

Translating "lassen"

Es gibt im Englischen viele Möglichkeiten, das deutsche Verb „lassen“ zu übersetzen.

1. let: etwas zulassen

My parents don't let me watch TV. Meine Eltern lassen mich nicht fernsehen.

2. make: zwingen, zu etwas bewegen

My parents make me tidy up the attic. Meine Eltern lassen mich den Dachboden aufräumen.

He made his little brother cry. Er brachte seinen kleinen Bruder zum Weinen.

3. have sth. done: etwas machen lassen.

We have had the house painted. – Wir haben das Haus streichen lassen.

4. leave: etwas zurücklassen, übriglassen, in Ruhe lassen

I've left my bag in the car. Ich habe meine Tasche im Auto gelassen.

I left you a piece of chocolate cake. Ich habe dir ein Stück Schokoladenkuchen übriggelassen.

Leave me alone! Lass mich in Ruhe!

EXERCISE 1 let / make sb. do sth. Choose the right alternative.

- a) The students were very upset after they had heard the bad news. So the teacher didn't **make them** / **let them** do schoolwork; he **let them** / **made them** go home early.
- b) "That's a funny coat you're wearing." – "I know, I hate it. But my mom **lets me** / **makes me** wear it because it's so cold."
- c) I'd love to come to the party but my parents won't **let me** / **make me**.
- d) My boss **lets me** / **makes me** work overtime a lot. I'm scared he will fire me if I say no.
- e) Put out that cigarette right now! I won't **let you** / **make you** smoke in my car!
- f) I didn't want to steal the ring. Bob **let me** / **made me** do it!
- g) I love this joke. It **lets me** / **makes me** laugh every time.
- h) My dad **lets me** / **makes me** use his car, but he always **lets me** / **makes me** drive slowly.

EXERCISE 2 Rephrase these sentences using *let* or *make sb. do sth.*

- a) John's parents say that he has to paint the fence. -> John's parents *make him paint the fence*.
- b) My dad says that I mustn't smoke.
- c) Our teacher says that we must study every day.
- d) Your friend says that you can use his scissors.
- e) My boss says that I must answer all his emails.
- f) Our teacher says that we can use a dictionary on the test.
- g) Your sister says that you mustn't go into her room.
- h) Sally's grandma says that she must work in the garden.
- i) Mum says that I needn't do the dishes today.
- j) The man says that Bill mustn't play with his dog.

EXERCISE 3 Translate these sentences using let or make sb. do sth.

- a) Meine Mutter hat mich nicht zur Party gehen lassen.
- b) Sie hat mich das ganze Haus putzen lassen.
- c) Lass ihn nicht entkommen (*get away*)!
- d) Du musst sie zwingen, sich die Zähne zu putzen.
- e) Das Baby hat mich die ganze Nacht nicht schlafen lassen.
- f) Im Sommercamp haben uns die Betreuer (*counselor*) um sechs Uhr aufstehen lassen.
- g) Um drei Uhr morgens zwangen die Nachbarn sie, die Musik auszumachen.
- h) Meine Eltern lassen mich keine Videospiele spielen.
- i) Unser Lehrer zwingt uns nicht, die Vokabeln zu lernen.

EXERCISE 4 Write five sentences: What do your parents let you do? What do they make you do?

EXERCISE 5 **have something done.** Complete the sentences.

Ex. I don't dye my hair myself. I *have it dyed*.

- a) We don't clean the pool ourselves. We _____.
- b) My sister never changes her tires herself; she _____
at the garage.
- c) Joe didn't write this book himself; he _____
by a ghostwriter.
- d) I never wrap presents myself. I always _____
at the shop.
- e) When we're on holiday we can't feed the dog. We _____
by our neighbor.
- f) I can't repair my computer myself, so I _____ by a friend.

EXERCISE 6 The Millers have won the lottery. Now they're super rich and have hired experts for every task.

- a) They used to buy their food at the supermarket. Now they _____
by a nutritionist.
- b) Mrs Miller used to water the flowers. Now she _____ by a
gardener.
- c) The kids used to do their Math homework. Now they _____
by a professor of mathematics.
- d) Mr Miller used to wash the car. Now he _____ by a car
mechanic.
- e) They used to take the dog for a walk. Now they _____ by a
dog expert.

