

Lesson Plan: Expressions with "have"

LEVEL	TIME	SKILLS	FOCUS
Beginner / Intermediate (A2-B1)	45-60 minutes	Vocabulary, grammar, speaking	Have + noun collocations; have a go/look/word; BrE vs AmE; have vs. take

OBJECTIVES

By the end of the lesson, students will be able to:

- Use have + noun collocations correctly across a range of contexts
- Understand that 'have' in many expressions does not mean 'possess'
- Distinguish BrE (have a shower) from AmE (take a shower)
- Use have expressions naturally in conversation

TARGET LANGUAGE & EXAMPLES

Have + noun — daily life

- have breakfast/lunch/dinner | have a drink / a coffee / a snack
- have a shower / a bath / a rest / a nap
- have fun / a good time / a great weekend

Have + noun — activity and communication

- have a look / a read / a listen / a think (= take a brief look/read etc.)
- have a conversation / a discussion / a meeting
- have a go (BrE) = try something | have a shot (AmE) = try something

BrE vs. AmE: have vs. take

- BrE: have a shower / have a bath / have a look
- AmE: take a shower / take a bath / take a look
- Both: have/take a break, have/take a nap
- Note: both are understood everywhere — neither is wrong

Meaning & Nuance

Expression	Meaning	Example
have a look	look at something casually	Can I have a look at your notes?
have a go	try something	I've never skied before but I'll have a go.
have a word (with someone)	speak briefly and privately	Can I have a word with you after class?
have a point	be correct about something	You have a point — I hadn't thought of that.
have a field day	enjoy a situation (often sarcastic)	The press had a field day with the scandal.
have it out (with someone)	resolve a disagreement directly	They finally had it out and cleared the air.

LESSON PROCEDURE

1. Warm-up: Did you have...? (5 min)

Task: Quick questions: 'Did you have breakfast today?' / 'Did you have a good weekend?'

- Students respond with yes and a detail. Elicit that 'have' here doesn't mean possession. → Introduces the concept naturally.

2. Presentation (10 min)

Task: Introduce have + noun by category: food/drink, daily activities, communication.

- BrE vs. AmE: have a shower (BrE) / take a shower (AmE).
- Idiom preview: have a word, have a point, have a go — for stronger students.

3. Sentence building (10 min)

Task: Students build 8 sentences using have expressions about their day.

- Encourage variety: 'After I had a shower, I had breakfast and then had a look at my emails.'

4. Conversation practice (20 min)

Task: Structured conversation using have expressions as natural prompts.

- 'Have you ever had a go at rock climbing?'
- 'What do you usually have for lunch on a weekday?'
- 'When was the last time you had a really good time?'

TEACHER NOTES

- The BrE/AmE have/take difference surprises learners who've learned one variety — worth addressing explicitly.
- 'Have a word with someone' is highly useful pragmatic vocabulary for professional and social situations.

EXTENSION / HOMEWORK

Choose one or more:

1. Write a paragraph about your perfect weekend using at least 6 have expressions.
2. Find 5 have expressions in an English text and write a sentence for each in your own context.
3. Write a short dialogue using at least 8 different have expressions.