

This thesis is concerned with lexical and spelling differences between British and American English. The theoretical part provides an overview of the history and development of those differences, including a list of selected high frequency items. It also focuses on the role of American culture in the world and its impact on the English language. The practical part is based on a survey and attempts to discover whether Czech upper secondary students are aware of British and American English and the differences between them, with special attention to the media dominated by American English and their influence on students' language competence.