EXERCISE 7 Fill in “have ... done” in the right tense.

- a) You look different today. – Yes, that’s because I _____ (my hair / cut).
- b) We were too lazy to cook last night, so we just _____ (pizza / deliver).
- c) You should _____ (the wasps’ nest / remove) by an expert.
- d) That jacket looks great on you. – Thanks. I _____ (it / make) by a tailor.
- e) Do you cut the hedge yourself? – No, I don’t. We _____ (it / cut) by our gardener once a year.
- f) Are you going to build the house yourself? – No, we _____ (it / build) by a construction company.
- g) The windshield is dirty again. – But we _____ (car / clean) yesterday!
- h) I need to get a new passport, so I _____ (picture / take) tomorrow.

EXERCISE 8 Translating “lassen”. Translate these sentences using either *let*, *make*, *have sth. done* or *leave*.

- a) Ich habe meinen Schirm zu Hause gelassen.
- b) Wir lassen das Sofa reinigen.
- c) Sein Chef lässt ihn am Wochenende arbeiten.
- d) Viele Schulen zwingen ihre Schüler, Schuluniformen zu tragen.
- e) Unsere Schule lässt uns tragen, was wir wollen.
- f) Lass mich in Ruhe!
- g) Meine Eltern lassen mich kein Handy kaufen.
- h) Die Lehrerin lässt die Schüler miteinander reden.
- i) Unser Vermieter (*landlord*) lässt uns keine Haustiere haben.
- j) Er lässt seine Hemden waschen.
- k) Für die Party habe ich mir die Fingernägel machen lassen.
- l) Wenn du Hilfe brauchst, lass es mich wissen.
- m) Sie können dich nicht zwingen, das zu tun.
- n) Du solltest deinen Arm röntgen (*to x-ray*) lassen. Er könnte gebrochen sein.
- o) Ihr könnt mich nicht hier lassen!
- p) Ich werde mein Auto reparieren lassen.

Lösungen

EXERCISE 1 a) make them / let them, b) makes me, c) let me, d) makes me, e) let you, f) made me, g) makes me, h) lets me / makes me

EXERCISE 2 b) My dad doesn't let me smoke. c) Our teachers makes us study every day. d) Your friend lets you use his scissors. e) My boss makes me answer all his emails. f) Our teacher lets us use a dictionary in the test. g) Your sister doesn't let you go into her room. h) Sally's grandma makes her work in the garden. i) Mum doesn't make me do the dishes today. j) The man doesn't let Bill play with his dog.

EXERCISE 3 a) My mom didn't let me go to the party. b) She made me clean the whole house. c) Don't let him get away! d) You must make her/them clean her/their teeth. e) The baby didn't let me sleep all night. f) In summer camp the counselors made us get up at six. g) At three a.m. the neighbors made them turn off the music. h) My parents don't let me play video games. i) Our teacher doesn't make us learn the vocabulary.

EXERCISE 5 a) We have it cleaned. b) She has them changed. c) He had it written. d) I have them wrapped. e) We have it fed. f) I have it repaired.

EXERCISE 6 a) They have their food bought. b) She has the flowers watered. c) They have their homework done. d) He has it washed. e) They have it taken for a walk.

EXERCISE 7 a) That's because I've had my hair cut. b) We just had pizza delivered. c) You should have the wasps's nest removed. d) I had it made. e) We have it cut. f) We had it built. g) We had it cleaned. h) I am going to have my picture taken / will have my picture taken.

EXERCISE 8 a) I've left my umbrella at home. b) We're having the sofa cleaned. c) His boss makes him work at the weekend. d) Many schools make their students wear uniforms. e) Our school lets us wear what we want. f) Leave me alone! g) My parents don't let me / won't let me buy a cell phone. h) The teacher lets the students talk to each other. i) Our landlord doesn't let us keep any pets. j) He has his shirts washed. k) I've had my nails done for the party. l) If you need help, let me know. m) They can't make you do that. n) You should have your arm x-rayed. It could be broken. o) You can't leave me here! p) I'll have my car repaired.