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# Pronunciation



/fə'netiks/

## PHONICS



## Classes



Phonetics



# Br vs. US

That's better	In US [t] is flapped so that it sounds like [d] (and often transcribed in dictionaries as [ɾ]) when it comes between two vowels
I'm picking up the car next Tuesday	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>•car – [ka:] in Br and [ka:r] in US</li><li>•Tuesday – [ˈtʃu:zdeɪ] in Br and [ˈtu:zdeɪ]</li></ul>
What's your address?	<b>[əˈdres]</b> in Br and <b>[ˈæd.res]</b> in US
I went out because I was hot and wanted some fresh air.	falling tone in Br and rising in US

# Br vs. US

the first vowel is more 'open' in US

the first vowel is different - /ɑ:/ (like 'car') in Br and /æ/ (like 'hat') in US

I was reading in a magazine the other day about how common obesity is now. Some new research has found that over forty percent of the population is overweight. Most people in the survey said they'd rather drive than walk, and that it's better to spend leisure time at home than outside. That's understandable in the winter, I guess, but surely everyone can build some exercise into their daily schedule?

said 'nyoo' (/nju:/) in Br and 'noo' (/nu:/) in US

the first vowel is different - /ɔ:/ (like 'or') in Br and /ʊ/ (like 'put') in US; also the 'r' is pronounced in US

# Br vs. US

	British (Br) vs American (US)
magazine	The stress is different: on the 3rd syllable (maga'zine) in Br and on the 1st syllable ('magazine) in US.
common	The first vowel is different: /ɒ/ (as in 'hot') in Br and /ɑː/ (as in 'car') in US.
research	The stress is different: on the 2nd syllable (re'search) in Br and on the 1st syllable ('research) in US.
over	There is a sound close to /r/ at the end of the word in US, but in Br it ends with a vowel.
forty	The 't' is 'flapped' in US so that it sounds like 'd'.
overweight	(See 'over' above.)
survey	There is a sound close to /r/ before /v/ in US, but not in Br.
walk	The vowel is different: /ɔː/ (as in 'door') in Br and /ɑː/ (as in 'car') in US.
better	The 't' is 'flapped' in US so that it sounds like 'd'.
leisure	The first vowel is different: /e/ (as in 'ten') in Br and /iː/ (as in 'see') in US.
understandable	There is a sound close to /r/ before '-stand-' in US, but not in Br.
exercise	There is a sound close to /r/ before '-cise' in US, but not in Br.
schedule	The first consonant is different: /ʃ/ (as in 'she') in Br and /sk/ in US. (Although note that some speakers of Br say /sk/ at the beginning of 'schedule!')

# Received pronunciation



- A pronunciation of British English, originally based on the speech of the upper class of south eastern England and characteristic of the English spoken at the public schools and at Oxford and Cambridge Universities. Until recently it was the standard form of English used in British broadcasting.

## 1 (northern England)

When I get a day off, I like to go up into the Yorkshire Dales. These are sort of hills, er about twenty miles from where I live. And I'll er walk through the day. I'll set off while it's still dark and walk for about eight hours. And at the end of that finish up in a village somewhere and have a nice meal.

Here are some of the differences you may have noticed between this accent and BBC English:

- the vowel in 'I', 'like', 'nice' (/aɪ/ in BBC English) is more 'open', beginning with a sound close to /ɑ:/ (as in 'car')
- the vowel in 'walk' (/ɔ:/ in BBC English) is said almost as two vowels /ɔ:/ + /ə/
- the 'r' sound in 'for about' is said with a slight tap of the tongue behind the top teeth



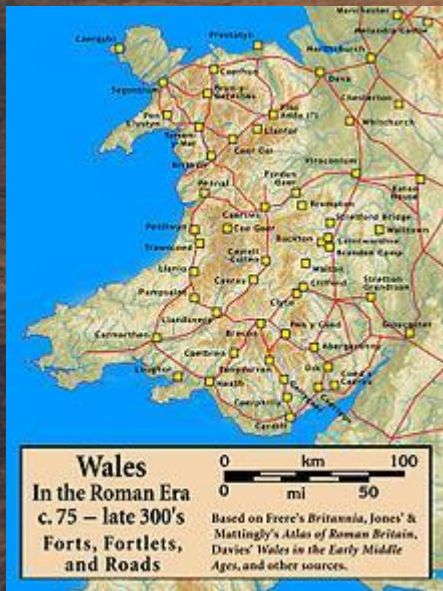
## 2 (Scotland)

I live in the country and I'm I'm quite lucky because where I live is sort of on the top of um a range of low, flat hills. So it's quite windy. On good days, I like to take my children out and we go and fly kites. The children have got little kites, because obviously if it's too windy and with a big kite it would be really too, too much for them, they couldn't control it. Um but they they thoroughly enjoy being out just just in the fresh air.

Here are some of the differences you may have noticed between this accent and BBC English:

- 'r' is pronounced where it would not be in BBC English (in 'sort', 'for then', 'air') and said with a flap of the tongue
- the vowel in 'like', 'fly', 'kite', etc. (/aɪ/ in BBC English) begins with a sound close to 'ee' (/i:/)
- the vowel in 'low', 'so', 'go' (/əʊ/ in BBC English) is pronounced more like a simple vowel, close to /ɔ:/





### 3 (Wales)

In my spare time I really like visiting gardens. Usually, the gardens of big houses. And at every time of the year there's something different to see. The spring, of course, is the best time, when everything's coming into bud, and then later in the summer into full flower. It's really wonderful. And even when it's raining, you can still get great pleasure visiting gardens.

Here are some of the differences you may have noticed between this accent and BBC English:

- the vowel in 'year' (/ɪə/ in BBC English) is pronounced with more rounded lips
- the vowel in 'gardens' (/ɑ:/ in BBC English) is more 'open', beginning with a sound close to /æ/ (as in 'cat')
- the /r/ in 'raining' and 'really' is said with a flap of the tongue



#### 4 (Northern Ireland)

Usually, 'cause erm I'm working during the week er and sometimes on a Saturday as well the only day off that I have would be a Sunday. Er and on Sunday we like to get up early, make a big breakfast and if the weather's good er I take my kids for a long walk in the country. Erm we go off er with our little fishing rods and sometimes er go down to the local stream and with a net and try and er catch a few tiddlers or something like that.

(Note: A tiddler is a very small fish.)

Here are some of the differences you may have noticed between this accent and BBC English:

- the vowel in 'usually' and 'during' (/u:/ in BBC English) is pronounced rather like the vowel in 'good' (/ʊ/)
- the vowel in 'off' (/ɒ/ in BBC English) is pronounced with more rounded lips
- the vowel in 'stream' (/i:/ in BBC English) is pronounced almost as two vowels /i:/ + /ə/

- **during**
- [ˈdʒʊərɪŋ]
- **innovative**
- [ɪnəvətɪv]
- **hospitable**
- [hɒsˈpɪtəbəl]
- **kilometre**
- [kɪˈlɒmɪtə]
- **automobile**
- [ˈɔːtəməbiːl]

- **firm**
- [fɜːm]
- **Mary**
- [ˈmɛəri]
- **participle**
- [paːˈtɪsɪpl]
- **primarily**
- [praɪˈmɛərɪli]
- **often**
- [ɒftn]



“  
thank you for  
your **ATTENTION**  
)”



See Ya  
Soon