

A Frequency Analysis of Do You Have and Have You Got

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Abstract

The ultimate goal of this paper is to provide an in-depth analysis of the frequency of *do you have* and *have you got* within the Corpus of Contemporary American English (COCA), the British National Corpus (BNC), and the Corpus of Historical American English (COHA). The COCA clearly indicates that *do you have* is preferred over *have you got* by Americans. With respect to the genre frequency of the COCA, it is worth pointing out that in the TV/movie genre, the type *do you have* is the most widely used one. Likewise, in the TV/movie genre, the type *have you got* is the most commonly used one. The BNC shows, on the other hand, that *have you got* is preferred over *do you have* by British people. This clearly indicates that the type *have you got* is the most preferable one for British people in the spoken genre. Additionally, the COCA clearly shows that the collocation *do you have children* is the most preferred by Americans, followed by *do you have time*, *do you have kids*, *do you have plans*, *do you have evidence*, *do you have family*, *do you have trouble*, and *do you have access*, in that order. The COCA also shows that the collocation *have you got time* is the most preferable one for Americans, followed by *have you got money*, *have you got room*, and *have you got plans*, in that order. With regard to the collocation of nouns along with *do you have* in the BNC, it is important to note that *do you have children* is the most preferable one for British people, followed by *do you have sugar* (*do you have milk*, *do you have problems*), and *do you have faith*, in that order. In addition, it is significant to note that the collocation *do you have children* is the most preferable one for both Americans and British people. With respect to the collocation of *have you got* and nouns in the BNC, it is noteworthy that *have you got time* is the most preferred by British people, followed by *have you got proof* (*have you got money*), and *have you got daddy* (*have you got potatoes*, *have you got news*). Accordingly, the collocation *have you got time* is the most preferable one for both Americans and British people. When it comes to the COHA, it is worthwhile noting that *do you have* reached a peak (1,332 tokens) in 2010. This indicates that it was the most preferable type for Americans. It is significant to note, on the other hand, that *have you got* had the highest frequency (462 tokens) in 1930. From this, it is clear that *have you got* was the most preferred by Americans.

Keywords: do you have, have you got, COCA, BNC, COHA, type, token.

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INTRODUCTION

The main purpose of this paper is to provide a detailed analysis of the frequency of *do you have* and *have you got* in the COCA, BNC, and COHA. We can use *have got* and *have* synonymously. As Murphy (2016, 2019) points out, there is no difference in meaning, as illustrated in (1):

- (1)
- They have a new car. They have got a new car.
 - Lisa has two brothers. Lisa has got two brothers.
 - I have a headache. I have got a headache.
 - Our house has a small garden. Our house has got a small garden.
 - He has a few problems. He has got a few problems.
 - I have a driving lesson tomorrow. I have got a driving lesson tomorrow. (Murphy 2019: 34)

As alluded to in (1), *have got* and *have* indicate possession, relationships, illnesses, and appointments. Note that as pointed out by Murphy (2016, 2019), with these meanings (possession etc.), we do not use continuous forms:

- (2)
- We have a nice room in the hotel.
 - We have got a nice room in the hotel.
 - *We are having a nice room.

In this paper, we aim to consider the frequency of *do you have* and *have you got* in the COCA, BNC, and COHA. We aim to provide a detailed genre analysis of the COCA and BNC. Especially, we examine the national variation of *do you have* and *have you got* in America and the UK. Additionally, we consider the collocation of nouns along with *do you have* and *have*

you got in the COCA and BNC. More specifically, we examine which nouns are frequently used ones along with do you have and have you got in the COCA and BNC. Finally, we provide a frequency analysis of do you have and have you got in the COHA. The organization of this paper is as follows. In section 2.2, we show that do you have is preferred over have you got by Americans. With respect to the genre frequency of do you have and have you got, it is worth pointing out that in the TV/movie genre, the type do you have is the most widely used one. Likewise, the type have you got is the most commonly used one in the TV/movie genre, whereas it has the lowest frequency (10 tokens) and the lowest proportion in the academic genre. In section 2.3, we contend that have you got is preferred over do you have by British people. This clearly indicates that the type have you got is the most preferable one for British people in the spoken genre. In section 2.3, we argue that the collocation do you have children is the most preferred by Americans, followed by do you have time, do you have kids, do you have plans, do you have evidence, do you have family, do you have trouble, and do you have access, in that order. We further argue that the collocation have you got time is the most preferable one for Americans, followed by have you got money, have you got room, and have you got plans, in that order. In section 2.4, we maintain that do you have children is the most preferable one for British people, followed by do you have sugar (do you have milk, do you have problems), and do you have

