

THE PASSIVE (VOICE)



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Passive voice

Welcome

In this grammar presentation we will have a look at the **Passive (voice)**

We will have a look at:

- **The form: how to make the passive in different tenses.**
- **The meaning/usage: why use the passive**

Enjoy

Passive voice

Form: Active vs Passive

Active

He **builds** houses

Subject + **verb** + **object**

The subject is doing the action: He is doing the building

Passive

Object **becomes** the subject

Houses **are built** (by him)

The subject is NOT doing the action: The house does not built itself

Passive voice

Form

Houses **are built** (by him)

Subject + verb to be (in different forms) + Past Participle + (object)

Passive voice

Form

- **Present simple**
 - They **make** TVs in China: TVs **are made** in China
- **Present continuous**
 - They **are checking** his work: His work **is being checked**
- **Present perfect**
 - Someone **has broken** into my house: My house **has been broken** into

Passive voice

Form

- **Simple past**
 - Someone **stole** my wallet: My wallet **was stolen**
- **Will**
 - Someone **will help** you: You **will be helped**
- **Modals**
 - He **can't do** it now. It **can't be done** now

Passive voice

Form

- **-ing form**
 - I **don't like people shouting at me**: I don't like being shouted at.
- **To + inf form**
 - You **need to give** feedback: Feedback needs to be given,
- **By**
 - Can be added if we do want to stress who is doing the action
 - Feedback needs to be given by your manager

Passive voice

Meaning/ usage: When we don't know who did it

My car was stolen.

We don't know who stole the car.

Passive voice

Meaning/ usage: When it is obvious

When it is obvious

He has been arrested on suspicion of burglary

It is obvious: the police

Passive voice

Meaning/ usage: Not important who does it

Not important who does it

Many products are made in China

Who cares? Probably some people in some factory somewhere.

Passive voice

Meaning/ usage: In news broadcasts or articles

In news broadcasts or articles
No survivors have been found

Passive voice

Meaning/ usage: In academic writing

In academic writing

The theory was first proposed in the 19th century.

Passive voice

Meaning/ usage: To avoid responsibility

To avoid responsibility

Errors were made and will be dealt with

Passive voice

Meaning/ usage: With reporting verbs

- It is said: It is said that the data may have been manipulated.
- It is believed: It is believed that the origins of this tradition dates back to ancient times.
- It has been reported: It has been reported that the new law will have a significant impact.
- It is thought: It is thought that the effects of the policy will be far-reaching.
- It is understood: It is understood that a consensus has been reached.
- It is rumoured: It is rumoured there will be changes in the company's leadership.
- It is known: It is widely known that the climate is changing rapidly.
- ...

Passive voice

Challenging

The challenging part for the students is:

- **Selecting the correct tense (present simple, past continuous,...)**
Not really making the passive voice
- **When to use passive voice or active voice**
 - **Students mix them up sometimes**

Passive voice

Any questions

This was the Passive voice.

If you have any questions and or comments, write them in the comments below and I will help you.

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Passive voice

Any questions

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Passive voice

Any questions

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