

English A1 · have got

Beginner English for Chinese speakers; classroom examples, not official exam items.

The decorative got

Chinese uses for existence and possession; English splits the job: there is for existence, have got for possession.

have or has, then got

Person	Full form	Short form
I / you / we / they	have got	've got
he / she / it	has got	's got

Use the evidence

I've got two brothers. She's got a new phone. We've got a problem.

Your turn: third person

Your turn

— in English?

- A. He have got two older brothers.
- B. He has got two older brothers.
- C. He is got two older brothers.
- D. He got have two older brothers.

Negatives and questions

- 1 **Negative** have/has + not + got: I haven't got any money.
- 2 **Question** Flip have/has forward: Have you got a pen?
- 3 **Short answer** Yes, I have. / No, I haven't. — the answer drops got.

Decision

Have you got a pen? — Yes, I have. Short, clean, no got.

Your turn: the family question

Your turn

— in English?

- A. Do you have got any brothers or sisters?
- B. Have you got any brothers or sisters?
- C. You have got any brothers or sisters?
- D. Got you any brothers or sisters?

have got or have?

Situation	Form	Example
everyday British speech	have got	I've got a headache.
American, formal writing	have	I have a question.
family, illness, features	both work	He's got two sisters. / He has two sisters.
habits and routines	have only	I have lunch at twelve.

Use the evidence

Owning lunch is fine; repeatedly possessing it at noon is weird.

Your turn: the smoothie error

Your turn

Which question is correct?

- A. Do you have got a pen?
- B. Have you got a pen?
- C. Do have you got a pen?
- D. You have got a pen, or not?

got is not the past

No time travel

I've got ten yuan. — I own it now.

I got a cat. — the cat arrived this morning, possibly by post.

Say it aloud

Ask: Have you got any brothers or sisters?



Answer truly: Yes, I have. I've got one sister.



Ask: Has your best friend got a pet?



Negotiate: Have you got a pen I
can borrow? — It costs one smile.

Check yourself

- She has got a new phone — third person takes has.
- Have you got a pen? — flip have forward; no do.
- Short answer: Yes, I have — the got stays home.
- I have lunch at twelve — habits take plain have.