faith, in that order. It is significant to note that the collocation do you have children is the most preferable one for both Americans and British people. With respect to the collocation of have you got and nouns, it is important to note that have you got time is the most preferred by British people, followed by have you got proof (have you got money), and have you got daddy (have you got potatoes, have you got news). More importantly, the collocation have you got time is the most preferable one for both Americans and British people. In section 2.5, we show that do you have was the preferable one for Americans from 1820 to 2010. In addition, it is worthwhile noting that do you have reached a peak (1,332 tokens) in 2010, which in turn indicates that it was the most preferable type for Americans. It is significant to note, on the other hand, that have you got had the highest frequency (462 tokens) in 1930, which in turn suggests that it was the most preferable type for Americans.

2. A Frequency Analysis of do you have and have you got

2.1. The Frequency of do you have and have you got in the COCA

In the following, we examine the genre frequency of do you have and have you got in the COCA (1990-2019). Table 1 indicates the use and frequency of do you have and have you got in the COCA.

Table-1: Frequency of do you have and have you got in the COCA (1990-2019)

| Type | All | BLOG | WEB | TV/M | SPOK | FIC | MAG | NEWS | ACAD |
|--------------|--------|-------|-------|--------|-------|-------|-------|------|------|
| do you have | 37,434 | 3,193 | 2,522 | 17,014 | 8,359 | 3,972 | 1,383 | 808 | 183 |
| have you got | 3,335 | 90 | 91 | 2,171 | 402 | 483 | 61 | 27 | 10 |

An important question that naturally arises is “which type was frequently used by Americans from 1990 to 2019? Table 1 clearly indicates that the type do you have was commonly used one in America. More specifically, the overall frequency of do you have is 37,434 tokens, whereas that of have you got is 3,335

tokens. This in turn indicates that the type do you have is preferred over the type have you got by Americans. Then why is the type do you have more frequently used than the type have you got? We wish to argue that Americans use have (but not have got) for many actions and experiences. For example:

(3) Table-2: Idioms of have

| | |
|------|---|
| have | breakfast/ dinner/ a cup of coffee/ something to eat a bath/ a shower/ a swim/ a break/ a rest/ a party/ a holiday an accident/ an experience/ a dream a look (at something) a chat/ a discussion/ a conversation (with somebody) trouble/ difficulty/ fun/ a good time etc. a baby (=give birth to a baby) |
|------|---|

(Murphy 2019: 34)

However, have got is not possible in these idioms. This may be why the type do you have is more commonly used one than the type have you got.

Now an immediate question is “in which genre is do you have the most commonly used one?” In the TV/movie genre, the type do you have is the most widely used one. More specifically, the type do you

have has the highest frequency (17,014 tokens) and the highest proportion in the TV/movie genre, whereas it has the lowest frequency (183 tokens) and the lowest proportion in the academic genre. Likewise, the type have you got has the highest frequency (2,171 tokens) and the highest proportion in the TV/movie genre, whereas it has the lowest frequency (10 tokens) and the lowest proportion in the academic genre. Why are the

types do you have and have you got the most preferred by Americans in the TV/movie genre? We wish to argue that celebs and movie stars like to talk about possession, relationships, illnesses, and appointments. Thus, do you have and have you got may be the most preferred by Americans in the TV/movie genre. As observed earlier, do you have and have you got indicate possession, relationships, illnesses, and appointments. Note, however, that do you have and have you got have the lowest frequency in the academic genre. Why does this take place? We wish to argue that the academic genre is supposed to include true information and something true. This may not be suitable for do you have and have you got since they have possession, relationships, illnesses, and appointments in common, hence the lowest frequency in the academic genre.

