US English

VOCABULARY PRACTICE

PRE-INTERMEDIATE | A2-B1

Name: _____ **Date:** _____

1 Match each US English word with its meaning.

1 apartment	____	a place where fuel is sold
2 elevator	____	b large road vehicle for carrying goods
3 sidewalk	____	c mobile telephone
4 vacation	____	d set of rooms where someone lives
5 truck	____	e raised path beside a road
6 gas station	____	f machine that carries people between floors
7 movie theater	____	g period away from work or school
8 cell phone	____	h building where films are shown

2 Complete the everyday US English expressions.

apartment | cell | elevator | gas | movie | sidewalk | truck | vacation

1 rent an _____

2 take the _____ upstairs

3 walk on the _____

4 go on _____

5 drive a delivery _____

6 stop for _____

7 see a _____ at the theater

8 call me on my _____ phone

3 Choose the US English word.

1 They live in an *apartment / flat* in Chicago.

2 Take the *elevator / lift* to the tenth floor.

3 Children should stay on the *sidewalk / pavement*.

4 We are going on *vacation / holiday* in June.

5 The boxes arrived by *truck / lorry*.

6 We stopped at a *gas station / petrol station*.

7 Let's meet outside the *movie theater / cinema*.

8 My *cell phone / mobile phone* needs charging.

4 Complete the travel message with words from the box.

apartment | cell phone | elevator | gas station | movie theater | sidewalk | truck | vacation

We're having a great **1** _____ in Boston. Our **2** _____ is on the sixth floor, but the **3** _____ works well. Yesterday, a delivery **4** _____ blocked the street, so we waited on the **5** _____. Then we visited an old **6** _____. Dad stopped at a **7** _____ on the way home. Call my **8** _____ tonight!

5 Read the text. Write T (true) or F (false).

Different, not wrong

English varies from place to place. In the United States, people usually say apartment, while many British speakers say flat. Both words are correct in their own varieties. Learners need to recognise common differences, but they do not have to copy every feature of one accent. In formal writing, it is useful to choose one spelling system and use it consistently.

1 English is identical everywhere. T / F

2 Apartment is common in the US. T / F

3 Flat is always incorrect. T / F

4 Learners should recognise differences. T / F

5 Everyone must copy one accent. T / F

6 Consistent spelling helps formal writing. T / F

6 Rewrite using the US English word in capitals.

1 We rented a flat. **APARTMENT** _____

2 Take the lift. **ELEVATOR** _____

3 The lorry is outside. **TRUCK** _____

4 I'll call your mobile. **CELL PHONE** _____

OVER TO YOU

Write a **70-90 word** message about a trip to a US city. Use common US English words for transport, places and everyday objects.

[ ] Use at least eight US words. [ ] Keep the variety consistent. [ ] Make the context natural.

ANSWER KEY

1 US words and meanings

1 **d** 2 **f** 3 **e** 4 **g** 5 **b** 6 **a** 7 **h** 8 **c**

2 Everyday expressions

1 **apartment** 2 **elevator** 3 **sidewalk** 4 **vacation** 5 **truck** 6 **gas** 7 **movie** 8 **cell**

3 US English choices

1 **apartment** 2 **elevator** 3 **sidewalk** 4 **vacation**
5 **truck** 6 **gas station** 7 **movie theater** 8 **cell phone**

4 Travel message

1 **vacation** 2 **apartment** 3 **elevator** 4 **truck** 5 **sidewalk** 6 **movie theater** 7 **gas station** 8 **cell phone**

5 Reading - suggested answers

1 **F** 2 **T** 3 **F** 4 **T** 5 **F** 6 **T**

6 Rewriting - possible answers

1 We rented an **apartment**. 2 Take the **elevator**. 3 The **truck** is outside. 4 I'll call your **cell phone**.

Over to you: Answers will vary. Check vocabulary, context and consistency.