

PASSIVE VOICE



USE

♦ Passive voice is used when the focus is on the action. It is not important or not known, however, who or what is performing the action.

FORM

♦ Subject + finite form of *to be* + Past Participle (3rd column of IRREGULAR VERBS)

TENSE		SUBJECT	VERB	OBJECT
SIMPLE PRESENT	ACTIVE	Peter	sings	a song
	PASSIVE	A song	is sung	by Peter
SIMPLE PAST	ACTIVE	Peter	sang	a song
	PASSIVE	A song	was sang	by Peter
PRESENT CONTINUOUS	ACTIVE	Peter	is singing	a song
	PASSIVE	A song	is being sang	by Peter
PAST CONTINUOUS	ACTIVE	Peter	was singing	a song
	PASSIVE	A song	was being sang	by Peter
PRESENT PERFECT	ACTIVE	Peter	has sang	a song
	PASSIVE	A song	has been sang	by Peter
PAST PERFECT	ACTIVE	Peter	had sang	a song
	PASSIVE	A song	had been sang	by Peter
FUTURE: WILL	ACTIVE	Peter	will sing	a song
	PASSIVE	A song	will be sang	by Peter





1) Rewrite the sentences using PASSIVE VOICE.



a) Susan sings a song.

b) Somebody hits me.

c) We stop the bus.

d) A thief stole my car.

e) They didn't let him go.

f) She won the prize.

g) They didn't make their beds.

h) I told them the truth.

i) Did you tell them?

j) Did she send the letter?

2) Complete the sentences with the following verbs. Use passive voice.

DO – CLOSE – WRITE – STUDY – CLEAN – PLAY

1.- English _____ at our school

2.- Our exercises _____

3.- The petrol station _____ at midnight

4.- My bedroom _____ every day

5.- His songs _____ on the radio

6.- Thousands of text messages _____ every day



3) Active or passive?



1.- She invited us to the party _____

2.- Smoking is forbidden in our school _____

3.- Michael Phelps won eight gold medals at the 2008

Beijing games _____

4.- My purse was stolen _____

5.- Romeo and Juliet was written by Shakespeare _____

6.- Peter writes poems _____

7.- Our homework is done _____

8.- An earthquake shook Haiti _____

9.- She wasn't told the truth _____

10.- English is widely spoken all over the world _____



5) Change from ACTIVE to PASSIVE



The students were punished by the teacher.

Two of the players were expelled by the referee.

This book was written by Shakespeare.

The house was not cleaned by the woman.

The letters were typed by her.

The problem was not solved.

Some books were not returned by the students.

A lot of people were killed.

The car was repaired.



4) Change the following sentences into passive:

1. My father paid the bill yesterday.

2. Somebody broke the glass.

3. They hanged the murderer.

4. They evacuated the town in six hours.

5. The cat ate the meat while the woman was outside.

6. My grandmother sold her old house last week.

7. Somebody stole my wallet.

8. Some people occupied the embassy yesterday.

9. The soldiers stopped the cars.

10. The police arrested the burglars last night.