It is worth noting that the type do you have ranks second in the spoken genre, whereas the type have you got ranks second in the fiction genre. This in turn suggests that Americans tend to say possession, relationships, illnesses, appointments, meals, and good wishes in daily conversation. On the other hand, that the type have you got ranks second in the fiction genre suggests that American writers like using have you got in order to say possession, relationships, illnesses, and appointments.

Note that the type do you have ranks third in the fiction genre, whereas the type have you got ranks third in the spoken genre. Interestingly, the type do you have ranks second in the spoken genre, whereas it ranks third in the fiction genre. On the other hand, the type have you got is the second most preferred one in the fiction genre, whereas it is the third most preferred one in the spoken genre. This in turn suggests that the type

do you have is less preferred in fictions, whereas the type has you got is less preferred in daily conversation. It is worthwhile noting that the type do you have is preferred over the type have you got by Americans in all genres. Why does this happen? We wish to argue that Americans are fond of talking about meals, funny things, parties, and good wishes which belong to the idioms of do you have. However, the type have you got does not carry these, thus leading to the low frequency.

It is interesting to note that the type do you have ranks fourth in the blog genre, whereas the type have you got ranks fourth in the web genre. The blog is an online journal where bloggers write something about personal experiences or hobbies. It is suitable for conveying possession, relationships, illnesses, appointments, meals, parties, and good wishes, thus resulting in the high frequency. On the other hand, the web provides all kinds of information and knowledge. The reason why the type have you got has the high frequency in the web genre is that it carries possession, relationships, and illnesses that the web provides. However, information such as meals, parties, trouble, and good wishes is not included in the web genre since have you got does not carry these idioms.

2.2. The Frequency of do you have and have you got in the BNC

In what follows, we aim to consider the frequency of do you have and have you got in the BNC (1980s-1993). Especially, we compare results from the COCA and those from the BNC in order to observe the national variation. Table 2 indicates the use and frequency of do you have and have you got in the BNC (1980s-1993).

Table-3: Frequency of do you have and have you got in the BNC (1980s-1993)

| Type | All | SPOKEN | FICTION | MAGAZINE | NEWSPAPER | NON-ACAD | ACADEMIC | MISC |
|--------------|-------|--------|---------|----------|-----------|----------|----------|------|
| do you have | 1,021 | 469 | 298 | 66 | 23 | 37 | 17 | 111 |
| have you got | 1,848 | 1,461 | 298 | 23 | 11 | 12 | 6 | 37 |

An immediate question that naturally arises is “which type is preferred by British people?” Table 3 clearly indicates that the type have you got is preferred by British people. More specifically, the overall frequency of have you got is 1,848 tokens in the BNC, whereas that of do you have is 1,021 tokens. As observed earlier, the type do you have is preferred over the type have you got by Americans. Conversely, the type have you got is preferred over do you have by British people. This in turn suggests that the type do you have is the preferable one for Americans, whereas the type has you got is the preferable one for British people.

An important question is “in which genre is do you have and have you got the most widely used ones?” Table 3 clearly shows that in daily conversation, do you

have and have you got are the most frequently used ones. More specifically, the frequency of do you have in the spoken genre is 469 tokens, whereas that of have you got is 1,461 tokens. As observed earlier, do you have and have you got are the most preferable ones for Americans in the TV/movie genre. This in turn implies that in the TV/movie genre, do you have and have you got are the most preferred ones in America, whereas in the spoken genre, do you have and have you got are the most preferred ones in the UK. Noteworthy is that in the spoken genre, have you got is preferred over do you have by British people. This clearly indicates that British people like using have you got which carries possession, relationships, illnesses, and appointments rather than do you have which carries the same meanings.

It is interesting to note that do you have ranks second in the fiction genre. Just as in the case of do you have, have you got ranks second in the fiction genre. This in turn suggests that British writers like using do you have and have you got in their fictions. That is, this indicates that British writers like writing possession, relationships, illnesses, appointments, meals, trouble, parties, and good wishes in their fictions. As observed earlier, do you have is the second most preferred one in the spoken genre of the COCA. On the other hand, have you got is the second most preferred one in the fiction genre of the COCA. This in turn implies that Americans like using do you have in the spoken genre, whereas American writers like using have you got in their fictions.

