



## American and British English Word Stress

Some words are pronounced differently in American and British English variations. Although the meanings are exactly the same and, generally, these words are used in the same way, the stress within the word is in a different position.

### Suffix ATE

When words have the suffix ATE, British English speakers tend to stress this suffix whilst American English speakers tend to stress the first syllable in the word instead. Below are some examples of words that follow this pattern.

British Stress (ATE)	American Stress (First Syllable)	Definition
<b>Collate</b>	<b>Collate</b>	To collect/combine
<b>Cremate</b>	<b>Cremate</b>	To burn to ashes
<b>Curate</b>	<b>Curate</b>	To select then organise and present
<b>Dictate</b>	<b>Dictate</b>	To tell somebody what to do and not give them a choice
<b>Donate</b>	<b>Donate</b>	To give something away for a charitable cause
<b>Fixate</b>	<b>Fixate</b>	To focus on
<b>Frustrate</b>	<b>Frustrate</b>	To be irritating
<b>Hydrate</b>	<b>Hydrate</b>	To absorb water
<b>Locate</b>	<b>Locate</b>	To find the location of something/ somebody
<b>Migrate</b>	<b>Migrate</b>	To move from one country to another
<b>Mutate</b>	<b>Mutate</b>	To change into a different form
<b>Narrate</b>	<b>Narrate</b>	To comment on something at the same time as it is happening

British Stress (ATE)	American Stress (First Syllable)	Definition
<b>Placate</b>	<b>Placate</b>	To calm somebody down
<b>Pulsate</b>	<b>Pulsate</b>	To constant throb
<b>Rotate</b>	<b>Rotate</b>	To turn something around
<b>Stagnate</b>	<b>Stagnate</b>	To stop moving or flowing
<b>Translate</b>	<b>Translate</b>	To change the language of something e.g. from French to English
<b>Vacate</b>	<b>Vacate</b>	To leave an area
<b>Vibrate</b>	<b>Vibrate</b>	A quick buzzing movement, normally used in technology