

**Intermediate 3**  
**Unit 4 Grammar**  
**Presented by Mohammad Rajabpur**

## **The Causative Structure**

The causative structure in English is used to indicate that one person causes another person to do something. It often involves verbs like "have," "get," and "make."

### **have somebody do something = get somebody to do something**

In the causative structure, “have” is followed by a personal object and the base form of the verb, but “get” is followed by a personal object and the infinitive form of the verb. The two structures have the same meaning.

Examples:

*Jack **had** a mechanic **repair** his car.*

*Jack **got** a mechanic **to repair** his car.*

These sentences mean Jack didn't repair the car himself. He asked a mechanic to repair his car and the mechanic did it.

*The company **had** a computer programmer **develop** an Android application for them.*

*The company **got** a computer programmer **to develop** an Android application for them.*

These sentences mean the people in the company didn't develop the Android application themselves. They asked a computer programmer to develop it and the programmer did what they wanted.

### **make somebody do something**

When we make someone do something, we force him or her to do something. In the causative structure, “make” is followed by a personal object and the base form of the verb.

Examples:

*The commander **made** the soldiers **attack** the demonstrators.*

This sentence means the soldiers didn't like to attack the demonstrators. The commander forced the soldiers to attack them.

*The teacher **made** his students **do** too much homework.*

This sentence means the students didn't want to do too much homework. The teacher forced them to do it.

**Source:**

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