A Little Supper Joke

An elderly gentleman of 85 feared his wife was getting hard of hearing. So one day he called her doctor to make an appointment to have her hearing checked. The Doctor made an appointment for a hearing test in two weeks, and meanwhile there's a simple informal test the husband could do to give the doctor some idea of the state of her problem.

"Here's what you do," said the doctor, "start out about 40 feet away from her, and in a normal conversational speaking tone see if she hears you. If not, go to 30 feet, then 20 feet, and so on until you get a response." That evening, the wife is in the kitchen cooking dinner, and he's in the living room. He says to himself, "I'm about 40 feet away, let's see what happens."

Then in a normal tone he asks, "Honey, what's for supper?" No response.

So the husband moved to the other end of the room, about 30 feet from his wife and repeats, "Honey, what's for supper?" Still, no response.

Next he moves into the dining room where he is about 20 feet from his wife and asks, "Honey, what's for supper?" Again he gets no response.

So he walks up to the kitchen door, only 10 feet away. "Honey, what's for supper?" Again there is no response.

So he walks right up behind her. "Honey, what's for supper?"

"Damn it Earl, for the fifth time, CHICKEN!"

CAUSATIVE: do something yourself and have something done

I'm going to fix this radio AND I'm going to HAVE this radio FIXED

I'm going to do it

Someone else is going to do it

Make causative sentences:
1. I'm going to go to the dentist and I ______________________ (pull out, tooth)
2. Our house needs redecorating. We ____________________ (paint, it)
3. I went to the dentist and I ______________________ (pull out, tooth)
4. Our house needed redecorating so we ____________________ (paint, it)

IS THERE A CAUSATIVE SENTENCE IN THE TEXT ABOVE?

Decide: causative or not:
1. I usually have my students shot if they don't do their HW.
2. Tom has never been in Portugal.
3. We have had a lot of problems since 1999.
4. We have had a lot of problems fixed since 1999.
5. We have our health checked at least twice a year.

Find the words in the text that mean:

1. in the meantime
2. go to
3. once more
4. don’t hear well
5. reply
6. standard, usual, typical, ordinary
7. arrange to meet someone
8. situation, circumstances, condition
9. darling, dear, sweetheart
10. not difficult

a) I tried to call him a few times, but there was no __________________.
b) It’s great to have you home __________________!
c) The flight will be announced soon. ____________________, please remain seated.
d) There are great fears for the ________________ of our country’s economy.
e) You know ________________ well what I'm talking about.
f) It’s ________________ to feel nervous before an exam.
g) Hi, ________________, I’m home!
h) ________________, will you tell me what really happened?
i) You should phone his secretary if you want to ____________________.
j) When you dial a phone number, you should hear a ringing ________________.
k) We use the word ____________________ to say that someone is old or getting old in a polite way.
l) __________________ six months ago he quit his job and moved to Italy.