

# Chapter 25

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## Causative Form of the Verb

**M**ost causative verbs express the meaning of “to make something happen” or “to cause an action to take place,” however, some convey a somewhat different meaning from the original verb. Causative verbs are derived from nouns, adjectives, adverbs and conjunctions; can be used with any tense, and are negated in the same way as regular verbs. There are four categories of causative verbs which will be taught in this chapter, namely:

1. Causative verbs formed with the suffix *-esha* or *-eza*.
2. Causative verbs formed with the suffix *-isha* or *-iza*.
3. Causative verbs formed with the infix *-z-*, *-lish-* or *-liz-*.
4. Causative verbs that do not fit into any of the above categories.

### Section A: Causative verbs which end with either *-esha* or *-eza*

Verbs where the 2<sup>nd</sup> last syllable contains O or E are made causative by the suffix *-esha* or *-eza* as shown in the examples below:

*cheka* – laugh = *chekesha* – cause to laugh

*Mchekeshaji aliwachekesha wasikilizaji.* – The comedian made the audience laugh.

*oga* – bathe = *ogesha* – bathe someone

*Mama wanawaogesha watoto wao.* – Mothers bathe their children.

*penda* – love = *pendeza* – please

*Tabia yake haikutupendeza.* – His/Her behaviour did not please us.

*tokea* – come out = *tokeza* – cause to come out

*Roshani ilitokeza juu ya mlango wa mbele.* – The balcony stuck out above the front door.

## Practice Exercise A

Translate into English.

1. *Madereva wanatakiwa kuendesha magari yao kwa uangalifu.*
2. *Benki ilimkopesha mfanyabiashara dola milioni mbili.*
3. *Huu ni wakati wa kuorodhesha wapiga kura.*
4. *Mfalme hakuwasomesha watoto wake.*
5. *Ninatumaini hawatatusemesha kwa sababu tuna shughuli.*
6. *Kazi ile iliwachokesha sana.*
7. *Dada yangu hakuotesha mimea.*
8. *Wapigamuziki hawakupoteza vifaa vyao.*
9. *Mazingira ya hapa yanapendeza sana.*
10. *Kamanda alichelewesha gwaride.*

## Section B: Causative verbs which end with *-isha* or *-iza*

Verbs where the 2<sup>nd</sup> last syllable contains A, I or U are made causative by the suffix *-isha* or *-iza* as shown in the examples below:

*hama* – relocate = *hamisha* – transfer

*Seremala alihamisha vyombo vyake.* – The carpenter moved his/her tools.

*rudi* – return = *rudisha* – send back

*Kampuni chache zimerudisha magari.* – Few companies have recalled the vehicles.

*fahamu* – understand = *fahamisha* – inform

*Madaktari walitufahamisha kuhusu ukimwi.* – The doctors informed us about AIDS.

*iga* – imitate = *igiza* – act

*Tuliigiza mchezo wa Shakespeare.* – We acted a Shakespeare play.

## Practice Exercise B

Translate into Swahili.

11. He made his sister rich by investing her money.
12. The President cut short her visit after the floods.
13. The courier did not deliver all the parcels.
14. The tour guides simplified our safari.
15. The citizenship judge made the new immigrants take an oath.
16. John taught us how to drive a car.
17. We softened the soil before planting the seeds.
18. Mother fed the baby with porridge.
19. We did not make them pay for their mistakes.
20. The earthquake did not relocate many people.
21. The police and firefighters staged the accident.
22. The tourists fulfilled their goal of climbing Mount Kilimanjaro.

## Section C: Causative verbs which end with *-z-*, *-lish-* or *-liz-*

Verbs which end in double vowels are made causative by either inserting *-z-*, *-lish-* or *-liz-* between the two vowels as shown in the examples below:

*umia* – get hurt = *umiza* – cause pain

*Magaidi waliwaumiza watu wengi sana.* – The terrorists hurt many people.

*ingia* – enter = *ingiza* – let in

*Mchungaji aliingiza mifugo yake yote.* – The herder let in all his/her livestock.

