Composite Predicates with *Have* and *Take* in Caxton’s Works and Marjory Kempe---the Origin of Dynamic *Have*

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1. Introduction

I have tried to specify when the verb *have* became dynamic (Quirk et al. 1985: 178) as in *have supper, breakfast, dinner*, and so on, (Matsumoto 2001, 2002 a& b). In (Matsumoto 2002a and b), I concluded that dynamic *have* might have developed in English. This conclusion coincidents with the conclusion by Peter Trudgill, Terttu Nevalainen & Ilse Wischer (2002). Before I begin to start this paper, I have to explain briefly the background of this study. Since 1984, I have studied Composite Predicates(Cattell 1984)(abbreviated as CPs) which are verbal structures of a “light verb” *do/give/make/have/take* + deverbal noun (e.g., *do a report, give an answer, make a call, have a drink, take a guess*) (Brinton and Akimoto 1999). The dynamic *have* is included in this study.

I used Chaucer and Malory as data in (Matsumoto 2002a) and Gower in (Matsumoto 2002b). In Chaucer and Gower, the dynamic use of *have* is found, but not in Malory. In this paper, I would like to extend my study for my research of the origin of dynamic *have* from Middle English(ME) through Late Modern English(Late ModE), paying special attention to the distinction between a state and an event, and idiomatization of CPs in ME data. As for ME data, Caxton’s works (*The History of Reynard The Fox, Caxton’s Blanchardyn and Eglantine, The Book of the Knight of the Tower*), and Marjory Kempe are included in this research as well as Chaucer and Malory.

2. Origin of dynamic *have*

2.1 Dynamic *have* in Middle English

In (Matsumoto 2002a and b), I showed several examples of dynamic *have* in Chaucer (1a-b) and Gower (1c-d). I will add a new example of dynamic *have* in Marjory Kempe (2) to examples of Chaucer and Gower (1a-d). In Malory and Caxton’s works, any examples of dynamic *have* are not found. Malory and Caxton’s works originated from French works. I concluded in (Matsumoto 2002a and b) that dynamic *have* might have evolved itself in English. Chaucer and Marjory Kempe used Dynamic *have* in their works as in (1a-b) and (2). In this paper I would like to insist that dynamic *have* might have come from English itself as shown in (Matsumoto 2002a and b).
(1)(a) And which of yow that bereth hym best of alle---
That is to sayn, that telleth in this caas
Tales of best sentence and moost solaas---
Shal have a sooper at oure aller cost
Heere in this place, sittyng by this post,
When that we come again fro Caunterbury.  (Chaucer, *CT.Prol.A.* 796-801)
`And whichever of you behaves best of all,
that is to say, that tells, in this case,
tales of best significance and most amusement,
shall have a supper at the cost of
all us here in this place, sitting by this post,
when we come back from Canterbury.  (Ichikawa & Matsunami 1987:94)

(b) *Have now good nyght*, and lat us bothe slepe.  (Chaucer, *TC* 3.421)
`Have now a good night, and let us both sleep`

(c) Bot he seith often, *Have good day.*  (Gower, *CA* 4.2814)
`But he often says, “Have a good day,”’

(d) Wher that thei hadde a riche feste,  (Gower, *CA* 1.814)
`Where they had a rich feast’

(2) þan, pis creatur preyng for hyr, owyr Lord seyd, “Sche xal not deyn þis x 3er, for 3e schal aftyr
þis makyn ful mery to-gedyr & han ful good comunycacyon as 3e han had be-for.”  (*Mkempe*,
Chap.23.  54.22-26)
`Then while this creature was praying for her, our Lord said, ‘She shall not die these ten years,
for after this you will celebrate together and have excellent talks, as you have had before.’
(translated by B.A.Windeatt)

2.2 Dynamic *have* in Early Modern English and Late Modern English

(3a-b) belong to Early Modern English, and (4a-f), (5a-b) and (6a-b )to Late Modern English.

(3)(a) SECURITY: Nay, good Madam, this night I have a short supper at home waits on his
worship’s acception.

GERTRUDE: By my faith, but he shall not go, sir; I shall swoon and he sup from me.
(1605 Ben Jonson, George Chapman, and John Marston, *Eastward Ho!* 213)
(b) She does not doubt but tho you had a sad supper, you will have a joyfull breakfast. (1606 George Chapman, Sir Gyles Goosecappe: Knight Actus Primus Scaena Tertia from the Chadwyck-Healey All English Drama)

