



Learn English Through Stories

T Series

Upper - Intermediate

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Banta Learning Present Tenses 1 by K S Sandhu

Lucy's New Life at Art College

Hi everyone. Well, here I am at Art College, and I'm quite homesick already. I didn't expect this melancholy feeling at all – it's like a quiet sadness that follows me around the new city. I miss our old chats and lazy weekends together!

I have got a small room in a spacious apartment shared with five other students. The apartment is modern and bright, with large windows that let in lots of light. It has got a really big kitchen – perfect for cooking big meals – but unfortunately it doesn't have a dishwasher or a washing machine. We have to wash everything by hand, which is a bit annoying!

Two rooms are still empty at the moment. The new people are coming this weekend, so things will get busier soon. Two of the girls who live here now aren't very sociable. They just stay in their rooms most of the time and don't talk much. But Chris is different – she is lovely and friendly. She has got long dark hair and resembles Angelina Jolie a little. We get on really well. On Saturday we are having a dinner party. Each of us is inviting three more people, so it is going to be fun and noisy!

My timetable isn't too full yet. I have got about five lectures each week and eight practical classes. The lessons are interesting, but sometimes tiring. I have a lot of drawing and painting to do at home too.

Back home, things sound busy as usual. Simon and Jo still have those violent arguments every now and then – I hope they are okay. I have got an awful cold right now, so I am drinking lots of tea and staying in bed when I can. Peter doesn't have breakfast most mornings, does he? That's not good for energy!

How are you all? Does Fiona still have a shower before breakfast every day? Have you got any news? The boss wants to have a word with someone? Oh, and tell me about Sanjeev – does he still have dark hair and that cool beard? Karren Brady is a director of a football club now, isn't she? She hasn't got an easy job!

Oh, I almost forgot – one of my new flatmates is an accountant in a small finance company. He is 29, Irish, married, and has got two young children. He is quite tall (1.82m) and has blond hair. He seems nice so far.

Write back soon – I really need to hear from you!

Love, Lucy

Questions:

Question 1: Why does Lucy feel melancholy at the moment?

Question 2: What does the apartment have, and what doesn't it have in the kitchen?

Question 3: How does Lucy describe Chris, and who does she resemble?

Question 4: What are Lucy and her flatmates planning for Saturday?

Question 5: What job does one of Lucy's new flatmates have, and what does he look like?

Answers:

Answer 1: Lucy feels melancholy because she is quite homesick and misses her friends and old life (she didn't expect to feel this way at Art College).

Answer 2: The apartment has a really big kitchen, but it doesn't have a dishwasher or a washing machine.

Answer 3: Lucy describes Chris as lovely and friendly. She has got long dark hair and resembles Angelina Jolie a little.

Answer 4: They are going to have a dinner party on Saturday, and each of them is inviting three more people.

Answer 5: One of her new flatmates is an accountant in a small finance company. He is 29, Irish, married, quite tall (1.82 m), and has blond hair (and he has got two young children).

26 be, have and have got

1 be

POSITIVE	<i>I am ('m) English. You are ('re) early. She is ('s) a teacher. They are ('re) ill.</i>
NEGATIVE	<i>I am ('m) not French. He is not (isn't) a tennis player. We are not (aren't) from here.</i>
QUESTIONS	<i>Are you English? (No, I'm not.) Are they interesting? (Yes, they are.) Why is it a good job?</i>



This **is** Karren Brady. She **'s** married and she **has** two children. She **'s** also a top business person and a director of West Ham Football Club.

NATURAL ENGLISH In speech and informal writing, we usually use short forms e.g. *I'm, she's, he isn't, we aren't*. For negative questions with *I am*, we use *aren't I*: *Why aren't I on the list?*

We use the verb *be* to talk about

- people and things: *This is Karren Brady. Gimmy is very attractive.*
- current states: *It's really hot at the moment. She's married. I'm homesick.*
- qualities (adjectives): *My car is Japanese. My children aren't rude! I'm 1.75 metres tall.*
- opinions: *This book is boring. Musicals are very popular.*
- position/location and time: *My flat's close to the city centre. It's two o'clock.*
- someone's job/position: *Karren Brady is a business person. We're students.*

Pronunciation > 1.08

2 have and have got

POSITIVE	<i>I have two brothers. She has a sports car. They have a huge house.</i>	<i>I have ('ve) got two brothers. She has ('s) got a sports car. They have ('ve) got a huge house.</i>
NEGATIVE	<i>I do not (don't) have a sister. He does not (doesn't) have a motorbike. We do not (don't) have an apartment.</i>	<i>I have not (haven't) got a sister. He has not (hasn't) got a motorbike. We have not (haven't) got an apartment.</i>
QUESTIONS	<i>Do you have a niece? (Yes, I do.) Does she have a cat? (No, she doesn't.) Why do they have two cars?</i>	<i>Have you got a niece? (Yes, I have.) Has she got a cat? (No, she hasn't.) Why have they got two cars?</i>

Pronunciation > 1.09

We use forms of *have*, not *have got*, with past and future tenses:

- X When I was a child I had got a pet cat. ✓ When I was a child I had a pet cat.*
X One day we will have got our own house. ✓ One day we will have our own house.