*kaa* – sit = *kalisha* – cause to sit

*Kiongozi aliwakalisha chini watu wake.* – The leader sat down his/her people.

*sikia* – hear = *sikiliza* – listen

*Waandishi wa habari hawakumsikiliza mhariri.* – The reporters did not listen to the editor.

## Practice Exercise C

Write the verbs from which the following causative verbs have been derived.

23. *visha*
24. *tembeza*
25. *punguza*
26. *poteza*
27. *oza*
28. *poza*
29. *jaza*
30. *paza*
31. *zoeza*
32. *pokeza*
33. *tokeza*
34. *kataza*
35. *kimbiza*
36. *kuzi*
37. *liza*
38. *chomoza*
39. *zalisha*
40. *uguzi*

## Section D: Causative verbs which do not fit into any of the above categories

1. Some verbs ending with *-ka* and *-ta* are made causative by replacing these suffixes with *-sha* as shown in the examples below:

*chemka* – boil = *chemsha* – cause to boil

*Shangazi alichemsha maji ya kuoga.* – The aunt boiled water for the bath.

*pata* – get = *pasha* – inform

*Walitupasha habari za safari yao.* – They informed us about their safari.

2. Some verbs ending with *-na* are made causative by replacing the *-na* suffix with

*-nya* as shown below:

*ona* – see = *onya* – warn

*Hatukumwonya juu ya ugonjwa huu.* – We did not warn him/her about this disease.

*pona* – heal = *ponya* – cause to be healed

*Daktari aliponya wagonjwa wengi wa malaria.* – The doctor healed many malaria patients.

3. Some verbs can be changed into two different causative verbs which convey two different meanings as shown in the examples below:

*pita* – pass = *pisha* – allow to pass

*Mlinzi alitupisha kuingia Ikulu.* – The guard allowed us to enter the State House.

*pita* – pass = *pitisha* – approve

*Bosi wake alipitisha maombi yake.* – His/Her boss approved his/her requests.

4. Some verbs are causative in their original form as shown below:

*fundisha* – teach or cause to learn

*Kocha aliwafundisha wachezaji njia bora ya kufunga magoli.* – The coach taught the players a better way to score goals.

5. Some verbs do not follow any rules when made into their causative form

*sawa* – equal = *sawazisha* – equalize

*Serikali haikusawazisha mishahara ya wafanyakazi wote.* – The government did not equalize the salaries of all the workers.

Also note that after being changed into causative verbs, some causative verbs can also be made passive. For example:

*soma* – read – *somesha* – educate – *someshwa* – educated by

*Mwanafunzi alisomeshwa na mwalimu.* – The student was educated by the teacher.

## Practice Exercise D

Write the verbs from which the following causative verbs have been derived.

41. *washa*
42. *fanya, fanyiza*
43. *kanya*
44. *laza*
45. *shusha*

Translate into Swahili.

46. The food was prepared by a very famous chef.
47. The child was put to sleep by his father.
48. The envelope will be returned by the post man.
49. The buckets of water were filled by the villagers.
50. I was forced to clean my room.

## New Vocabulary

- apa*: swear (the truth)  
*bahasha*: envelope(s)  
*bosi/ma-*: boss(es)  
*chelewesha*: delay  
*chemka*: boil  
*choka*: tired  
*chomoa*: extract  
*fahamisha*: inform  
*fana*: succeed, prosper  
*fikisha*: deliver  
*funga goli/ma-*: score goal(s)  
*gwaride*: parade(s)  
*hama*: relocate, migrate  
*iga*: imitate  
*igiza*: act, stage  
*Ikulu*: State House in Dar-es-Salaam  
*ingia*: enter  
*jaji/ma- wa uraia*: citizenship judge(s)

