

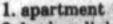
International Questions

By GYLES BRANDRETH

"The English have really everything in common with the Americans, except, of course, language," said Oscar Wilde when he heard that audiences in New York weren't queuing to see his plays: they were standing in line at the box office.

There are scores of English words about which the British. and the Americans don't seem to agree. Here are 30 which may make perfect sense to you, but which an ordinary Londoner would not understand.

What would a Britisher call each of these words?



- 2. backup lights
- 3. band-aid
- 4. bathrobe
- 5. bill
- 6. checkers
- 7. closet
- 8. cream of wheat
- 9. elevator
- 10. faucet
- 11. flashlight
- 12. hamburger meat
- 13. lima bean
- 14. molasses
- 15. nightstick 16. odometer
- 17. panty hose
- 18. private school
- 19. raisin
- 20. sidewalk
- 21. spool
- 22, thumbtack
- 23. tick-tack-toe
- 24. vest
- 25. zucchini

(See Answers.)

The names of two different countries are hidden in each of the eight sentences below. Can you discover them?

For example, in the sentence "Interpol and the FBI discover hidden marksmen," POLAND is hidden in the first two words and DEN-MARK is hidden in the last two words.

- Give the dog a bone and give him a little water.
- 2. Have you ever heard an animal talk in dialect?
- Evening classes may help an amateur to improve his painting.
- Children put on galoshes to go out in the rain.
- The Viscount has not



found a home yet and he regrets leaving his fine palace.

- Such a display could be either grand or rather
- Vladimir and Olga are Soviet names.

(See Answers.)

tries include within them a boy's or girl's name. For example, the name ADA forms part of Canada and Grenada. Can you find names of coun-

If your exhaust pipe rusts you just have to shrug and accept it.

vulgar.

The names of some coun-

tries in which the following personal names appear?

8. Philip 1. Guy 9. Mark 2. Stan 10. Ken 3. Dan 11. Les 4. Don 12. Leo 5. Alan 13. Eli 6. Gary 7. Rita

20. pavement/footpath 21. cotton reel 22. drawing pin 23. noughts and crosses 24. waistcoat 25. courgettes 14. Martin

17. tights

19. sultana

18. public school

(See Answers.)

ANSWERS

1. flat 2. reversing lights 3. elastoplast 4. dressing gown 5. bank note 6. draughts 7. cupboard 8. semolina 9. lift

10. tap 11. torch 12. mince 13. broad bean 14. black treacle 15. truncheon 16. mileometer

1. Gabon, Mali 2. Malta, India 3. Panama, Spain 4. Tonga, Togo 5. Dahomey, Nepal 6. Peru, Uganda 7. Chad, Andorra 8. Iran, Vietnam

1. Guyana 2. Afghanistan or Pakistan 3. Jordan or Sudan 4. Indonesia 5. New Zealand 6. Hungary 7. Mauritania 8. Philippines 9. Denmark 10. Kenya 11. Lesotho 12. Sierra Leona 13. Belize 14. Martinique