It is worthwhile noting that the type do you have ranks third in the magazine genre. Just as in the case of do you have, had you got is the third most preferred one in the magazine genre. This may imply that British journalists are fond of using do you have and have you got in their magazines. As observed earlier, do you have is the third most preferred one in the fiction genre of the COCA, whereas have you got is the third most preferred one in the spoken genre of the

COCA. The results from the COCA and BNC show that Americans and British people show the different pattern with respect to the use of do you have and have you got.

It is interesting to note that do you have ranks fourth in the non-academic genre. Just as in the case of do you have, have you got ranks fourth in the non-academic genre. The frequency of do you have and have you got is 37 tokens and 12 tokens, respectively. The academic genre is supposed to include true information and something true. Thus, do you have and have you got have the lowest frequency in the academic genre (17 tokens and 6 tokens, respectively). Consequently, it seems reasonable to assume that for this reason, the frequency of do you have and have you got in the non-academic genre is higher than that of do you have and have you got in the academic genre.

2.3. The Collocation of do you have and have you got in the COCA

In what follows, we aim to examine the collocation of do you have and nouns in the COCA. Table 4 shows the frequency of the collocation of do you have and nouns in the COCA:

Table-4: Collocation of do you have and nouns

| Number | Collocation of do you have and nouns | Frequency |
|--------|--------------------------------------|-----------|
| 1 | Do you have children | 181 |
| 2 | Do you have time | 174 |
| 3 | Do you have kids | 93 |
| 4 | Do you have plans | 83 |
| 5 | Do you have evidence | 65 |
| 6 | Do you have family | 59 |
| 7 | Do you have trouble | 55 |
| 8 | Do you have access | 54 |
| 9 | Do you have questions | 49 |
| 10 | Do you have proof | 48 |
| 11 | Do you have information | 48 |
| 12 | Do you have confidence | 41 |
| 13 | Do you have faith | 37 |
| 14 | Do you have friends | 28 |

An important question is “which noun is the most frequently used one along with do you have in America?” Table 4 clearly shows that the collocation do you have children is the most commonly used one in America. More specifically, the collocation do you have children has the highest frequency (181 tokens) and the highest proportion. This in turn indicates that the collocation do you have children is the most preferred by Americans. As alluded to in Table 4, the collocation do you have children is the most preferred by Americans, followed by do you have time, do you have kids, do you have plans, do you have evidence, do you have family, do you have trouble, and do you have access, in that order. It is interesting to note that the

everyday expression do you have time is the most preferable one for Americans after the collocation do you have children. It is worth pointing out that the collocation do you have plans is the fourth most preferred one in America. It is worth pointing out that the everyday expression does you have questions ranks ninth, which indicates that Americans are fond of saying this collocation.

In the following, we aim to examine the collocation of have you got and nouns in the COCA. Table 5 indicates the frequency of the collocation of have you got and nouns in the COCA:

Table-5: Collocation of have you got and nouns

| Number | Collocation of have you got and nouns | Frequency |
|--------|---------------------------------------|-----------|
| 1 | Have you got time | 12 |
| 2 | Have you got money | 5 |
| 3 | Have you got room | 4 |
| 4 | Have you got plans | 3 |
| 5 | Have you got cooking | 3 |
| 6 | Have you got kids | 3 |
| 7 | Have you got change | 3 |
| 8 | Have you got eyes | 2 |
| 9 | Have you got company | 2 |
| 10 | Have you got cravings | 2 |
| 11 | Have you got names | 2 |
| 12 | Have you got soul | 2 |
| 13 | Have you got weapons | 1 |
| 14 | Have you got water | 1 |
| 15 | Have you got video | 1 |

An immediate question is “which noun is the most widely used one along with have you got in America?” Table 5 indicates that the collocation have you got time is the most commonly used one in America. More specifically, the collocation have you got time has the highest frequency (12 tokens) and the highest proportion. This in turn implies that the collocation have you got time is the most preferred by Americans. As illustrated in Table 5, the collocation have you got time is the most preferable one for Americans, followed by have you got money, have you got room, and have you got plans, in that order. Interestingly, the everyday expression have you got

money is the second most preferred one in America. Again, the everyday expression have you got plans ranks fourth. It is worthwhile noting that the collocation have you got company ranks fifth. We thus conclude that the collocation have you got time is the most preferable one for Americans.

