

USA today

appalled = very shocked: "They were appalled to hear that they would lose their jobs."

at the end of your tether = completely fed up: "The children have been misbehaving all day – I'm at the end of my tether."

cross = quite angry: "I was cross with him for not helping me, as he said he would."

let down = disappointed: "When you didn't turn up to the meeting, I felt really let down."

over the moon = delighted: "She was over the moon with her new bicycle and rode it every day for a whole year."

British English-American English:

autumn - fall

barrister - attorney

bill (restaurant) - check

biscuit - cookie

block of flats - apartment building

bonnet (clothing) - hat

bonnet (car) - hood

boot - trunk

bumper (car) - bumper, fender

caravan - trailer

car park - parking lot

chemist's shop - drugstore, pharmacy

chest of drawers - dresser, chest of drawers, bureau

chips - fries, French fries

the cinema - the movies

clothes peg - clothespin

coffin - coffin, casket

crisps - potato chips

crossroads - intersection; crossroads (rural)

diversion - detour

drawing-pin - thumbtack

drink-driving - drunk driving

driving licence - driver's license

dual carriageway - divided highway

dummy (for baby) - pacifier

dustbin - garbage can, trash can

dustman - garbage collector

engine - engine, motor

estate agent - real estate agent

estate car - station - wagon

film - film, movie

flat - apartment, flat, studio

flat tyre - flat tire

flyover - overpass

gearbox (car) - transmission

ground floor - ground/first floor

handbag - handbag, purse, shoulder bag

high street - main street

holiday - vacation
hood (car) - convertible top
jam - jam, preserves
jug - jug, pitcher
juggernaut - 18-wheeler
lift - elevator
lorry - truck, semi, tractor
mad - crazy, insane
main road - highway
maize - corn
maths - math
motorbike - motorcycle
motorway - freeway, expressway
motorway, highway, freeway, expressway, interstate highway, interstate
nappy - diaper
naughts and crosses - tic-tack-toe
pants, underpants - underpants, drawers
pavement - sidewalk
pet hate - pet peeve

Questions

1. *What historical events formed the basis for the USA today?*
2. *Have you ever been to the USA? Was your Impression different from what you had expected? In what way?*
3. *What is the political situation of the USA today?*
4. *What are the main problems of the USA today?*
5. *Can you describe the geographical features of the continent?*
6. *What is your impression of Americans?*
7. *What stereotypes do you know about Americans? Do they show?*
8. *Would you prefer the USA or GB? Why?*
10. *They say, that the USA is a paradise for opportunities. Do you agree? Why?*
11. *Name 5 brands that you know are American?*
12. *Name the events that made the USA a burning topic in the media worldwide?*
13. *Do you like American movies or music? What are their distinguishing features?*
14. *What do you think about Obama as a political leader?*
15. *What are the American products that you can't live without?*
16. *What is the international image of the USA today? Does it have something to do with your own impression?*