

Composite Predicates with *Have* and *Take* in Chaucer and Malory

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1 Introduction

Composite Predicates (abbreviated as CP) (Cattell 1984) consist of a basic verb + a deverbal noun, e. g., *make reservation, give a jump, have/take a look*, and so on. This paper uses the term “agentive object” (Kawakami 1984), to include not only verb-stem nouns such as *a sigh, a look* (in *give a sigh, have a look*), and deverbal nouns as *agreement, examination* (in *make an agreement, take an examination*) as well as gerund — *ing*, but also forms such *an effort, a headache* (in *make an effort, have a headache*), which cannot be expressed or replaced by a simple verb (Matsumoto 1999 : 60). As for CPs in Middle English (ME), I studied CPs with *have, take, make, give, and get* in Chaucer (Matsumoto 1990), next, CPs with *have, take, make, give, and do* in ME using Chaucer and *The Middle English Dictionary (MED)* as a corpus (Matsumoto 1994), and in addition, CPs with *have, take, make, give, and do* in ME using Chaucer, Malory, and *MED* (Matsumoto 1999). Although I have paid special attention on CPs with *have* and *take* from LateME through Late Modern English (LateModE) (Matsumoto 2000a and b, and 2001), I have not focused on CPs with *have /take* in Chaucer and Malory. In this paper I will study CPs with *have/take* in Chaucer and Malory, and compare CPs with *have /take* in Chaucer with those in Malory. As for texts, I will use Benson et al. for Chaucer and Vinaver’s Malory.

2 CPs with *have/take* in Chaucer and Malory

I found 173 different types of CPs with *have* in Chaucer, and 78 in Malory (see Appendix I [A] & [B]). From a point of overview, CPs with *have* in Chaucer are much richer in variety than those in Malory. This difference comes from the characteristics of each story in Chaucer and Malory. I found 79 different types of CPs with *take* in Chaucer, and 52 in Malory (see Appendix II [A] & [B]).

2-1 Mental activities of CPs with *have/take* in Chaucer and Malory

Many mental activities are expressed by CPs with *have* in Chaucer : 55 different types of CPs

with *have* are found in (1). A few examples are shown in (2), (3) and (4).

(1) Haven abhominacioun/affeccioun/aue/care/chere/chierte/compassion/cure/deintee/despit/devocioun/disdein/doute/drede/entencioun/ene/felinge/fer/fiaunce/game/gladnesse/hate/hope/imaginacioun/insight/joy/knouinge/knouleche/knoulechinge/list/love/love-longinge/lust/memorie/merci/merveille/mind/mirthe/misericorde/pitee.

(2) Of Accidie comth first, that a man is annoyed and encombred for to doon any goodnesse, and maketh that God hath abhomy nation of swich Accidie, as seith seint John. (Chaucer, *I. Pars* 685-90)

(*MED*, s. v. *abhominacioun*, def. 1(b) *haven abhomicacioun of*, ‘to loathe, abhor’)

‘Accidie hurries up first, that a man is displeased and troubled to do any goodness, and makes that God abhors such Accidie, as Saint John says’

(3) Ne I have non affeccioun To have double absolucioun. (Chaucer, *RR* 6410)

‘I have no desire to have double absolution’

(4) Noon such I love, ne have no cure of sich as Loves servauntes ben,

And wole not by my counsel flen. (Chaucer, *RR* 4770)

‘I do not love those, I have no liking for those who are Love’s servants,

And I will not flee by my decision’

CPs with *have* showing mental activities in Malory are listed in (5).

(5) Have affyaunce/angwyshe/care/chere/cognysshauns/demyng/desir/dispyte/disdeine/doute/drede/entente/envy/fantasy/favourne/feare/hate/indignacion/joye/knowleche/lyste/love/mercy/mervayle/pite/pryde/remembraunce/scorne/wondir.

(6) Fayre lady Elayne, for youre sake I have had muche care and angwyshe, but nedyth nat to reherse hit, ye know how. (Malory, *Wks.* 825/22)

‘Fair lady Elayne, for your sake I have much worry and anxiety, but it does not need to tell it, you know how’

Generally, mental activities are likely to be expressed with CPs with *have*, CPs with *take* is not likely to have mental activity objects, but sometimes they are followed by mental activity objects. CPs with *take* in Chaucer expressing mental activities are listed in (7).

