



Haji Muhammad Mohsin Government High School (Since 1874)

## Online Emergency Eng Class/Activity – 7

Class 8, April 7, 2020

### The Passive Voice - An Overview

We use the passive voice when the subject of the sentence is the receiver of the action.

EXAMPLES	EXPLANATION
Popcorn <b>is sold</b> in movie theaters. Old movies <b>were filmed</b> in black and white. Many movies <b>have been made</b> in Hollywood.	Passive verb = a form of <i>be</i> + past participle
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>subject    verb    object</b></p> <p><b>Active:</b> <u>The children</u> <u>saw</u> <u>the movie.</u></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>subject    verb    by agent</b></p> <p><b>Passive:</b> <u>The movie</u> <u>was seen</u> <u>by the children.</u></p>	<p>Compare active and passive. The object of the active sentence (<i>movie</i>) is the subject of the passive sentence.</p> <p>If the agent of the action (the person who performs the action) is mentioned, it follows <i>by</i>.</p>

Read the following magazine article. Pay special attention to verbs in the passive voice.

The Academy Awards **are given** out every year to recognize outstanding work of movie actors, directors, and others who are part of the movie-making industry. These awards, called Oscars, **are presented** in a formal ceremony in Hollywood. Several people **are nominated** in specific categories, such as Best Movie, Best Actor, Best Music, and Best Costumes. One nominee **is chosen** to receive an award in each category. When the awards ceremony started in 1929, 15 awards **were presented** and the ceremony **was attended** by only 250 people. Tickets cost \$10, and anyone who could afford a ticket could attend. Today about two dozen Oscars **are presented**. Tickets **are** no longer **sold** to the general public; invitations **are sent** only to people involved in making the movies and to their guests. Today the awards **are presented** in the 3400-seat Kodak Theatre in Hollywood. Until 1941, the winners' names **were** already **known** before the ceremony and **published** in newspapers the night before the ceremony. Now the winners' names **are placed** in sealed envelopes and the envelopes **are** not **opened** until the night of the ceremony. Since 1953, Oscar night **has been televised** and **broadcast** all over the world. This show **is seen** by hundreds of millions of people. Viewers watch as their favorite movie stars arrive looking beautiful and hopeful.

## The Passive Voice – Form

### Compare active voice and passive voice in different tenses.

Tense	Active	Passive = <i>Be</i> + Past Participle
Simple Present	A committee <b>chooses</b> the winner.	The winner <b>is chosen</b> by a committee.
Present Continuous	They <b>are presenting</b> an award now.	An award <b>is being presented</b> now.
Future	They <b>will pick</b> the best movie. They <b>are going to pick</b> the best movie.	The best movie <b>will be picked</b> . The best movie <b>is going to be picked</b> .
Simple Past	They <b>announced</b> the winner's name.	The winner's name <b>was announced</b> .
Past Continuous	They <b>were interviewing</b> the winners.	The winners <b>were being interviewed</b> .
Present Perfect	They <b>have chosen</b> the best movie.	The best movie <b>has been chosen</b> .
Modal	You <b>can see</b> the movie on DVD.	The movie <b>can be seen</b> on DVD.

#### Language Notes:

- Both the active voice and the passive voice can be used with different tenses and with modals. The tense of the passive sentence is shown in the verb *be*. Use the past participle with every tense.
- If two verbs in the passive voice are connected with *and*, do not repeat *be*.

The Oscar ceremony **is televised and seen** by millions of people.

EXAMPLES	EXPLANATION
<p>Before 1941, the winners' names <b>were already known</b> before the ceremony.</p> <p>Today the winners <b>are never announced</b> ahead of time.</p>	<p>An adverb can be placed between the auxiliary verb and the main verb.</p>
<p><b>Affirmative:</b> The movie <b>was filmed</b> in the U.S.</p> <p><b>Negative:</b> It <b>wasn't filmed</b> in Canada.</p> <p><b>Yes/No Question:</b> Was it <b>filmed</b> in Hollywood?</p> <p><b>Short Answer:</b> No, it <b>wasn't</b>.</p> <p><b>Wh- Question:</b> Where was it <b>filmed</b>?</p> <p><b>Subject Question:</b> Which movie <b>was filmed</b> in Canada?</p>	<p>Observe affirmative statements, negative statements, and questions with the passive voice. Never use <i>do</i>, <i>does</i>, or <i>did</i> with the passive voice.</p> <p>(<i>Wrong:</i> The movie <b>didn't</b> filmed in Canada.)</p>
<p><b>Active:</b> She saw him.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">↙ ↘</p> <p><b>Passive:</b> He was seen <b>by her</b>.</p> <p><b>Active:</b> They helped us.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">↙ ↘</p> <p><b>Passive:</b> We were helped <b>by them</b>.</p>	<p>Notice the difference in pronouns in an active sentence and a passive sentence. After <i>by</i>, the object pronoun is used.</p>

