# Causatives

**CEFR B1 · have/get something done: arranging a service**
WS1 have something done · WS2 get something done & Tenses · WS3 Meaning & the 'bad experience' Use · WS4 Editing & Writing · Answer Key

## Worksheet 1: have something done

*Name: _____ Date: _____ Level: B1 (CEFR)*

### Reference: Someone Does It For You

Use **have + object + past participle** to say that you **arrange for someone else** to do a service — you don't do it yourself. Compare: *I cut my hair* (I did it) vs *I had my hair cut* (a hairdresser did it for me).

| Structure | Meaning | Example |
|---|---|---|
| have + object + pp | arrange a service | I **had my car repaired**. |
| compare: do it yourself | you are the doer | I **repaired my car**. |
| word order | object BEFORE participle | She **had the walls painted**. |
| who does it | add *by* if useful | I had it fixed **by a mechanic**. |

> **Object goes between *have* and the participle. ✗ I had cut my hair. → ✓ I had my hair cut.**

### Part A – Put the Words in Order

1. (had / painted / we / the house) _____
2. (my eyes / I / tested / had) _____
3. (she / cut / her hair / had) _____

### Part B – Do It Yourself or Arrange It?

Write DIY (you did it) or SERVICE (someone did it for you).

| # | Sentence | DIY / SERVICE |
|---|---|---|
| 1 | I cleaned my windows. | |
| 2 | I had my windows cleaned. | |
| 3 | She fixed her bike. | |
| 4 | She had her bike fixed. | |

**Score: _____ / 20**

# Worksheet 2: get something done & Tenses

*Name: _____ Date: _____ Level: B1 (CEFR)*

## Reference: get = have (more informal)

**get + object + past participle** means the same as *have something done* but is more informal. Both change with tense — only the first word (*have/get*) changes; the object + participle stay the same.

| Tense | Example (have) | Example (get) |
|---|---|---|
| Present simple | I have my hair cut monthly. | I get my hair cut monthly. |
| Present continuous | I'm having it cut now. | I'm getting it cut now. |
| Past simple | I had it cut. | I got it cut. |
| Present perfect | I've had it cut. | I've got it cut. |
| Future / modal | I'll have it cut. | I'll get it cut. |

### Part A – Complete with have/get something done

1. (past) Last week I _____ (my teeth / check) at the dentist.
2. (present continuous) We _____ (the kitchen / redesign) at the moment.
3. (future) I _____ (my suit / clean) before the wedding.
4. (present perfect) She _____ (her photo / take) for the passport.

### Part B – Rewrite Using the Causative

Someone provides the service. Rewrite with *have/get something done*.

1. A garage services my car every year. → I _____ every year.
2. A dentist is whitening her teeth. → She _____.
3. A firm will install our new windows. → We _____.

**Score: _____ / 25**

# Worksheet 3: Meaning & the "bad experience" Use

*Name: _____ Date: _____ Level: B1 (CEFR)*

## Reference: Two Meanings of have something done

**have/get something done** usually means you **arranged** a service. But it can also describe something (often bad) that **happened to you** — you did not arrange it. The context tells you which meaning.

| Meaning | Example | Note |
|---|---|---|
| Arranged service | We **had the roof repaired**. | you chose it |
| Bad experience (to you) | He **had his wallet stolen**. | you didn't choose it |
| Bad experience (get) | She **got her phone broken**. | informal |
| compare: simple passive | His wallet **was stolen**. | no personal effect shown |

### Part A – Service or Bad Experience?

| # | Sentence | Service / bad experience |
|---|---|---|
| 1 | They had their car towed away by the police. | |
| 2 | I'm going to have the bathroom tiled. | |
| 3 | She had her bag snatched in the market. | |
| 4 | We had the garden landscaped. | |

### Part B – Complete the Bad-Experience Sentence

1. He _____ (his passport / steal) at the airport.
2. During the storm, we _____ (a window / break).
3. She _____ (her flight / cancel) at the last minute.

### Part C – Correct the Mistake

| # | Wrong sentence | Correction |
|---|---|---|
| 1 | I had cut my hair at the salon. | |
| 2 | We are going to have painted the house. | |
| 3 | She had stolen her bike yesterday. | |
| 4 | I got repair my laptop last week. | |

**Score: _____ / 30**

# Worksheet 4: Editing & Writing

*Name: _____ Date: _____ Level: B1 (CEFR)*

### Part A – Intensive Edit

This text has **eight** errors (word order, participle form, wrong tense of have/get, or the DIY/service confusion). Find and correct them.

> Last month we decided to improve our flat. First, we had painted the living room by a professional. Then we got install new lights and had the old carpet replace. While the work was happening, I also had cut my hair and got my glasses fix. Unfortunately, during the building work, we had our front door damage, and my neighbour had stolen her tools from the hallway. Next week we are going to have cleaned the whole flat before our guests arrive.

| # | Error | Correction |
|---|---|---|
| 1 | | |
| 2 | | |
| 3 | | |
| 4 | | |
| 5 | | |
| 6 | | |
| 7 | | |
| 8 | | |

### Part B – Guided Writing

Write 120–150 words about services you use or improvements you have made (to your home, car, appearance, etc.). You must include: (1) at least three **have/get something done** structures in **different tenses**; (2) at least one **bad-experience** use; (3) at least one **by**-agent.

| # | Line |
|---|---|
| 1 | |
| 2 | |
| 3 | |
| 4 | |
| 5 | |
| 6 | |

| | |
|---|---|
| **7** | |
| **8** | |
| **9** | |

**Structures: _____ / 3  Bad experience: _____ / 1  by-agent: _____ / 1  Score: _____ / 35**

# Answer Key & Teacher Notes

*For teacher use only — B1 Level, Causatives*

## Worksheet 1 – Part A

1 We had the house painted. · 2 I had my eyes tested. · 3 She had her hair cut.

## Worksheet 1 – Part B

1 DIY · 2 SERVICE · 3 DIY · 4 SERVICE

The participle-after-object order is the key marker of the causative; without it, the subject is the doer.

## Worksheet 2 – Part A

1 had my teeth checked · 2 are having the kitchen redesigned · 3 'll have my suit cleaned · 4 has had her photo taken

## Worksheet 2 – Part B

1 have my car serviced · 2 is having her teeth whitened / is getting her teeth whitened · 3 are going to have our new windows installed / will have…

## Worksheet 3 – Part A

1 bad experience (police towed it — not arranged) · 2 service · 3 bad experience · 4 service

## Worksheet 3 – Part B

1 had his passport stolen · 2 had a window broken · 3 had her flight cancelled

## Worksheet 3 – Part C

1 I had my hair cut at the salon. · 2 …going to have the house painted. · 3 She had her bike stolen yesterday. · 4 I got my laptop repaired last week.

Watch the classic error "had cut my hair" (= you cut it) vs "had my hair cut" (a service).

## Worksheet 4 – Part A

1 had the living room painted · 2 got new lights installed · 3 had the old carpet replaced · 4 had my hair cut · 5 got my glasses fixed · 6 had our front door damaged · 7 had her tools stolen · 8 have the whole flat cleaned

## Worksheet 4 – Part B: Marking Guide

| Criterion | Descriptor | Marks |
|---|---|---|
| have/get done range | Three+ structures, varied tenses | 0–4 |
| Bad-experience use | One correct, clear from context | 0–4 |
| by-agent & word order | Object before participle; by used well | 0–3 |
| Task & length | 120–150 words; coherent | 0–3 |