

**A COMPARATIVE STUDY BETWEEN THE WORD MEANING OF BRITISH AND  
AMERICAN ENGLISH**

**RESEARCH PAPER**



**Submitted as a Partial Fulfilment  
of the Requirements for Getting Bachelor Degree  
of English Education**

**by:**

**RIZKY DINI ARDHITA  
A320160015**

**SCHOOL OF TEACHER TRAINING AND EDUCATION  
MUHAMMADIYAH UNIVERSITY OF SURAKARTA  
2020**

## APPROVAL

# A COMPARATIVE STUDY BETWEEN THE WORD MEANING OF BRITISH AND AMERICAN ENGLISH

## RESEARCH PAPER

By:  
RIZKY DINI ARDHITA  
A320160015

Approved by Consultant



Dr. Maryadi, M.A.  
NIDN. 00-0403-5801

### **Statement of Novelty**

The researcher who provides the signature below:

Name : RIZKY DINI ARDHITA

Nim : A320160015

Study/Program : Department of English Education

Title : **A COMPARATIVE STUDY BETWEEN THE WORD  
MEANING OF BRITISH AND AMERICAN ENGLISH**

Hereby I declare, the research paper that I made is purely of my own hard work. There is no plagiarism from journals or other people's theses, unless it is used as a source of previous research written in literary reviews and bibliographies. If it contradicts the truth, it will be become my responsibility.

Surakarta, August, 5<sup>th</sup> 2020

The Researcher,



RIZKY DINI ARDHITA

A320160015

## ACCEPTANCE

# A COMPARATIVE STUDY BETWEEN THE WORD MEANING OF BRITISH AND AMERICAN ENGLISH

## RESEARCH PAPER

By:

**RIZKY DINI ARDHITA**

**A320160015**

**Accepted and Approved by Board Examiners**

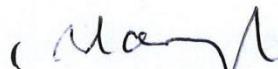
**School of Teacher Training and Education**

**Muhammadiyah University of Surakarta**

**on August 2020**

### Team of Examiners:

1. **Dr. Maryadi, M.A.**  
**(Head of Examiner)**
2. **Dr. M. Thoyibi, M.S**  
**(Member I of Examiner)**
3. **Dr. Abdillah Nugroho, M.Hum**  
**(Member II of Examiner)**

(  )  
(  )  
(  )



**NIP: 1950428 199303 001**

## MOTTO

**Heal and move on. You have things to do, you cannot sit in that dark place forever.**

## **DEDICATION**

The researcher dedicates this research paper to:

1. My beloved mother and my beloved father.
2. All my beloved family.
3. All of my friends.
4. My almamater, English Education Department, Muhammadiyah University of Surakarta.

## **ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

**Assalamu'alaikum wr. Wb.**

Alhamdulillahirobbil'alamin, in the name of Allah Most Gracious, Most Merciful.there is no thank except Allah, because of His guidance and His love to the researcher that she can finish her research paper with the title "**A COMPARATIVE STUDY BETWEEN WORD MEANING OF BRITISH AND AMERICAN ENGLISH**" to complete a requirement the Bachelor program in the "School of Teaching Training and Education Muhammadiyah University of Surakarta"

In completing research, researcher faces many problems. However, many supporters to deal with all her problems. In this occasion, she would like to thank to:

1. Prof. Dr. Harun Prayitno M.hum as the dean of the School of Teaching Training and Education Muhammadiyah University of Surakarta.
2. Mauly Halwat Hikmat, Ph.D as the Head of Department of English Education.
3. Koesoemo Ratih, Ph.D as the academic counsellor. Thanks for her permission, so the researcher can conduct this research.
4. Dr. Maryadi, M.A as the consultant who has given guidance, correction advice, and motivation during the consultationsof this research paper.
5. Dr. M. Thoyibi, M.S as the examiner thanks forgiving the guide
6. Dr. Abdillah Nugroho, M.Hum as the examiner thanks for giving the guide
7. All lecturers of English Education Department of Muhammadiyah University of Surakarta who have given their knowledge to the researcher
8. Beloved mother, best mom ever, thank for always praying for the best for her
9. Beloved Father Mr. Dwi Darmono S.H. Thank for being the first true love and always there for her.
10. Beloved oldest sister, Mrs Ayu and her husband Mr Dika and their cuties little daughter Shafa Mecca always support and giving motivation.
11. Beloved youngest brother, Danu who lent a laptop to finish this research paper.
12. Beloved grandmother, grandma Janti who always protects, gives motivation and support.
13. All members Abstemious class DEE 2016for always compact.

14. Beloved friends, Sanidya Ashari, Aulianisa N.S, Yulinda C.R. Thanks for the jokes and always support her.
15. Everyone who cannot be mentioned one by one, thank for the support, help, and give motivation.

Hopefully, this paper can be useful readers and other researchers.

**Wassalamualaikum Wr. Wb.**

The Researcher

## ABSTRACT

### **A COMPARATIVE STUDY BETWEEN THE WORD MEANING OF BRITISH AND AMERICAN ENGLISH**

RIZKY DINI ARDHITA

Faculty of Teaching Training and Education, Muhammadiyah University of Surakarta

[Dhita08.d08@gmail.com](mailto:Dhita08.d08@gmail.com)

Dr. Maryadi, M.A

Faculty of Teaching Training and Education, Muhammadiyah University of Surakarta

[Mar243@ums.ac.id](mailto:Mar243@ums.ac.id)

The objectivities of the study are to (1) describe the difference words meaning between British and American English, and (2) to explain the similarities words meaning between British and American English. This research is qualitative research, the technique was used for collecting data and analyzing data. This paper uses the theory from Parera (2002) to analyze the use of meaning. The data source in this study was collected by comparing words in the Oxford English dictionary and Merriam Webster. There found the result of the study, which showed that there are many different words but the same meaning and similarities word but different meaning, for example, “Pants” in British which mean is underwear and in American are trousers. Researchers showed (1) six groups in differences meaning there were “transportation, food and drink, education, clothes, home and environment, and science and technology” the differences consist of the meaning of is opposite and the meaning totally different. And (2) six groups in similarities meaning, there are “transportation, food, and drink, education, clothes, home and environment, Science and Technology”. The similarities consist of the differences word and the same meaning and the differences word but have the same meaning. The researchers begin to make a column to classify the data that has been collected with the aim to make the reader more easily understands.

