

ESL Worksheet: Causative

Choose the correct answer.

Q1 - I had my hair cut last week

- The speaker did not cut his own hair
 The speaker cut his own hair

Q2 - They had their car stolen a fortnight ago

- The causative is used to show misfortune
 The causative is used because they arranged it

Q3 - He had the decorators repaint the bedroom ceiling

- He worked together with the decorators
 He told them what to do and they did it

Q4 - I'll get Claire to talk to him

- This sentence means the same as 'I'll have Claire talk to him.'
 This sentence means that something unfortunate is going to happen

Q5 - I'd get somebody in to do it if I could afford it

- The speaker will do it herself because she hasn't got enough money
 It is not clear if she will do it herself or if it won't be done

Q6 - I must get it fixed

- The speaker has made the decision
 Somebody has given the speaker instructions

Q7 - I have to have my hair cut

- The speaker has made the decision
 Somebody has given the speaker instructions

Q8 - She had her dog vaccinated

- She gave the dog the medicine
- The vet or someone else gave the dog the medicine

Q9 - He had a phone put in the day he moved in

- This is a formal way of using the past perfect
- An engineer put the phone in for him on his instructions

Q10 - Can you get it fixed for me, please?

- This is a polite way of asking the other person to fix it
- The speaker wants the other person to arrange for it to be fixed

Q11 - He had his car stolen

- He arranged for some car thieves to steal it
- Here the causative is used to show that something unfortunate happened

Q12 - He had his flat burgled a few days ago

- He was responsible for the action being done
- Here the causative is used to show that something unfortunate happened

Q13 - I'm going to get my car serviced this afternoon

- He will be responsible for the action being done, but will not actually do it himself
- Here the causative is used to show that something unfortunate is going to happen