- (7) Take avis/avisement/discomfort/displeasance/impressioun/ire.
- (8) For whos departing he tok gretter ire Then for al his brennyng in the fire. (Chaucer, *Mars* 132) (*MED*, s. v. *taken*, def.16 (b) *taken ire for*, ‘be angered by [sth.]’) ‘For whom departing he was greatly angered Then for all his burning in the fire’

CPs with *take* in Malory showing mental activities are listed up in (9).

- (9) Take angir/avisement/consideracioun/discomforte/displesure/plesance/regarde/rejoysynge/repentaunce/sorow/thought.
- (10) ‘Say ye nothyng,’ seyde sir Trystram,’ for I am sure he hath takyn angir and sorrow for the rebuke that I gaff hym and La Beall Isode.’ (Malory, *Wks.* 758/34)
“‘Say you nothing,’ said sir Trystram,” for I am sure he has had anger and sorrow for the defeat that I gave him and La Bell Isode”

In Malory, CPs with *take* are more often found in the mental activities’ use than those in Chaucer : 6 different types of CPs with *take* (79 in all) in Chaucer, and 11 different types of CPs with *take* (52 in all) in Malory (7.5% in Chaucer vs. 21% in Malory).

2-2 The dynamic use of *have*

When the verb *have* became dynamic (Quirk et al. 1985 : 178) as in *have supper, breakfast, dinner*, and so on, was a mystery (Matsumoto 2000 b). According to my research in Late Modern English (Matsumoto 2001), I identified the early 17th century (1605 *Eastward Ho!* by Ben Jonson, George Chapman, and John Marston) and the early 18th century data (1710-1713 *Journal To Stella* by Jonathan Swift) except for one evidence in Chaucer (11). After that research, I found one more example in Chaucer (12). This is also a dynamic use as in *have a good / pleasant / comfortable time*.

- (11) And which of yow that bereth hym best of all...

That is to sayn, that telleth in this caas
 Tales of best sentence and moost solaas...
 Shall have a soper at oure aller cost
 Heere in this place, sittynge by this post,
 Whan 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)

- (12) Have now good nyght, and lat us bothe slepe.

(Chaucer, *TC* 3.421)

'Have now a good night, and let us both sleep'

This dynamic use of *have* was found in Chaucer but not in Malory. We find 'prendre le déjeuner' (= 'take lunch') in Modern French but 'avoir le déjeuner' (= 'have lunch') is not found. Malory originates in French sources. The reason dynamic use of *have* did not appear in Malory seems to be that it might have evolved itself in English.

2-3 State vs. event distinction

In Chaucer and Malory *have cold* is found in (13a-b), and in Malory *take cold* is found. (13a-b) is a state, and (13c) is an event. In Malory the state vs. event distinction is acknowledged, but in Chaucer this distinction is not found except for a state use in (13a). *Take sleep* is found in Chaucer and Malory (14a-b), but *have sleep* is not found either in Chaucer or Malory. According to *MED*, *take sleep* can have both a stative and an eventive aspect (*MED*, s. v. *slep*, def. 2, *taken slep* 'to be asleep' ; *MED*, s. v. *taken*, def. 46, *taken slep*, 'to sleep, fall asleep'), but it is difficult to discern between a state and an event as in (14a-b). According to (Binton and Akimoto 1999 : 48), *habban lufu* 'have love' is a state, and *niman lufu* 'take love' is an event (the terms used in [Brinton and Akimoto *ibid.*,]) are stative and inchoative, but show the same meanings as those mentioned in this paper. The distinction between a state and an event is found in Old English (OE).

The evidence is limited. In OE, there are a lot of examples of verb-nominal combinations as in (Brinton and Akimoto 1999). In ME, French influence made English become richer with phrases including CPs as well as vocabularies (Prins 1952). The origin of the distinction between a state and an event is a mystery. The distinction between a state and an event has been present generally in the language. In OE it already existed although there was only one pair of *habban/niman lufe*. In ME, French might have influenced it to develop and increase its usage more.

(13)(a) These olde folk have alwey cold ; Her kynde is sich, whan they ben old. (Chaucer, *RR* 411-12) (*MED*, s.v. *cold*, def. 2. *haven cold*, ‘suffer from cold, feel cold’)

‘These old people always feel cold ; Their genealogy is so, when they become old’

(b) ‘... : 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. ...’

