

PRESENT SIMPLE PASSIVE



- English has two voices: active and passive. The active voice is used when the subject of the sentence does the action. For example: My mom sings that song.
- The passive voice is used when we focus on the object of the sentence. For example: That song is sung by my mom.

- When it is important to know who does the action, we use **by**. The noun that follows **by** is called the “agent.” My mom was the subject in the active sentence, but it becomes the agent in the passive sentence.

- When the agent is unknown, or unimportant to the meaning of the sentence, we do not use *by*. *For example*: This sweater is made in China.

TO BE + V₃

am

is + V₃

are

TO BE + NOT + V₃

am

is + not + V₃

are

TO BE + (кто?) + V₃ ?

am

is + (кто?) V₃ ?

are

	Subject	Verb	Object
Active	The teachers	help	the new student.
Passive	The new student	is helped	by the teacher.
Active	The teachers	help	the new students.
Passive	The new students	are helped	by the teachers.



The house is built.



The birds are fed.

	Active	Passive
Affirmative	Ben walks the dog. They make cookies here.	The dog is walked by Ben. Cookies are made here.
Negative	Ben doesn't walk the cat. They don't make sandwiches here.	The cat isn't walked by Ben. Sandwiches aren't made here.
Question	Does Ben walk the rabbit? How do they make the cookies?	Is the rabbit walked (by Ben)? How are the cookies made ?

The passive voice is often used:

- When we talk about art, science, or literature. *For example:* The scientific method is used for experiments.
- To explain directions and instructions. *For example:* Baseball is played with nine players on the team.
- In news reports and academic writing. *For example:* The environment is studied by many scientists.

Read and translate the sentences!

1. The Earth is polluted.
2. Water is polluted too.
3. Trees are cut down.
4. We are told to clean the room.
5. I am asked to wash the dishes.
6. Animals are killed.
7. Coffee is made in India.

Fill in the verb, using necessary form!

1. The jacket . . . of cotton. (make)
2. The Hermitage ... by many tourists. (visit)
3. Alfa Romeo cars ... in Italy. (make)
4. New houses ... in our town. (build)
5. The table ... of wood. (make)
6. Glass bottles ... by people. (reuse)
7. Trees ... down in our country. (cut)
8. Birds and animals ... by people. (kill)

Change the sentences using Passive!

1. Many people visit Russia.
2. People speak English in many countries.
3. The gardener plants many flowers.
4. They make Volkswagen cars in Germany.
5. The postman collects mail twice a day.

6. Mum decorates the kitchen every year.

7. They grow bananas in Africa.

8. Millions of people watch this TV programme.

9. They speak German at the lesson.

10. We collect used paper.

PAST SIMPLE PASSIVE



TO BE + V₃

was

+

V₃

were

TO BE + NOT + V₃

was

+ not + V₃

were

TO BE +(κτο?) + V3

was

+ (κτο?) + V₃

were

Passive Voice: Past Simple

To be + v3

Positive	It was recorded last week. They were made a long time ago.
Negative	It wasn't recorded last week. They weren't made a long time ago.
Questions	Was it recorded last week? Were they made a long time ago?

Упражнение 1. *Fill in the verb in the Past Active or Passive Voice.*

1. The Cape of Good Hope ... (discovered / was discovered) by Bartolomeo Dias.
2. The clown ... (entertained / was entertained) the public.
3. We ... (arrived/ were arrived) at the camp in time.
4. Many experiments ... (did/ were done) under water.
5. Many people ... (invited / were invited) to the festival.
6. They ... (discussed / were discussed) many exciting things.
7. I ... (learnt / was learnt) many interesting things in this unit.
8. What artist ... (painted / was painted) this picture?

Write sentences. Use the past simple passive.

1. my laptop / steal / last week.
2. the men / arrest / by the police
3. the painting / sell / for £500
4. the goal / score / by Raul
5. these cars / make / by robots

Change the active sentences into passive sentences.

1. They played the match in the evening.
2. They calculated the answers very quickly.
3. They filmed the movie in black and white.
4. They sent the e-mail yesterday.
5. They built our house ten years ago.
6. Alexander Fleming discovered penicillin.
7. The shopkeeper opened the shop at nine o'clock.

1 Complete the sentences with the past participle form of the verbs in brackets.

- 1 The price tags are (take) off straight away.
- 2 The banners were (carry) through the streets.
- 3 Fur is still (wear), although many people protest about it.
- 4 The clothes were (throw) away even though they were not damaged.
- 5 The boy was (wake) at 4 a.m. to begin work.
- 6 Cocoa trees are (grow) in countries like Brazil and Ghana.

2 Complete the sentences with *is, are, was or were*.

- 1 The clothes exported to other countries and they are then sold for a higher price.
- 2 The bridge built in only six months.
- 3 In this country, I think children given too much pocket money nowadays.
- 4 This T-shirt made of cotton.
- 5 The children told to work in the factory. They didn't have a choice.
- 6 During a demonstration, slogans often shouted.

3 Rewrite the sentences in the passive without *by*. Use the present or past simple passive.

1 Someone stole my mobile phone yesterday.

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2 Everyone finished lunch by 2 p.m.

.....

3 We freeze food products to conserve them.

.....

4 They publish daily newspapers every day.

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5 People met us at the station.

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6 The postman delivers the post before nine o'clock.

.....

7 My parents gave me an alarm clock for my birthday.

.....

8 Someone cleans the office every night.

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