(4)(a) . . . , where the rogue had a most noble supper, (1710-13 Swift, Journal 55)
(b) . . . ; but we only had a scurvy dinner at an ale house, (1710-13 Swift, Journal 94)
(c) Walls will have her tea soon; (1710-13 Swift, Journal 322)
(d) . . . ; I have proposed to some Lds that we should have a sober Meal with him, but I cant compass it. (1710-13 Swift, Journal 322)
(e) . . . came thither, only that being his former Guess, we would have our Wedding supper at his House. (1722 Defoe, Moll Flanders I 180-239; from the Chadwyck-Healey 18th Century Fiction)
(f) . . . invited him in, and gave him and five Men he had with him, a very good dinner, and he invited the . . . (1720 Defoe, Captain Singleton; from the Chadwyck-Healey 18th Century Fiction)

(5)(a) . . . , and I hope Mrs. Walls had a good time. (1710-13 Swift, Journal 120)
(b) We have a musick meeting . . . (1710-13 Swift, Journal 208)

(6)(a) . . ., I would have some little conversation with MD . . ., (1710-13 Swift, Journal 231)
(b) . . ., by the way of Geneva, that he may have a conference with his friend Voltaire, (1771 Smolett, EHC 186)

2.3 Summary

The dynamic have seems to have appeared in ME at first, and then in Early ModE, and increased in Late ModE. In ME Chaucer, Gower, and Mkmpe have got examples of dynamic have, but Malory and Caxton haven't. Chaucer was a bilingual, and Marjory Kempe could neither read nor write, but Gower was a man who was living in the same era as Chaucer was. We cannot ignore French influence on English in ME, but I would like to insist on the development of English apart from French. I suppose that dynamic have comes from English.


Peter Trudgill, Terttu Nevalainen and Ilse Wischer interrogated in (Section 7: Connections) whether they could relate the loss of the distinction in grammatical behaviour between dynamic
and stative *have* in North American English to the apparent lack of development of dynamism in the meaning of main verb *have* generally as illustrated in the use of other dynamic verbs in these restricted collocations (2002: 12). There’s a contrast, as confirmed by Biber et al. (1999: 162, 216), between North American English *Do you have (any) coffee (in the cupboard)*? And traditional English *Have you (any) coffee (in the cupboard)*? (Trudgill, Nevalainen and Wischer 2002: 3). They interpreted that because *have* in North American English is lacking in dynamism, it is possible to say *Do they have coffee in the cupboard*? without addresses imagining coffee-drinking taking place in extraordinary places (ibid., 12). I think that North American English and British English have developed in a different way.

4. State vs. event distinction in Caxton’s works and *MKempe*

*Have cold* and *have love* are found in *Mkempe*, but *take cold* and *take love* are neither found in *Mkempe* nor in Caxton’s works. In Caxton’s works only *have love* is found. In Chaucer *have cold* is found, and in Malory the distinction between a state and an event can be seen in *have/take cold* (7) (Matsumoto 2002a: 320). In Caxton (*KT*), *take the possession of* shows the inchoativity (8). According to (Hiltunen 1999: 137), Kruisinga (1932: 200) explains that groups of *have* with a verbal abstract often denote the personal feeling connected action, sometimes the inchoative aspect (e.g., *to take possession of*). In Chaucer the example with *have possessioun* of showing a state is found in (9).

(7)(a) ‘. . . lat us kepe oure stronge-walled townys untyll they have hunger and colde, and . . .’

(Malory, Wks. 1211/25-26)

‘. . . : let us keep our strong-walled towns until they are hungry and feel cold, and, . . .’

(b) ‘. . . But now go again lightly; for thy longe tarryng putth me in grete jouperte of my lyff, for I have takyn colde. . . .’ (Malory, Wks. 1239/33)

‘. . . But now go again quickly; for your tarrying for a long time put me in danger of losing my life, for I have caught a chill. . . .’

(8) . . . / This queen toke the possession of all the reame and goodes/

(Caxton, *KT* 98)

‘This queen took possession of all the realm and goods’

(9) But I wolde have fully possessioun of Emelye, (Chaucer, *A.Kn.* 2242)

‘But I wanted to have Emelye firmly,’ (*MED*, s.v. *possessioun*, def. 1[c])
5. Idiomatization of CPs in Caxton’s works and M kempe

CPs with have showing mental activity occur both in Caxton’s works and M kempe: have desire, have enuye (of)(at), have knowlche/knowledge, have mercy (of)(on), have pytel/pity (of)(on), have sorowe, and have trust in/on. Take heed/hede, and take vengeaunce (on) are found both in Caxton’s works and M kempe. These CPs with have and take seem to be fixed in ME. Whether CPs can take article or not is one of conditions of idiomatization of CPs. Example (8) takes the definite article as in toke the possession of.

6. Conclusion

The dynamic have can be found in Chaucer, Gower and Marjory Kempe, but not found in Malory. We cannot talk about a history of English without French influence. But if we can assume that the origin of dynamic have comes from English, we can see a powerful possibility existing in English and a different way of development of English apart from French.