(c) ‘... But now go again lightly ; for thy longe tarrynge puttith 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. ...’

(14)(a) Arrayed was this god, as he took keep, As he was whan that Argus took his sleep ; (Chaucer, *A. Kn.* 1389-90) (*MED*, s. v *taken*, def. 46 [a] , *taken slep*, ‘sleep, fall asleep’ ; *MED*, s. v. *slep*, def. 2 [b] , *taken slep*, ‘to be asleep’)

‘Arrayed was this god, as he took notice, As he was when Argus slept’

(b) And so sir Launcelot departed, and by adventure he com into the same foreste there he was takyng his slepe before ; (Malory, *Wks.* 264/6-7)

‘And so sir Launcelot departed, and by chance he came into the same forest where he was asleep before ;’

2-4 Fixed CPs with take

Some CPs with *take* are fixed as in *take the see*, *take shippe*, *take vengeance* in (15a-b-c). (15a-b) are from Malory, and (15c) from both Chaucer and Malory. Ways of transportation are expressed by CPs with *take* as in (15a-b). This trend is found from Early Modern English through Late Modern English (Matsumoto 2000 a, b, and 2001).

(15)(a) So sir Trystrames toke the see, and La Beale Isode.

(Malory, *Wks.* 412/10) (*MED*, s.v. *se*, def. 3 [b] , *taken the se*, 'go to sea')

'So sit Trystrames went to sea, and La Bela Isode'

(b) ... ; for they had no horse in that contrey, for they lefft their horsys whan they toke their shippe. (Malory, *Wks.* 996/29)

(*MED*, s.v. *ship*, def. 1 [a] *taken ship*, 'go aboard a ship')

'... ; for they had no horse in that country, for they left their horses when they went aboard a ship'

(c) And, savyng youre grace, I kan nat seen that it myghte greatly harme me though I tooke vengeaunce. (Chaucer, *B. Mel.* 2735-40)

'And saving your grace, I can not see that it might greatly harm me though I carried out revenge'

3 Conclusion

In Chaucer the dynamic use of *have* is found, but not in Malory. The state vs. event distinction is found in Malory, but not in Chaucer. The dynamic use of *have* might have developed in English. The distinction between a state and an event is found in OE, and in ME. French might have made this distinction develop and increase its usage more.

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Appendices : All CPs with *have/take* in Chaucer and Malory

Appendix I (A) : CPs with *have* in Chaucer :

(* shows the CPs found both in Chaucer and Malory)

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 1 . haven abhominacioun to/of | 30. haven corage* |
| 2 . haven absolucioun (of) | 31. haven cours |
| 3 . haven ado* | 32. haven cure of |
| 4 . haven affeccioun | 33. haven curs |
| 5 . haven allia(u)nce (with) | 34. haven daliaunce |
| 6 . haven amend(e)ment | 35. haven deinte of |
| 7 . haven answe(e)re of | 36. haven debat |
| 8 . haven ap(p)etit | 37. haven deliberacioun |
| 9 . haven aqueinta(u)nce (of) (with) | 38. haven delite |
| 10. haven audience | 39. haven desir* |
| 11. haven aue (of) | 40. haven despit |
| 12. haven avauntage (of)* | 41. haven dethe* |
| 13. haven (the) bataille | 42. haven devocioun |
| 14. haven blame | 43. haven diligence |
| 15. haven blessed of | 44. haven disdein* |
| 16. haven bon | 45. haven distresse |
| 17. haven care* | 46. haven dominacioun (ouer) (of) |
| 18. haven cause* | 47. haven doute* |
| 19. haven chaunce | 48. haven drede* |
| 20. haven chere (s)* | 49. haven eie (on) (to) |
| 21. haven chierte (of) | 50. haven eleccioun |
| 22. haven chois | 51. haven entencioun |
| 23. haven cold | 52. haven envie* |
| 24. haven collacioun | 53. haven esement |
| 25. haven comfort* | 54. haven excepcioun |
| 26. haven commaundement | 55. haven experience |
| 27. haven compassioun | 56. haven failinge |
| 28. haven conninge | 57. haven fame |
| 29. haven conscience | 58. haven feith |

