

I'm not a bot

























Jouer comporte des risques : endettement, isolement, dépendance.Pour être aidé, appelez le 09-74-75-13-13 (appel non surtaxé) Jouer comporte des risques : endettement, isolement, dépendance.Pour être aidé, appelez le 09-74-75-13-13 (appel non surtaxé) Please help me what is the difference between "have a chance to do something" and "have a chance of doing something"? ex: Book now, or you won't have a chance of getting seats. Or book now, or you won't have a chance to get seats. Thanks in advance. Please help me what is the difference between "have a chance to do something" and "have a chance of doing something"? The grammar in those sentences is different, but there isn't any difference in meaning. The grammar in those sentences is different, but there isn't any difference in meaning. I agree they are equivalent in this example, except that the first seems a bit more emphatic to me, especially if you change it to "...won't have any chance of getting seats." In other contexts the two expressions mean different things. "You won't have any chance of doing something" means it will be impossible to do it. "You won't have a chance to do something" often just means you won't have an opportunity to do it. For example, you might be too busy. I agree they are equivalent in this example, except that the first seems a bit more emphatic to me, especially if you change it to "...won't have any chance of getting seats." In other contexts the two expressions mean different things. "You won't have any chance of doing something" means it will be impossible to do it. "You won't have a chance to do something" often just means you won't have an opportunity to do it. For example, you might be too busy. The two OP statements have the same effect (you're not going to get seats), but they have different meanings. To have a chance of doing something means it is possible to do it. To have the chance to do something means you have an opportunity to do it. Maybe ticket sales are closing in 15 minutes, so unless you book now, you will miss the opportunity to get any. Now is the only chance to get them. Maybe ticket sales have just begun for a concert that is expected to sell out within a few hours. Unless you act fast, the probability that you will get any is very small (rounds to zero). An hour from now, you will have a zero probability of getting any. Hi, Self-made. 1) I was wondering if you had a chance to go over the report I had submitted. 2) I was wondering if you have had a chance to go over the report I had submitted. 3) I was wondering if you had had a chance to go over the report I had submitted. Could you tell me which one is correct? I think only the third one is correct, but the second could also be used if we're not backshifting. The version I would use is 3), but I would contract the "you had": "I was wondering if you'd had the chance to go over the report I submitted." (I don't think you need the "had submitted"). But wait for others to comment. "Hi, Fred. I am wondering if you've had the chance to go over the report I submitted." So this sentence "I was wondering if you had a chance to go over the report I had submitted" is not correct at all? It is inconsistent - there is no reason to combine "had" and "had submitted" like this that I can think of. Are you saying that only this one is correct? I was wondering if you had had a chance to go over the report I had submitted. Of the three options you gave, yes. And what about the "had submitted" part, should I leave it with past perfect or past simple? I was wondering if you had had a chance to go over the report I had submitted. It is not really clear why we would ever need to use this form, to be honest. It would only apply when both the going over and the submission occurred prior to some other past event we had just mentioned. I was wondering if, before you made your final recommendation last week, you had had a chance to go over the report I had submitted the previous week. I don't think it's very useful to learn all the possible mutations and combinations of tenses and then try to work out what context would require them, yet many learners seem to take this approach. The most common form of this sentence would be "I was wondering if you have had a chance to go over the report I submitted". Some people use a variant of this with simply "if you had", but this should be regarded as acceptable in speech only. All other variants require some kind of special circumstance. When I read your sentence I immediately wondered what you meant by I had submitted, which is not as natural as I submitted. The reason is as explained by Glasquensis in #8. When I read your sentence I immediately wondered what you meant by I had submitted, which is not as natural as I submitted. I didn't mean anything by it, I was just following the rules of backshifting. Because if I put the sentence in the present, it is like this: "I am wondering if you have had a chance to go over the report I submitted." So if I put it into past the highlighted parts change to was=had had=had submitted respectively. Am I wrong? I don't know why you should use the past perfect in this sentence or what "backshifting" has to do with it. One of the reasons for using had submitted is when it would otherwise be unclear about what period in time it refers to. I submitted comes before "wondering" and "you've had a chance", so I see no reason to change the tense. In other words, I had submitted makes no sense to me. I submitted comes before "wondering" and "you've had a chance", so I see no reason to change the tense. OK, I get it now. I don't know why you should use the past perfect in this sentence or what "backshifting" has to do with it. I don't know what's it called in this situation, maybe tense agreement. But isn't there a rule, like in reported speech, that present simple turns into past simple and present perfect/past simple into past perfect? Yes, but there is no direct/reported speech in your sentence. If you're still puzzled, perhaps you could give us another sentence in which you want to change the spoken tense. For example, we usually backshift the tense when writing minutes. Actual words used: Have you read the letter I sent you. Reported speech: She asked him if he had read the letter she had sent him. When we are relating a narrative of a past event, it is only necessary to use the past perfect if the timeline needs to be