



Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Class: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

# Same but Different

*An activity of "Why in the world are there so many languages?"*

**"Why in the world are there so many languages?"** (Story 16B, *What's Up* April 2020) shares three ancient beliefs about how the numerous languages came about. Read it carefully. It is fun to read! Have you noticed something else about languages? The same language may be spoken differently in different places. Take American English and British English is an example.

1. Complete the following exercise using these helping words.

takeout	diaper	eraser	highway	period	apartment	elevator
schedule	pharmacy	cell phone	zee	mail	hood	candy
vacation	restroom	gas	windshield	zip code	line	flashlight

2. The columns labelled England list common words as used in that country. Next to each word, in the column labelled America, list the word as it is used in America. Use the helping words.

No.	England	America
1.	chemist's	
2.	queue	
3.	bonnet (car)	
4.	windscreen	
5.	takeaway	
6.	lift	
7.	loo	
8.	torch	
9.	motorway	
10.	postal code	
11.	zed (Z)	

No.	England	America
12.	timetable	
13.	rubber	
14.	post	
15.	holiday	
16.	flat	
17.	nappy	
18.	sweets	
19.	mobile phone	
20.	full stop	
21.	petrol	

3. Two common differences between American and British English are the spelling and pronunciation of words. This was no accident. American lexicographer Noah Webster (author of the Webster's dictionary) intentionally created this difference to show America's independence from British rule. Which of the three factors listed in the article do you think describes the cause for this variation — tower, coyote or crocodile? Explain your answer below.

Answer : \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_