

# PASSIVE VOICE

YOU WANT TO SHOW THAT  
OBJECT HAS THE LARGER  
IMPORTANCE THAN SUBJECT



# Passive Voice

*We use passive forms when:*

- a) we don't know **WHO** did it;  
*The window was broken an hour ago.*
- b) we are interested in **WHAT** happens,  
not **WHO** it is done by;  
*His watch was stolen in the street.*
- c) the situation is rather formal.  
*Smoking is not allowed.*

# Passive Voice

**be+V3**

**Somebody** cleans **this room** every day. (*active*)

*subject*

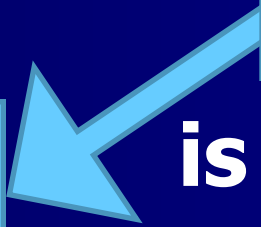
**this room**

*object*

**This room**

*subject*

**is cleaned** every day. (*passive*)



*The object of the active verb becomes the subject in the new sentence.*



# There are 8 forms of the verbs in the Passive voice.



<i>Present Simple</i>	<b>am/is/are + V3</b>	The work <b>is done.</b>
<i>Past Simple</i>	<b>was/were + V3</b>	The work <b>was done.</b>
<i>Future Simple</i>	<b>will be/shall be +V3</b>	The work <b>will be done.</b>
<i>Present Progressive</i>	<b>is/are being + V3</b>	The work <b>is being done.</b>
<i>Past Progressive</i>	<b>was/were being+V3</b>	The work <b>was being done.</b>
<i>Present Perfect</i>	<b>have been + V3</b>	The work <b>has been done.</b>
<i>Past Perfect</i>	<b>had + V3</b>	The work <b>had been done.</b>
<i>Future Perfect</i>	<b>will have been +V3</b>	The work <b>will have been done.</b>

the telephone



invented by  
Alexander Graham Bell

dynamite



invented  
by Alfred Nobel

Airplanes



invented  
by the Wright brothers

the  
light bulb



invented by  
Thomas Edison





A novel



written by  
Charles Dickens



A play

written by  
William  
Shakespeare



A paperback



written by  
Stephen King



A screenplay

written by  
Steven Spielberg

# Rewrite these sentences using Passive voice:

1. People *don't use* this road very often.
2. Somebody *is using* the comp at the moment.
3. They *have built* a new hospital near the airport.
4. They *cancelled* all flights because of fog.
5. Somebody *was cleaning* the room when I arrived.
6. The car was 3 years old but no one *had used* it very much.
7. Somebody *will translate* this article tomorrow.
8. By the end of the week Nick *will have finished* his report.

# Remember

If we want to say *who does the action*,  
we use **by** :

**This house was built by my grandfather.**  
**Two hundred people are employed by the company.**

If somebody does the action *with the help of instruments*, we use **with** :

**Meat should be cut with a knife.**  
**Food in Japan is eaten with chopsticks.**





# Choose the right preposition:

1. Fish is cut ... a special knife.
2. What do we usually dig ... ?
3. These novels are written ... A. J. Cronin.
4. The big tree was cut down ... Jim.
5. The bridge was built ... five workers.
6. Who is the portrait painted ...?
7. Women`s dresses are sewed ...  
dressmakers.

# Passive voice with the verbs that have two objects

Some verbs can have two objects:

We gave **the police** **the information**.

The diagram shows the sentence 'We gave the police the information.' with 'the police' and 'the information' highlighted in red. Below 'the police' is a bracket labeled 'object 1' in yellow. Below 'the information' is a bracket labeled 'object 2' in yellow.

So it is possible to make two passive sentences:

*The police were given the information. Or*

*The information was given to the police.*

Other verbs which can have two objects are :

<b>ask</b>	<b>offer</b>	<b>pay</b>	<b>refuse</b>
<b>send</b>	<b>show</b>	<b>teach</b>	<b>tell</b>

# Express the same in English using passive forms of the verbs

1. Мои часы украли вчера.
2. Посмотри! Новый кинотеатр построили!
3. Когда Павел вошел в комнату, обсуждали его проект.
4. Все упражнения сделаны. Мы можем идти в кино.
5. Когда с ним поговорят?
6. Текст нужно будет перевести.
7. Когда папа приехал, вещи были упакованы.
8. Где статья? Ее переводят. Ее переведут через час.
9. Джона Леннона знают не только в Англии.
0. Мне разрешили пойти в кино.

# Match the two parts of these sentences:

- |                              |                       |
|------------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. Marriages are made        | a) cannot be undone.  |
| 2. Easily earned money       | b) than badly taught. |
| 3. The devil is not so black | c) is quickly spent.  |
| 4. Things done               | d) as he is painted.  |
| 5. Better untaught           | e) in heaven.         |

## Find their Russian equivalents:

- a) Браки совершаются на небесах.*
- b) Недоученный хуже неученого.*
- c) Не так страшен черт, как его малюют.*
- d) После драки кулаками не машут.*
- e) Что легко наживается, легко и проживается.*



# WELL DONE