2.4. The Collocation of do you have and have you got in the BNC

In what follows, we aim to consider the collocation of do you have and nouns. Table 6 shows the collocation of nouns along with do you have in the BNC:

Table-6: Collocation of do you have and nouns

| Number | Collocation of do you have and nouns | Frequency |
|--------|--------------------------------------|-----------|
| 1 | Do you have children | 6 |
| 2 | Do you have sugar | 3 |
| 3 | Do you have milk | 3 |
| 4 | Do you have problems | 3 |
| 5 | Do you have faith | 2 |
| 6 | Do you have kids | 2 |
| 7 | Do you have time | 2 |
| 8 | Do you have trouble | 2 |
| 9 | Do you have write-ups | 1 |
| 10 | Do you have trumps | 1 |
| 11 | Do you have tools | 1 |
| 12 | Do you have tobacco | 1 |
| 13 | Do you have tea-bags | 1 |
| 14 | Do you have tea | 1 |

An immediate question is “which noun is the most frequently used one with do you have in the BNC?” Table 6 clearly indicates that the collocation do you have children is the most widely used one in the UK. More specifically, do you have children has the highest frequency (6 tokens) and the highest proportion. This in turn implies that the collocation do you have children is the most preferred by British people. As indicated in Table 6, do you have children is the most

preferable one for British people, followed by do you have sugar (do you have milk, do you have problems), and do you have faith, in that order. It is significant to note that the collocation do you have children is the most preferable one for both Americans and British people. The everyday expression do you have time is the second most preferred one in America. On the other hand, it is the seventh most preferred one in the UK. Interestingly, the collocation do you have trouble ranks

seventh in America, whereas it ranks eighth in the UK.

In the following, we examine the collocation

of have you got and nouns in the BNC. Table 7 shows the frequency of the collocation of have you got and nouns:

Table-7: Collocation of have you got and nouns

| Number | Collocation of have you got and nouns | Frequency |
|--------|---------------------------------------|-----------|
| 1 | Have you got time | 7 |
| 2 | Have you got proof | 3 |
| 3 | Have you got money | 3 |
| 4 | Have you got daddy | 2 |
| 5 | Have you got potatoes | 2 |
| 6 | Have you got news | 2 |
| 7 | Have you got prep | 1 |
| 8 | Have you got you | 1 |
| 9 | Have you got YA | 1 |
| 10 | Have you got Whitsun | 1 |
| 11 | Have you got whisky | 1 |
| 12 | Have you got water | 1 |
| 13 | Have you got Venos | 1 |
| 14 | Have you got trespassers | 1 |
| 15 | Have you got Ne | 1 |

An important question is “which noun is the most commonly used one along with have you got in the UK?” Table 7 clearly shows that the collocation have you got time is the most widely used one in the UK. Specifically, have you got time has the highest frequency (7 tokens) and the highest proportion. This in turn suggests that have you got time is the most preferable one for British people. As alluded to in Table 7, have you got time is the most preferred by British people, followed by have you got proof (have you got money), and have you got daddy (have you got potatoes, have you got news), in that order. It is significant to note that the collocation have you got time is the most preferable one for both Americans and British people. The everyday expression have you got money is the second most preferred one in America, whereas it is the third most preferred one in the UK. It is worthwhile noting that the everyday expression has you got water ranks fourteenth in America, whereas it ranks twelfth in the UK. We thus conclude that do you have children is the most preferable one for both Americans and British people and that have you got time is the most preferred by both Americans and British people.

2.5. The Frequency of do you have and have you got in the COHA

In this section, we aim to consider the frequency of do you have and have you got in the COHA (1820-2010). Table 8 indicates the use and frequency of do you have and have you got in the COHA:

