

FUMC ESL 10-11-2018 High Intermediate Lesson

Idioms with HAVE

1-If you **have a feeling** that something will happen, you know in advance about it. For example: I have a feeling it will rain tomorrow. I have a feeling my daughter will get married soon. Another name for this is "intuition". Many times we feel like we know something will happen before it does. Do you think you have above average intuition? Do you often feel like you know something is going to happen before it does?

2-If you **have a green thumb**, you can grow plants really well. Ex: My mother has a green thumb. Her garden has big green plants with vegetables on them. She grows plants well. Do you have a green thumb? Is there someone in your family that does?

3-If you **have a lot on your mind**, you have many things to worry about. Ex: Stop asking me so many questions. I have a lot on my mind right now. I can't talk to you. Do you have a lot on your mind right now?

4-If you **have bad luck**, you are not lucky. Ex: I tried to get that job, but I had bad luck. The man who came in just before me got the job. Tell about a time when you had bad luck.

5-If you **have a run-in** with someone, you have an argument or fight with them. EX: Tim and Sandy had a run-in over who should take care of Mom. Tell about a time when you had a run-in with someone.

6-If you **have a short fuse**, you get angry very easily. Don't argue with Ben. He's got a short fuse and might blow up. Do you have a short fuse?

7-I think your girlfriend is not as devoted to you as you say. What do you mean by that? Do I **have to spell it out** for you?

This question asks what you have to do to make something clear to someone. If you knew a friend's girlfriend was seeing other people, would you tell him? What would you say?

8-Did you have fun on your vacation to the coast?
Oh, yes. **I had a blast.**

When is the last time you have "had a blast"?

9-The police asked me if I knew who might have broken in, but I **don't have a clue**. If you don't have a clue, you don't know anything about it.

Name something that you "don't have a clue" about.

10-If you **have a gift for** something, you have natural talent for it. EX: Jim has a real gift for teaching. What do you have a gift for?

11-If you **have a change of heart**, you change your mind, usually from a negative to a positive. EX: I had a change of heart and decided to let the kids go to Disney World with their friends.

Did your parents ever tell you "NO" then have a change of heart and let you do it? Talk about it.

12-If you **have a good head on your shoulders**, you have a lot of common sense. You are considered sensible and intelligent. Describe someone you know who "has a good head on their shoulders".

13-If you **have a soft spot** in your heart for something, you are fond of them. EX: I have a soft spot for puppies. I just have to pick them up and pet them.
What is something you have a soft spot for?

14-If someone asks to **have a word** with you, they want to talk to you. Usually this is a short talk. EX: I was scared when the boss said he wanted to have a word with me, but when I got in his office he offered me a promotion.

Tell the last “good news” you have heard.

15-I don’t care who wins the ball game. I **have a foot in both camps**. Someone who has a foot in both camps has a relationship with both sides. For example, you may have gone to undergraduate school at one school and graduate school at another. Or in a dispute or fight, you might have a relative on one side and a best friend on the other.

Have you ever been part of a dispute and had a foot in both camps?

Practice with Gerunds and Infinitives.

Remember gerunds are “ing” verbs functioning as nouns. EX: **Listening** to music is relaxing. **Cheating** is wrong. I miss **being** with my family.

Infinitives are the “to” form of the verb which is not acting like a verb in the sentence. EX: I like **to go** to the movies. They asked him **to tell** the truth. She deserves **to win** the prize.

Read these sentences. Some are correct. Some are not. Sometimes there is a gerund where there should be an infinitive and sometimes an infinitive where there should be a gerund. If they are wrong, correct them. If they are right, put a check beside them.

1. I can’t afford buying a new car.
2. They agreed helping us.
3. He wants leaving school early.
4. She challenged me to racing.
5. Her laziness caused her failing.
6. They begged us coming.
7. I asked her not interfering in our business.
8. Let’s postpone leaving until tomorrow.
9. I keep hoping he will call.
10. I dislike to drive long distances.
11. He avoided to answer my calls.
12. Jack hopes passing the test.
13. She claims knowing my sister.
14. He dared me breaking the window.
15. I struggled staying awake.