We use both *have* and *have got* to talk about

- relationships: *I've got two brothers. She has two children.*
- possessions: *I've got a good camera. Do they have a lot of money?*
- features: *Everyone in my family has got dark hair. The apartment doesn't have a garden.*
- illness: *Sandra's got a cold. Does the baby have a temperature?*
- appointments: *I have an exam tomorrow. Has Fiona got an interview at Oxford?*

We can also use *have* + noun (but not *have got*) to talk about some things we do.

- hygiene and appearance: *have a haircut/a shower/a bath/a wash/a shave*
- food and drink: *have lunch/an evening meal/a snack/a drink/a meal out*
- experiences: *have fun/a good time/a bad time*
- special events: *have a party/a celebration/a holiday/a trip*
- activity (or lack of): *have a walk/a run/a swim/a sleep/a rest/a break*
- communication: *have a talk/a conversation/an argument/a word (with)*

Jack can't come to the phone; he's having a shower. I always have a good time at parties. Listen to that noise! The neighbours are having a party! I'm tired – let's have a break.

American English *have/have got* > page 352

Practice

- 1 Complete the sentences with a form of *be*, *have* or *have got*. Put two answers if both *have* and *have got* are possible. 🎧 2.51 Listen and check.

- 0 Karren Brady *'s* a director of a football club.
 00 She *doesn't have* / *hasn't got* (not) an easy job.
 1 Simon and Jo often violent arguments!
 2 I / an awful cold at the moment.
 3 Peter (not) breakfast most mornings.
 4 It really cold outside today.
 5 you / you a sister?
 6 They a New Year's party every year.
 7 Fiona a shower before breakfast every morning.
 8 The boss wants to a word with you.
 9 that book interesting?
 10 Sanjeev / Sanjeev dark hair?

- 2 **GRAMMAR IN USE** Read the email and choose the correct words in *italics>. In five places, both answers are possible. 🎧 2.52 Listen and check.*


Subject Missing you!

Hi guys
 Well, here I (0) *am* / *are* at art college now, and I'm missing you all! You know, (1) *I'm* / *I've got* quite homesick – I didn't expect that at all.
 (2) *I've got* / *I have* a room in an apartment with five other students. The apartment is quite big and it (3) *is* / *has* very nice. It's got a big kitchen, but it (4) *doesn't have* / *hasn't got* a dishwasher or washing machine!
 Two of the rooms (5) *have got* / *are* still empty – I expect those people will come at the weekend.
 Two of the other girls here (6) *aren't* / *don't have* very friendly; they just stay in their rooms. But the other girl – Chris – is lovely. (7) *She's got* / *She has* long dark hair and looks a bit like Angelina Jolie. On Saturday we're going to (8) *have got* / *have* a dinner party – we're each going to find three more people to invite!
 My timetable isn't too full – (9) *I've got* / *I have* about five lectures each week and eight classes. Enough about me! How are you all? (10) *Have you got* / *Do you have* any news for me?
 Love, Lucy

- 3 **GRAMMAR IN USE** Look at the notes about Martin O'Donnell and complete the sentences.

His name *is Martin O'Donnell*. He
 He He and he's
 got He tall and
 he
 He

Martin O'Donnell, 29, Irish, married with two children.
 1.82m, blond hair & beard.
 Accountant in small finance company



Answers

UNIT 26

- 1** 1 have 2 have/have got 3 doesn't have
4 's 5 Have ... got/Do ... have 6 have 7 has
8 have 9 Is 10 Has ... got/Does ... have
- 2** 1 I'm 2 I've got/I have 3 is 4 doesn't have/
hasn't got 5 are 6 aren't 7 She's got/She
has 8 have 9 I've got/I have 10 Have you got/
Do you have
- 3** He's 29. He's Irish. He's married and he's got two
children. He's 1.82m tall and he's got/he has blond
hair and a beard. He's an accountant in a small
finance company.