

# James Abela ELT

## The Verb to have

### Main Uses

Usage	Definition	Continuous?
have (POSSESS)	To own or possess	No
have (EAT/DRINK)	to eat or drink something:	Yes
have (BABY)	to give birth to a baby	Yes
have (DO)	to perform the action mentioned	Yes
have (RECEIVE)	to receive, accept or allow something to happen	Yes
have (CAUSE)	to cause something to happen or someone to do something	Yes
have (EXPERIENCE)	to experience something	Yes

*Also used to form perfect tenses*

### Forms

Present tense	I/you/we/they have	she/he/it has
Past	had	
Continuous	having	

#### Examples of Have (Possess)

- *They have a beautiful home.*
- *He has plenty of money but no style.*
- *I've got two brothers.*
- *Have you got time to finish the report today?*
- *I've got a suggestion/an idea.*
- *I've got a cold.*

#### Examples of Have (Eat/Drink)

- *I had prawns and rice for lunch.*
- *Can I have a drink of water?*
- *I'm having lunch, can you phone back later?*
- *When are we having dinner?*

#### Definitions at:

- <http://dictionary.cambridge.org/results.asp?searchword=have&x=0&y=0>
- <http://dictionary.reference.com/browse/have>

#### Further examples at:

- [http://esl.about.com/od/grammarstructures/a/v\\_have.htm](http://esl.about.com/od/grammarstructures/a/v_have.htm)

#### Have a fever Vs having a fever

*Having a fever* is considered grammatically incorrect by most English language grammar books, but is widely used. Currently in Google there are 543,000 pages with the words *have a fever*, 153,000 pages with *have got a fever* and 51,800 with the words *having a fever*. In the future this may be considered grammatically correct by the majority of the English speaking world.