

Grammar Lesson

Lesson 17: He made me do it
レッスン 17: 彼が私にそうさせました

Target: Expressing causation

目的: 因果関係について表現しましょう!

Reading
単語

New vocabulary introduced in the reading

• a jerk	嫌な人、最低な人	• On the subject of...	〜に関して
• (be) pointless	意味のない	• (be) separate	別々の
• take... for instance	例として〜を挙げる	• (to) wait around for...	近くで〜を待つ
• alphabetically	アルファベット順に	• (be) unproductive	非生産的な
• (to) joke	冗談を言う	• clearly	はっきりと
• quitting time	退出時間	• (to) get... straight	を正しく把握する
• a stack of...	大量の	• a wild goose chase	無駄足を運ぶこと
• (be) persuasive	説得力のある	• (be) sick of (ing)	〜にうんざりしている
• overtime	残業	• a personal assistant	個人助手

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Read the passage and circle the new words as you find them

My boss is such a jerk. He makes me do the most pointless things at work. Take Monday for instance. He asked me to alphabetically sort the M&Ms on his desk. Every one of them just had "M" on it though. How was I supposed to arrange them alphabetically if there was only one letter? He must have been joking when he asked me to do it.

Tuesday wasn't much better. On Tuesday, just around 5:00 at quitting time, he asked me to go over an entire stack of paperwork. He told me that I would only take 20 minutes, but it ended up taking over 4 hours. There were just so many documents. I think I had to go over at least 20 different reports. That night I missed dinner and I didn't get home that night until midnight.

He is also quite persuasive. He somehow persuaded me to work until 11pm on Wednesday night, without paying me overtime. I have no idea how he did that. On the subject of persuasion. On 3 separate occasions he has persuaded me to do things I didn't really want to do. One time, he persuaded me to drive his son to soccer practice. Another time, he convinced me to pick up his wife from the station. Her train was delayed by 4 hours, so I spent half my day waiting around for her to arrive. It was such an unproductive use of my time.

On Thursday, he told me to go all the way to Haneda airport to pick up a client. I got to the airport, and I waited there for a good 2 hours before my boss called me and informed me that the client had actually arrived at Narita and ended up taking a taxi because he got sick of waiting for me. That's not my fault. My boss clearly told me to go to Haneda, not Narita. I wish he would get his information straight before sending me on a wild goose chase.

Friday was pretty bad too. In the morning he forced me to clean the bathrooms at work. After lunch he made me reorganize the filing cabinets, and in the afternoon he told me to go out and buy everyone coffee.

I'm really sick of being a personal assistant. Starting from tomorrow, I'm going to start looking for a new job.

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Answer the questions below

- Who makes her do the most pointless things at work?
- What did he ask her to sort alphabetically?
- On what night did he persuade her to work until 11pm?
- Who did the boss convince her to pick up from the station?
- What airport did her boss tell her to go to?
- Did her boss get her to take his dog for a walk on Monday?
- What did her boss make her reorganize?
- How many examples of "causation" can you find?

DEAN MORGAN