Table-8: Frequency of do you have and have you got in the COHA (1820-2010)

| Type | do you have | have you got |
|------|-------------|--------------|
| 1820 | 1 | 9 |
| 1830 | 3 | 22 |
| 1840 | 5 | 52 |
| 1850 | 5 | 89 |
| 1860 | 10 | 102 |
| 1870 | 23 | 122 |
| 1880 | 8 | 103 |
| 1890 | 18 | 98 |
| 1900 | 21 | 113 |
| 1910 | 31 | 178 |
| 1920 | 47 | 146 |
| 1930 | 174 | 462 |
| 1940 | 276 | 362 |
| 1950 | 568 | 378 |
| 1960 | 851 | 354 |
| 1970 | 938 | 324 |
| 1980 | 945 | 239 |
| 1990 | 1259 | 188 |
| 2000 | 1286 | 131 |
| 2010 | 1332 | 117 |
| All | 7,801 | 3,589 |

An important question that naturally arises is “which type was the preferable one for Americans?” Table 8 clearly indicates that do you have was the preferable one for Americans from 1820 to 2010. More specifically, the overall frequency of do you have is 7,801 tokens, whereas that of have you got is 3,589 tokens. This in turn indicates that the type do you have was preferred over the type have you got by Americans for one hundred and ninety years.

There was a steady increase in the frequency of do you have from 1820 to 1870. More specifically, there was a rise of 22 tokens in that period. However, there was a decline of 15 tokens from 1870 to 1880. Interestingly, there was a dramatic rise after a gradual increase in the frequency of do you have from 1880 to 2010. That is to say, there was an increase of 1,324 tokens from 1880 to 2010, which implies that the type do you have was the preferable one for Americans. It is worthwhile noting that do you have had the lowest frequency (1 token) in 1820, which in turn suggests that it was the most undesired type. On the other hand, it is noteworthy that do you have reached a peak (1,332 tokens) in 2010, which in turn indicates that it was the most preferable type for Americans.

There was a steady increase in the frequency of have you got from 1820 to 1870. Simply put, there was a rise of 113 tokens from 1820 to 1870. After this period, there were fluctuations in the frequency of have you got from 1880 to 1940. There was a gradual decline in the frequency of have you got from 1950 to 2010. That is to say, there was a decrease of 261 tokens from 1950 to 2010. It is important to note that have you got had the lowest frequency (9 tokens) in 1820, which in turn implies that it was the most undesired type. It is significant to note, on the other hand, that have you got had the highest frequency (462 tokens) in 1930, which in turn suggests that it was the most preferable type for Americans.

3. CONCLUSION

To sum up, we have provided a detailed analysis of the frequency of do you have and have you got within the COCA, BNC, and COHA. In section 2.2, we have shown that do you have is preferred over have you got by Americans. With respect to the genre frequency of do you have and have you got in the COCA, it is worth pointing out that in the TV/movie genre, the type do you have is the most widely used one. Likewise, the type have you got is the most commonly used one in the TV/movie genre, whereas it has the lowest frequency (10 tokens) and the lowest proportion in the academic genre. In section 2.3, we have shown that have you got is preferred over do you have by British people. This clearly indicates that the type have you got is the most preferable one for British people in the spoken genre. In section 2.3, we have argued that the collocation do you have children is the

most preferred by Americans, followed by do you have time, do you have kids, do you have plans, do you have evidence, do you have family, do you have trouble, and do you have access, in that order. We have further argued that the collocation have you got time is the most preferable one for Americans, followed by have you got money, have you got room, and have you got plans, in that order. In section 2.4, we have contended that do you have children is the most preferable one for British people, followed by do you have sugar (do you have milk, do you have problems), and do you have faith, in that order. It is significant to note that the collocation do you have children is the most preferable one for both Americans and British people. We have also maintained that have you got time is the most preferred by British people, followed by have you got proof (have you got money), and have you got daddy (have you got potatoes, have you got news), in that order. It is important to note that the collocation have you got time is the most preferable one for both Americans and British people. In section 2.5, we have contended that do you have was the preferable one for Americans from 1820 to 2010. It is worthwhile noting that do you have had the lowest frequency (1 token) in 1820, which in turn suggests that it was the most undesired type. It is noteworthy, on the other hand, that do you have reached a peak (1,332 tokens) in 2010, which in turn indicates that it was the most preferable type for Americans. Finally, it is important to note that have you got had the lowest frequency (9 tokens) in 1820, which in turn implies that it was the most undesired type. It is significant to note, on the other hand, that have you got had the highest frequency (462 tokens) in 1930, which in turn suggests that it was the most preferred by Americans.

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