104 *make* or *do*, *have* or *take*?

Miranda is making clay pots and dishes.

David is doing the dishes.

1 *make* or *do*?

We often use the verb *make* to talk about creating or producing something:
Mercedes cars ***are made*** *in Germany.*
Who's ***making*** *lunch today?*

We often use *do* to talk about any activity:
What ***do*** *you usually* ***do*** *at the weekends?*
I'm afraid I ***haven't done*** *the report yet.*

Here are some common words we use with *make* and *do*:

make	*a meal breakfast lunch dinner a phone call a noise a mistake an appointment an arrangement a suggestion a plan the bed a copy*
do	*the shopping the gardening your homework an exercise a test an exam the housework the cleaning the washing the cooking the dishes*

Don't make *any noise –* ***I'm doing my homework.***
On Saturday mornings I ***do the cleaning*** *and my wife* ***makes lunch.***

2 *have* or *take*?

We can describe some actions with either *have* or *take*:

have or *take*	*a bath a shower a break a holiday a rest a seat (= sit down)*

Have you ***taken your break*** *yet?*
Yes, I ***had a break*** *at eleven o'clock.*

But for some actions we only use *take*:

take	*an exam a test care (of) medicine drugs a message part in a photo*

Mrs Carshaw isn't here. Can I ***take a message?***
You aren't allowed to ***take photos*** *in the museum.*

We usually use *take*, not *have*, to talk about time (days, hours, etc.):
That letter ***took three days*** *to get here.*
How long does *it* ***take*** *to boil an egg?*

have for doing things, e.g. *have breakfast, have a party* ➤ Unit 43.3