clarified. In the sentence in question, it is obvious that submitting the document occurs prior to taking a look at it. The past perfect is therefore not needed, and where it's not needed it seems odd to native speakers. OK, but would using "had submitted" be terribly wrong? Do you want to come across as sounding odd? If a native speaker thinks it odd, you can decide whether it's terribly wrong. (By the way, we say I was wondering or I wonder. I am wondering sounds unusual to me.) As e2efour says, it depends on your definition of "terribly wrong". As I have (so far fruitlessly) tried to tell one of your compatriots, English is not a language of rules and logic, but one of patterns. Some patterns are familiar and acceptable, and some generate sirens and red flashing lights. I didn't mean anything by it, I was just following the rules of backshifting. Because if I put the sentence in the present, it is like this: "I am wondering if you have had a chance to go over the report I submitted." So if I put it into past the highlighted parts change to was=had had=had submitted respectively. Am I wrong? Once I have submitted it, the report can always be correctly referred to as "the report I submitted". Calling it "the report I had submitted" sends us looking for a time in the past before which it was submitted. But the question of whether you have now had a chance to go over it may not be the same as the question of whether you had already had that chance when I was wondering about it. Although you have had that chance if you ever had had it, whether allows for the negative case, and you may now have had that chance even if you had not already had it when you were wondering. However, given the fact that we often say "I was wondering" when we really mean "I wonder", "have had" may express what we mean as well as "had had". I guess there's some confusion arising here from the formal past tense appearance of "I was wondering". However, since it has a formulaic nature in polite requests no backshifting need occur, as e2efour and Forero point out. But the question of whether you have now had a chance to go over it may not be the same as the question of whether you had already had that chance when I was wondering about it. Although you have had that chance if you ever had had it, whether allows for the negative case, and you may now have had that chance even if you had not already had it when you were wondering. This part has gone completely over my head. I know that even though "I was wondering" is set in the past tense, I use it in the present to soften my question or request. And, that was my intention in the OP. So, you're saying that I don't always need to match the tenses if I use it like that? We don't always backshift with the formula "I was wondering", and particularly if our question concerns past events we wouldn't backshift. We don't backshift with the formula "I was wondering". OK. What if I was actually referring to something that happened in the past. For example, my colleague or whoever I was trying to ask that question wasn't available at the time and later he asks me, for example: Hey, what was the nature of your call earlier/the other day? In this situation, should I say it with past perfect? "Oh, I was just wondering if you had had a chance to go over the report I had submitted." As I said in post 14, it is not necessary to use the past perfect when the timeline is already clear. The "had had" is fine but we would say simply "submitted". And as I also said, we would consider "had submitted" incorrect. We don't always backshift with the formula "I was wondering", and particularly if our question concerns past events we wouldn't backshift. And what about future events? "I was wondering if you will/would be going to New York this year" Thanks a million everyone. Are "have a chance" and "get a chance" interchangeable? If so, is this an AE/BE thing? -Call me when you have a chance. -Call me when you get a chance. Longman says they are, yet I usually come across 'get a chance' in movies, so is perhaps 'get a chance' AE? Last edited: Nov 19, 2020 Note the change from Longman's 'get/have a chance to do something' to Longman's 'I'd like a job in which I get the chance to travel.' I would be inclined to say, "Phone me when you get the chance", but I'm not saying that "have" and "a" are wrong. I'm not sure that this is an AM/BE matter. 'Have' sounds very unfamiliar to me in that sentence. I always say 'get'. I would be inclined to say, "Phone me when you get the chance", but I'm not saying that "have" and "a" are wrong. That's interesting. So both of these work for you, yet you prefer the first option, right? -Phone me when you get the chance. -Phone me when you have a chance. It's very difficult to say. There are alternatives available here, but I haven't monitored my own usage. I don't think there's anything wrong with either of the options you suggest in post no. 4. It doesn't sound terrible. I'm not sure whether I've ever used it. So perhaps this is AE usage. I was watching Prison Break and she left a voice message, saying, "When you get a chance, I really need to talk to you" So what might be the reason why some natives prefer 'get a chance' while others 'get the chance'? -Phone me when you get the chance. -Phone me when you get a chance. -When you get the chance, I really need to talk to you. -When you get the chance, I really need to talk to you. So what might be the reason why some natives prefer 'get a chance' while others 'get the chance'? -Phone me when you get the chance. -Phone me when you get a chance. -When you get a chance, I really need to talk to you. -When you get the chance, I really need to talk to you. Personal (subconscious) preference/familiarity in a situation where it doesn't matter - it's not something we would stop and think "should I use the or should I use a" and decide on a reason. Just like "call me" versus "phone me". And do all three work in the past? Sorry, I was planning to call you but I didn't get a chance. Sorry, I was planning to call you but I didn't get the chance. Sorry, I was planning to call you but I didn't have a chance. For me, none of those is remarkable or unusual And can we replace "get a chance" with "have time"? Call me when you get a chance. vs. Call me when you have time. I'll take a listen to this when I get the chance. vs. I'll take a listen to this when I have time. 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