59. haven felinge
60. haven fer*
61. haven fiaunce
62. haven flight
63. haven foryevennesse
64. haven foryift
65. haven forstring
66. haven fot
67. haven game*
68. haven gladnesse
69. haven governaunce of
70. haven grace*
71. haven hardiment
72. haven harmes
73. haven hate*
74. haven hest of
75. haven hevinesse
76. haven hond
77. haven honour (to)
78. haven hope (in) (to)
79. haven imaginacioun*
80. haven insight
81. haven issue
82. haven joy
83. haven jugement
84. haven jurisdiccoun of/ouer/upon
85. haven knouinge
86. haven knouleche*
87. haven knoulechinge of
88. haven licence
89. haven lif
90. haven lisse
91. haven list*
92. haven lordshipe
93. haven love*
94. haven love-longinge
95. haven lust to*
96. haven maistrie (of/over)
97. haven malisoun
98. haven mansioun
99. haven memorie
100. haven merci (of/om/upon)*
101. haven merveille (of)*
102. haven might (of)*
103. haven mind (of/on/upon)
104. haven mirthe
105. haven mischaunce
106. haven misericorde upon
107. haven name
108. haven need*
109. haven night
110. haven note
111. haven office
112. haven opinioun
113. haven orisoun
114. haven pacience
115. haven part
116. haven penaunce
117. haven pes
118. haven pitee (of/on)
119. have place
120. haven pleie
121. haven plesaunce
122. haven possesioun (of)
123. haven pouere (over)
124. haven precepte

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| 125. haven predicacioun | 150. haven soverainte of/over |
| 126. haven presence of | 151. haven space |
| 127. haven recours (un)to | 152. haven speche with* |
| 128. haven redempcioun | 153. haven strengthes |
| 129. haven remembraunce (of)* | 154. haven suffisaunce |
| 130. haven remissioun | 155. haven suspeciouun of/upon |
| 131. haven repentaunce | 156. haven suspect |
| 132. haven replicacioun | 157. haven talent |
| 133. haven respecte to | 158. haven tente |
| 134. haven resport | 159. haven thank of |
| 135. haven reste | 160. haven thought |
| 136. haven reuthe of/on/upon* | 161. haven travaille* |
| 137. haven reverence of | 162. haven treuthe |
| 138. haven reward (of/to) | 163. haven trust |
| 139. haven right | 164. haven vengeaunce |
| 140. haven savour in | 165. haven victorie |
| 141. haven scarsete | 166. haven visioun |
| 142. haven scorn (of)* | 167. haven were |
| 143. haven seurtee | 168. haven wille |
| 144. haven shame* | 169. haven witing |
| 145. haven sighte on* | 170. haven wo |
| 146. haven skil | 171. haven wonder(s)* |
| 147. haven smel | 172. haven the worse |
| 148. haven soper | 173. haven wrong |
| 149. haven sorwe (for) | |

Appendix I (B) : CPs with *have* in Malory :

(* shows the CPs found both in Chaucer and Malory)

- | | |
|----------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1 . haven ado (with) (to)* | 7 . have the better (of) |
| 2 . have advantage* | 8 . have blame* |
| 3 . have affyaunce | 9 . have a buffette |
| 4 . have angwyshe | 10. have care* |
| 5 . have answere | 11. have cause* |
| 6 . have avision | 12. have chere* |

13. have cognysshaunce of
14. have comforte*
15. have courage, currage*
16. have a demyng
17. have desir, desire*
18. have dethe*
19. have dispyte, despite
20. have a dyryge
21. have disdeine, dysdayne*
22. have disease
23. have disporte at
24. have doute (of)*
25. have drede of*
26. have entente
27. have envy*
28. have a falle
29. have a fantasy
30. have favourne
31. have feare (of)*
32. have game at*
33. have grace of*
34. have the bettir/higher hand
35. have hardiness, hardinesse
36. have hate unto*
37. have helpe
38. have hunger, hungir
39. have indignacion*
40. have ioye (of) (in) (for)
41. have justis
42. have knowleche, knowlecche*
43. have laboure
44. have lyberte
45. have lyste*
46. have lyvyng
47. have love*
48. have luste (to)*
49. have mercy on/upon*
50. have mervayle (of)*
51. have might (to)*
52. have mister of
53. have need (of)*
54. have the nourysshing of
55. have pite upon/of/on
56. have power to
57. have pryde
58. have a quarell
59. have remembraunce (of)*
60. have the requeste
61. have rest
62. have rule
63. have the ruthe (of)*
64. have scathe
65. have scorne*
66. have servyse of
67. have shame (of)*
68. have a syght of*
69. have sorow
70. have speche (of)*
71. have a spy upon
72. have stroke
73. have suspeccion
74. have travayle*
75. have vengeaunce
76. have victory
77. have vyllany
78. have vision