#(I would like to express my gratitude for Ilse Wischer who gave me a question on the origin of dynamic have and encouraged me to continue my studying on Composite Predicates from a historical point of view at the 11th International Conference in English Historical Linguistics, Santiago de Compostela, Spain, September 2000.)

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Texts


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Appendix: All CPs with *have* in M kempe and Caxton’s works

(* shows the CPs found both in M kempe and Caxton’s works)

As for CPs with *have* in Chaucer and Malory, see (Matsumoto 2002a).

CPs with *have* in M kempe:

* have abhominacyon of (2)
* have affeccyon to (3)
* have answer (2)
* have audience (1)
* have care (1)
* have charite (4)
* have chere (12)
* have colde (1)
* have comfort (5)
* have communicacioun (1)[dynamic *have]*
* have compassion (35)
* have conceit(e (1)
* have confidence (2)
* have contemplacioun (5)
* have contricioun* (3)
* have counsel (1)
* have coveitise (1)
* have crie (2)
* have crying (1) [crien criing]
* have deinte of (2)
* have delite* (1)
* have desyr* (15)
* have despit* (2)
have devocioun* (9)
have dise (3)
have dreed/dred (13)
have enemite (1)
have envie* (3)
have favour (2)
have feith*(5)/ have feyth/faith (5)
have feling(e (6)
have fer* (1)
have gladness (1)
have grace (6)
have harm* (1)
have help (1)
have hevinesse (2)
have indignacioun* (1)
have joy*(8)
have knouing(e (3)
have knowlech(e* (15)
have letting(e (1)
have leve* (10)
have love* (11)
have lust* (2)
have meditacioun (5)
have meeknesse (1)
have merci* (9)[crien merci]
have merveille* (13)
have mende (17)
have morninge (1)
have need* (4)
have pacience* (2)
have pein(e (5)
have pite* (6)
have pouer(e (3)
have preising(e (1)
have pride (1)
have quiet(e (1)
have recone (2)
have reste (2)
have reuth(e (2)
have scorn (1)
have sermoun (1)
have shame* (2)
have sight(e (3)
have solas (1)
have sorwe* (23)
have sorwing(e (1)
have swetenesse (4)
have tendernesse (2)
have thirst (1)
have thought* (4)
have tribulacioun (1)
have trouble*(1)
have trust* (9)
have understanding* (6)
have vexation (1)
have victory (1)
have will(e (2)
have wonder (12)
have worshipe*(1)
have wound* (1)
have yernyng (1)

CPs with take in M kempe:
take counsell* (1)
take dred(e (1)
take exaemple* (2)
take favour (1)  
take hed (11)  
take hevinesse (1)  
take journei* (2)  
take leve* (32)  
take lond (1)  
take place (1)  
take se (3)  
take ship (2)  
take sorwe* (2)  
take vengeance* (6)  
take violence (1)  
take wei* (4)  
take witnesse (3)  

