenz und Genauigkeit sind der Schlüssel zu erfolgreichem und effektivem Schreiben, egal ob es sich um einen wissenschaftlichen Artikel oder nur um kurze Texte für eine PowerPoint-Präsentation handelt. Die Nichtbeachtung dieses Grundsatzes hinterlässt oft einen negativen und unprofessionellen Eindruck und kann zu Fehlern, Missverständnissen oder sogar zur Ablehnung durch die Herausgeber renommierter Fachzeitschriften führen. Der Artikel befasst sich zunächst mit der Bedeutung des Englischen als Verkehrssprache. Anschließend führt er in den Hauptabschnitten die grundlegendsten Unterschiede zwischen britischem und amerikanischem Englisch auf. Der Artikel bietet außerdem Strategien zur Aufrechterhaltung der Konsistenz beim Schreiben auf Englisch und erinnert Sie an einige allgemeine Regeln, die Sie befolgen sollten. Es wird die Rolle englischer Wörterbücher und nicht zuletzt die Vor- und Nachteile der Verwendung automatischer Rechtschreibprüfungen und Übersetzer erörtert.

JAK PISAĆ ARTYKUŁY NAUKOWE W JEDNYM JĘZYKU ANGIELSKIM I ZAWSZE ZACHOWAĆ SPÓJNOŚĆ

Celem tego artykułu informacyjnego jest dostarczenie przydatnych wskazówek obcokrajowcom, którzy chcą udoskonalić swoje umiejętności pisania akademickiego. Jednym z najczęstszych błędów w pisaniu po angielsku jest mieszanie brytyjskiego i amerykańskiego angielskiego. Spójność i dokładność mają kluczowe znaczenie dla pomyślnego i skutecznego pisania, niezależnie od tego, czy jest to artykuł naukowy, czy tylko krótki tekst do prezentacji w programie PowerPoint. Niezajęcie się tą kwestią często pozostawia negatywne i nieprofesjonalne wrażenie i może prowadzić do błędów, nieporozumień, a nawet odrzucenia przez redaktorów czasopism, których dotyczy problem. W artykule po pierwsze podkreślono znaczenie języka angielskiego jako lingua franca. Następnie w głównych sekcjach wymieniono najczęstsze różnice między brytyjskim i amerykańskim angielskim. Artykuł przedstawia także strategie zachowania spójności w używaniu języka angielskiego i przypomina czytelnikom o kilku ogólnych zasadach, których należy przestrzegać. Omówiono w nim rolę słowników języka angielskiego i na koniec, co ważne, omówiono zalety i wady korzystania z automatycznych modułów sprawdzania pisowni i tłumaczy.