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| 79. have a warnynge | 83. have wylle (of) |
| 80. have warre ayenst | 84. have wondir (of)* |
| 81. have wayte upon | 85. have worship |
| 82. have wetyng of | 86. have a wounde |

Appendix II (A) : CPs with take in Chaucer

(* shows the CPs found both in Chaucer and Malory)

- | | |
|--------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 1 . take accioun | 28. take ensauple, exauple (of)* |
| 2 . take adversitee | 29. take ese |
| 3 . take arivage | 30. take good |
| 4 . take armes | 31. take the governaille on |
| 5 . take aventure | 32. take the governaunce of |
| 6 . take avis | 33. take heede of/to |
| 7 . take avisement* | 34. take helpe of |
| 8 . take biginninge | 35. take herbergage |
| 9 . take birthe | 36. take heritage |
| 10. take charge (upon) | 37. take herte |
| 11. take compaignye | 38. take heven |
| 12. take conclusioun | 39. take homage* |
| 13. take conseil* | 40. take impressioun |
| 14. take cristendom | 41. take ire |
| 15. take cure (of) | 42. take joye |
| 16. take deeth | 43. take keepe of/to* |
| 17. take defame on | 44. take knowlechyng of |
| 18. take deintee | 45. take leve of* |
| 19. take deliberacioun | 46. take logginge* |
| 20. take discomfort | 47. take maistrie upon |
| 21. take displesaunce of | 48. take mesure of |
| 22. take disport | 49. take the moralite |
| 23. take dom | 50. take motyf |
| 24. take eclipse | 51. take nap |
| 25. take effect | 52. take obeysaunce |
| 26. take emprise | 53. take pacience |
| 27. take ende* | 54. take pardoun |

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|-----------------------|----------------------------------|
| 55. take part* | 68. take sorrowe* |
| 56. take peyne* | 69. take strif |
| 57. take pite of | 70. take suspecioun |
| 58. take place | 71. take tale |
| 59. take preyere | 72. take teching |
| 60. take purpos | 73. take tenour in |
| 61. take red | 74. take vengeance (of/on/upon)* |
| 62. take resoun | 75. take viage |
| 63. take reste* | 76. take wei* |
| 64. take reward of/to | 77. take a wyf |
| 65. take sentences | 78. take wit |
| 66. take sleep | 79. take witnessse of/on |
| 67. take sojoure | |

Appendix II (B) : CPs with take in Malory

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|------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 1 . take abstynauce | 20. take no force (of) |
| 2 . take adventure | 21. take hede (of) (to) |
| 3 . take angir | 22. take jugement |
| 4 . take avysement* | 23. take kepe (of) (to) (unto)* |
| 5 . take the batayle | 24. take leve of* |
| 6 . take charge | 25. take lyff |
| 7 . take cold | 26. take lykyng |
| 8 . take a consideracioun of | 27. take lodgyng* |
| 9 . take counceyle* | 28. take omage |
| 10. take damage | 29. take order |
| 11. take discomforte | 30. take othe upon |
| 12. take displesure | 31. take payne upon* |
| 13. take ende* | 32. take part with* |
| 14. take ensample* | 33. take party ayenste/with |
| 15. take entirpryse | 34. take penaunce upon |
| 16. take excuse | 35. take plesaunce |
| 17. take excussion | 36. take prisoner |
| 18. take feaute | 37. take regarde of |
| 19. take flight | 38. take rejoysynge |

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|----------------------|---------------------------|
| 39. take repentaunce | 46. take stroke |
| 40. take reste* | 47. take thought |
| 41. take the rule | 48. take trefyse |
| 42. take the see | 49. take turnemente |
| 43. take shippe | 50. take vengeaunce upon* |
| 44. take slepe | 51. take the way* |
| 45. take sorrow* | 52. take word |