

Passive voice "special structures"



- Certain verbs have two objects:
Ex: They gave John the Money
- If we use a passive sentence, either the Money or John can be the subject.
1- The money was given to John or John was given the money
- We can use the following verbs in this structure: **allow, award, fed, give, grant, hand, leave lend, offer, owe, pay, promise, sell, send, show, teach**

- The gerund after certain verbs is replaced in the passive by **should be** + past participle:

Ex:

They advised employing part-time workers \Rightarrow *they advised that part-time workers **should be** employed.*

They suggested making the tests easier. \Rightarrow They suggested that the tests **should be** made easier

- Some of the following sentences when put into the passive require or can have a change of construction.

Ex:

They say he is a spy \Rightarrow *He is said **to be** a spy.*

They say he was a spy \Rightarrow *He is said **to have been** a spy.*

- *It is said that he is/was a spy* is also **possible**.
- **believe, claim, consider, find, know, say, suppose** and **think** when used in the passive can be followed by **an infinitive**.

EXERCISE1 :

- 1- The waiter has not brought us the tea
- 2- Her best friend told her a lie.
- 3- They gave her a clock.
- 4- They recommended opening new factories in the depressed area.
- 5- People believe that he was killed by terrorists.
- 6- They suggested banning the sale of alcohol at football matches.
- 7- We consider that she was the best singer that Australia has ever produced.

KEY :

- 1- We haven't been brought the tea
- 2- A lie was told to her by her best friend
- 3- She was given a clock
- 4- The recommended that new factories should be opened in the depressed area
- 5- He is believed to have been killed by terrorists
- 6- They suggested that the sale of alcohol should be banned at football matches
- 7- She is considered to have been the best singer Australia has ever produced.