*kamanda/ma-*: commander(s)  
*kana*: refuse, reject, deny  
*kataa*: refuse, reject, deny  
*kifaa/vi-*: equipment, instrument(s), supply(ies), material(s)  
*kifurushi/vi-*: parcel(s)  
*kiongozi/vi- wa watalii*: tour guide(s)  
*kocha/ma-*: coach(es)  
*kopa*: borrow  
*kopesha*: lend  
*kua*: grow  
*kuhusu*: concerning, about  
*laini*: soft  
*lazima*: obligation  
*lazimisha*: order, force  
*lengo/ma-*: goal(s)  
*limbika*: set aside, invest  
*maarufu*: famous  
*mchekeshaji/wa-*: comedian(s)  
*mchungaji/wa-*: priest(s), shepherd(s)  
*mfalme/wa-*: king(s)  
*mfanyabiashara/wa-*: businessperson(s)  
*mfugo/mi-*: farm animal(s)  
*mhamiaji/wa-*: immigrant(s)  
*mpiga/wa- kura*: voter(s)  
*mpigamuziki/wa-*: musician(s)  
*msafirishaji/wa-*: courier(s)  
*msikilizaji/wa-*: listener(s)  
*mtu/wa- wa posta*: postal worker(s)  
*mwandishi/wa- wa habari*: reporter(s)  
*oga*: bathe, wash  
*onya*: warn  
*orodha*: list(s)  
*orodhesha*: register  
*paa*: raise, fly  
*pasha*: inform  
*pitisha*: approve  
*roshani*: balcony(ies)  
*tabia*: behaviour(s)

*takiwa*: require, need  
*tetemeko/ma-la/ya ardhi*: earthquake(s)  
*timia*: complete  
*tumaini/ma-*: hope(s)  
*uangilifu*: care  
*ugonjwa/magonjwa*: disease(s)  
*ugua*: feel sick  
*uji*: porridge  
*umia*: get hurt  
*waka*: burn, shine, light  
*zaa*: bear, produce  
*ziara*: visit(s)  
*zoea*: be used to

## Key to Exercises

### Answers to Practice Exercise A

1. Drivers are required to drive their cars carefully.
2. The bank lent the businessperson two million dollars.
3. This is the time to register voters.
4. The king did not educate his children.
5. I hope they will not make us speak because we are busy.
6. That work made them very tired.
7. My sister did not grow plants.
8. The musicians did not lose their equipment.
9. The environment of this place is very pleasant.
10. The commander delayed the parade.

### Answers to Practice Exercises B

11. *Alimtajirisha dada yake kwa kulimbikiza pesa zake.*
12. *Rais alifupisha ziara yake baada ya mafuriko.*
13. *Msafirishaji hakufikisha vifurushi vyote.*
14. *Viongozi wa watalii walirahisisha safari yetu.*
15. *Jaji wa uraia aliwaapisha wahamiaji wapya.*
16. *John alitufundisha jinsi ya kuendesha gari.*
17. *Tulilainisha udongo kabla ya kupanda mbegu.*
18. *Mama alimlisha mtoto uji.*
19. *Hatukuwalipiza kwa ajili ya makosa yao.*



20. *Tetemeko la ardhi halikuwahamisha watu wengi.*
21. *Polisi na wazimamoto waliigiza ajali.*
22. *Watalii walitimiza lengo lao la kupanda Mlima Kilimanjaro.*

### Answers to Practice Exercise C

23. *vaa*
24. *tembea*
25. *pungua*
26. *potea*
27. *oa*
28. *poa*
29. *jaa*
30. *paa*
31. *zoea*
32. *pokea*
33. *tokea*
34. *kataa*
35. *kimbia*
36. *kua*
37. *lia*
38. *chomoa*
39. *zaa*
40. *ugua*

### Answers to Practice Exercise D

41. *waka*
42. *fana*
43. *kana*
44. *lala*
45. *shuka*
46. *Chakula kilitayarishwa na mpishi maarufu sana.*
47. *Mtoto alilazwa na baba yake.*
48. *Bahasa itarudishwa na mtu wa posta.*
49. *Ndoo za maji zilijazwa na wanakijiji.*
50. *Mimi nililazimishwa kusafisha chumba changu.*