CPs with have in Caxton:  
have abhomycacion (of): (2)[KT]  
have accounte: (1)[BE]  
have aduys: (1)[BE]  
have anger: (1)[BE]  
have appetite: (1)[KT]  
have bisinesse: (1)[BE]  
have blame: (2)[KT]  
have care: (1)[BE]  
have the choys: (1)[RF]  
have compassion of/on: (2)[RF]; (4)[BE]  
have confidence in: (1)[KT]; (1)[BE]  
have consideracioun: (1)[BE]  
have contricion*: (1)[KT]  
have corage: (1)[BE]  
have counciel/counsel: (1)[RF]; (1)[BE]  
have cure: (1)[KT]  
have delyte/delite*: (4)[KT]
have desdayne: (3)[KT]
have desire/desire*: (3)[KT]; (2)[RF]; (6)[BE]
have despit(e)*: (2)[KT]
have deuocion toward*: (2)[KT]
have diffame: (1)[KT]
have displaysyre: (4)[BE]
have dolour: (1)[KT]
have doubt(e): (4)[KT]; (1)[BE]
have dred(d)e: (7)[KT]; (1)[BE]
have discretion: (1)[RF]
have ease: (1)[KT]
have (an) ende: (1)[KT]; (1)[RF]
have ensample: (1)[KT]
have enuie (of)at*: (2)[KT]; (4)[RF]; (1)[BE]
have feythe in*: (1)[KT]
have fere (of)*: (9)[KT]; (4)[BE]
have fyauce: (1)[KT]
have fydelyte: (1)[BE]
have foot: (1)[RF]
have good: (1)[KT]
have grace: (1)[KT]; (1)[BE]
have harme*: (1)[KT]; (1)[RF]
have hate: (1)[BE]
have herte in/a herte: (4)[KT]
have hydoure: (2)[KT]
have holde on: (1)[RF]
have hongre: (2)[RF]
have honour: (1)[KT]; (1)[RF]
have hope in: (1)[KT]; (2)[BE]
have horroure: (1)[KT]
have indygnacion*: (1)[BE]
have ioye*: (5)[KT]; (8)[BE]
have iugement: (1)[RF]
have kepyng: (2)[BE]
have kysses: (1)[BE]
have knowledge/knowledge*: (2)[KT]; (4)[RF]; (2)[BE]
have leve*: (1)[BE]
have losse: (1)[BE]
have love*: (10)[KT]; (6)[BE]
have lust*: (1)[BE]
have malyvolence: (1)[BE]
have mercy (of)(on)*: (2)[KT]; (2)[RF]; (2)[BE]
have meryte: (1)[BE]
have mervaylle of*: (1)[RF]; (5)[BE]
have might: (1)[BE]
have need (of)*: (7)[RF]; (4)[BE]
have pacyence*: (1)[KT]
have pyte/pity (of)(on)*: (9)[KT]; (8)[RF]; (7)[BE]
have piteous upon: (1)[KT]
have plaissance/plesaunce/playsaunce: (4)[KT]
have plaisire/playsyre/pleasure: (2)[KT]
have power: (1)[BE]
have the praysyng over: (1)[BE]
have prouffyt: (2)[RF]
have quarrel: (1)[RF]
have repentaunce: (1)[KT]; (2)[RF]
have reste: (1)[KT]; (1)[BE]
have the rule over: (1)[BE]
have shame*: (6)[KT]; (4)[RF]
have slepe: (1)[BE] (---fall a slepe)
have sorowe*: (2)[KT]; (2)[RF]; (2)[BE]
have stroke of: (1)[RF]
have suffisaunce: (1)[KT]
have thank(e): (4)[RF]
have thought*: (1)[BE]
have trouble*: (1)[BE]
have trust in/on*: (6)[KT]; (1)[RF]; (1)[BE]
have understanding of*: (1)[RF]
have vergoyne: (1)[KT]
have vctorye: (1)[KT]
have wyl/will: (1)[RF]; (5)[BE]
have wytte: (1)[KT]
have worship (of)*: (5)[RF]
have wounde for*: (1)[RF]
have wrake: (1)[BE]
have wrath: (1)[BE]

CPs with take in Caxton:
take advys: (1)[KT]; (3)[RF]
take anger: (1)[BE]
take avauntage: (1)[BE]
take a bote: (1)[BE]
take care: (1)[BE]
take charge to: (1)[BE]
take confort: (2)[BE]
take conclusion: (2)[BE]
take contenaunce: (1)[KT]
take corage: (4)[BE]
take counsell/counseyl*: (2)[KT]; (1)[RF]
take cours: (1)[KT]; (1)[BE]
take delyte/delite(s): (6)[KT]
take desdayne of: (1)[KT]
take deth: (1)[KT]
take diligence: (2)[BE]
take displaysyre: (1)[KT], (6)[BE]
take disporte: (2)[KT]
take doubt(e: (1)[BE]
take drynkes: (1)[KT]
take ensample*: (19)[KT]
take exemplary: (1)[KT]
take the feld: (1)[BE]
take fere: (1)[BE]
take feures: (1)[KT]
take flight: (1)[KT]
take harme: (1)[RF]
take heede/hede: (7)[KT]; (5)[RF]; (5)[BE]
take inconvenient: (1)[BE]
take ire/yre: (1)[KT]
take iourneye*: (1)[KT]
take ioye: (3)[KT]; (1)[BE]
take kep: (1)[BE]
take kysse: (3)[BE]
take kyssyng: (1)[BE]
take lande: (8)[BE]
take leep: (1)[RF]
take leve*: (8)[RF], (34)[BE]
take maladye: (1)[KT]
take mercy on: (1)[KT]
take mervayile: (1)[BE]
take mete: (5)[KT]
take payne: (1)[KT], (1)[BE]
take pardon: (1)[RF]
take parte: (1)[BE]
take plaisaunce: (3)[KT]
take plaisire: (4)[KT], (3)[BE]
take the possession of: (1)[KT]
take prisoner: (1)[BE]
take pryde: (1)[KT]
take recreacioun: (1)[BE]
take regardes: (1)[KT]
take repentaunce: (1)[BE]
take reste: (1)[KT]; (3)[BE]
take roote: (1)[BE]
take savour: (1)[KT]
take the see: (8)[BE]
take shame: (1)[KT]
take shippynge: (6)[BE]
take signyffyaunce: (1)[KT]
take sorowe*: (1)[KT],(4)[BE]
take sporte: (1)[KT]
take a thought: (1)[KT]; (1)[BE]
take vengeaunce (on)*: (4)[KT]; (1)[RF]; (3)[BE]
take vyage : (1)[BE]
take wages: (1)[RF]
take way*: (1)[KT]; (1)[RF]; (5)[BE]
take wynes: (1)[KT]
take wrake: (1)[RF]
take wrath: (1)[KT]