*Keywords:* word meaning, British English, American English

## **ABSTRAK**

### **KAJIAN KOMPARATIF MAKNA KATA ANTARA BAHASA INGGRIS BRITISH DAN AMERIKA**

RIZKY DINI ARDHITA

Fakultas Keguruan dan Ilmu Pengetahuan, Universitas Muhammadiyah Surakarta

[Dhita08.d08@gmail.com](mailto:Dhita08.d08@gmail.com)

Dr. Maryadi, M.A

Fakultas Keguruan dan Ilmu Pengetahuan, Universitas Muhammadiyah Surakarta

[Mar243@ums.ac.id](mailto:Mar243@ums.ac.id)

Tujuan dari penelitian ini adalah untuk (1) menggambarkan tentang perbedaan kata-kata yang berarti antara British Inggris dan Amerika Inggris, dan (2) menjelaskan persamaan kata yang memiliki makna yang sama antara British Inggris dan Amerika Inggris. Penelitian ini adalah penelitian kualitatif, teknik yang digunakan untuk mengumpulkan data dan menganalisis data. Peneliti menggunakan teori dari Parera (2002) untuk menganalisis penggunaan makna. Sumber data dalam penelitian ini dikumpulkan dengan membandingkan kata-kata dalam kamus bahasa Inggris Oxford dan Merriam Webster. Hasil yang ditemukan dalam penelitian, menunjukkan bahwa ada banyak perbedaan kata tetapi makna yang sama dan kesamaan kata tetapi makna yang berbeda, misalnya "Celana" dalam bahasa Inggris yang berarti celana dalam dan di Amerika adalah celana panjang. Peneliti menunjukkan (1) enam kelompok perbedaan makna kata, terdiri dari "transportasi, makanan dan minuman, pendidikan, pakaian, rumah dan sekitar, dan ilmu pengetahuan dan teknologi". Terdapat kata yang berbeda makna dan kata yang berlawanan makna. Dan (2) enam kelompok dalam makna yang sama, ada "transportasi, makanan dan minuman, pendidikan, pakaian, rumah dan sekitar, Sains dan teknologi". Yang terdiri dari kata yang berbeda tetapi memiliki makna yang sama dan kata dan makna yang sama. Peneliti membuat kolom untuk mengklasifikasikan data yang telah dikumpulkan dengan tujuan membuat pembaca lebih mudah memahami.

*Kata kunci: makna kata, British Inggris, Amerika Inggris.*

## TABLE OF CONTENT

COVER .....	i
APPROVAL .....	ii
TESTIMONY .....	iii
ACCEPTANCE .....	iv
MOTTO .....	v
DEDICATION .....	vi
ACKNOWLEDGEMENT .....	vii
ABSTRACT.....	.ix
ABSTRAK.....	.x
TABLE OF CONTENT.....	.xi
LIST OF FIGURES .....	.xiii
LIST OF TABLES .....	.xiv
CHAPTER 1 INTRODUCTION .....	1
A. Background of the study .....	1
B. Problem Statement .....	3
C. Objective of the Study.....	3
D. Benefit of the Study .....	3
CHAPTER II LITERATURE REVIEW .....	5
A. Previous Study .....	5
B. Underlying Theory .....	8
1. English.....	8
2. Characteristics of British English and American English .....	8
3. Semantics.....	13
4. Differences between British and American English .....	15
5. Similarities between British and American English.....	15
CHAPTER III RESEARCH METHOD .....	17
A. Type and Design of Research .....	17
B. Research Object.....	17
C. Data and Data Source .....	17
D. Technique of Data Collection .....	18

E. Technique of Data Analysis .....	18
CHAPTER IV DATA ANALYSIS, FINDING, AND DISCUSSION .....	20
A. Data Analysis .....	20
B. Findings .....	38
C. Discussion .....	41
CHAPTER V CLOSING .....	45
A. Conclusion .....	45
B. Implication .....	45
C. Suggestion .....	46
BIBLIOGRAPHY.....	47
APPENDIX.....	51

## **LIST OF FIGURES**

Figure 2.1. Sketch of Previous Study.....	7
Figure 2.2. Sketch of Theoretical Framework .....	16

## LIST OF TABLES

Table 2.1 Example characteristics between British and American English in Pronunciation.....	9
Table 2.2 Example characteristics between British and American English in spelling .....	10
Table 2.3 Example characteristics between British and American English in grammar (verb).....	10
Table 2.4 Example characteristics between British and American English in grammar (shall and will) .....	11
Table 2.5 Example characteristics between British and American English in grammar (present perfect and past simple) .....	12
Table 2.5 Example characteristics between British and American English in vocabulary .....	12
Table 2.6 Example characteristics between British and American English in meaning .....	13
Table 4.1 Differences Of Word Meaning Between British And American English .....	20
Table 4.2 Similarities Of Word Meaning Between British And American English.....	26
Table 4.3 Differences of word meaning Between British and American English.....	38
Table 4.4 Similarities of word meaning Between British and American English .....	39