● **Make sentences in the passive in the given tense !**

1. BMW's – make – in Germany (PRESENT SIMPLE)
2. English – speak – in this shop (PRESENT SIMPLE)
3. The oldest house – build – in 1575 (PAST SIMPLE)
4. The bridge – repair – at the moment (PRESENT CONTINUOUS)
5. The trees – cut down – last winter (PAST SIMPLE)
6. The picture – paint – tomorrow (FUTURE SIMPLE)
7. When I came in – the TV – fix (PAST CONTINUOUS)
8. The cupboard – repair – recently (PRESENT PERFECT SIMPLE)
9. The car – find – in the garage (PAST SIMPLE)
10. Breakfast – serve – between 7 and 9 (PRESENT SIMPLE)
11. The dog – call- Rover (PRESENT SIMPLE)
12. The meeting – hold – in my office (PAST CONTINUOUS)
13. The street – close – because of snow (PRESENT PERFECT)
14. The banks – close – in two days (FUTURE – SIMPLE)
15. Hundreds of books – write – every year (PRESENT SIMPLE)
16. After the accident – Joe – take – to the hospital (PAST SIMPLE)
17. The cap – find – in the corner (PAST SIMPLE)
18. The robber – not find – by the police – yet (PRESENT PERFECT)
19. The search – stop – this evening (FUTURE SIMPLE)
20. Different types of cameras – use (PRESENT CONTINUOUS)



**Key:**

1. BMW's – make – in Germany (PRESENT SIMPLE)  
*BMW's are made in Germany.*
2. English – speak – in this shop (PRESENT SIMPLE)  
*English is spoken in this shop.*
3. The oldest house – build – in 1575 (PAST SIMPLE)  
*The oldest house was built in 1575.*
4. The bridge – repair – at the moment (PRESENT CONTINUOUS)  
*The bridge is being repaired at the moment.*
5. The trees – cut down – last winter (PAST SIMPLE)  
*The trees were cut down last winter.*
6. The picture – paint – tomorrow (FUTURE SIMPLE)  
*The picture will be painted tomorrow.*
7. When I came in – the TV – fix (PAST CONTINUOUS)  
*When I came in , the TV was being fixed.*
8. The cupboard – repair – recently (PRESENT PERFECT SIMPLE)  
*The cupboard has been repaired recently.*
9. The car – find – in the garage (PAST SIMPLE)  
*The car was found in the garage.*
10. Breakfast – serve – between 7 and 9 (PRESENT SIMPLE)  
*Breakfast is served between 7 and 9.*
11. The dog – call- Rover (PRESENT SIMPLE)  
*The dog is called Rover*
12. The meeting – hold – in my office (PAST CONTINUOUS)  
*The meeting was being held in my office.*
13. The street – close – because of snow (PRESENT PERFECT)  
*The street has been closed because of snow.*
14. The banks – close – in two days (FUTURE – SIMPLE)  
*The banks will be closed in two days.*
15. Hundreds of books – write – every year (PRESENT SIMPLE)  
*Hundreds of books are written every year.*
16. After the accident – Joe – take – to the hospital (PAST SIMPLE)  
*After the accident Joe was taken to the hospital.*
17. The cap – find – in the corner (PAST SIMPLE)  
*The cap was found in the corner.*
18. The robber – not find – by the police – yet (PRESENT PERFECT)  
*The robber has not been found by the police.*
19. The search – stop – this evening (FUTURE SIMPLE)  
*The search will be stopped this evening.*
20. Different types of cameras – use (PRESENT CONTINUOUS)  
*Different types of cameras are being used.*

● **Active and Passive Voice Exercise**

1. Ms Sullivan **teaches** us grammar.
2. The teacher **praised** him.
3. The firemen **took** the injured to the hospital.
4. An earthquake **destroyed** the town.
5. The boy's work **pleased** the teacher.
6. The fire **damaged** the building.
7. Who **taught** you French?
8. The manager **will give** you a ticket.
9. Spectators **thronged** the streets.
10. Everyone **will blame** us.
11. The wind **blew down** the trees.
12. The police **caught** the thieves.
13. Alice **posted** the letter.
14. The hostess **received** us.
15. They/somebody **killed** the snake with a stick.
16. The people **welcomed** the minister.
17. They **found** him guilty of murder.
18. John Mathews **built** this house in 1991.

**Answers:**

1. We are taught grammar by Ms Sullivan.
2. He was praised by the teacher.
3. The injured were taken to the hospital by the firemen.
4. The town was destroyed by an earthquake.
5. The teacher was pleased with the boy's work.
6. The building was damaged by the fire.
7. By whom were you taught French?
8. You will be given a ticket by the manager.
9. The streets were thronged with spectators.
10. We will be blamed by everyone.
11. The trees were blown down by the wind.
12. The thieves were caught by the police.
13. The letter was posted by Alice.
14. We were received by the hostess.
15. The snake was killed with a stick.
16. The minister was welcomed by the people.
17. He was found guilty of murder.
18. This house was built by John Mathews in 1991.

● **Active and passive voice exercise**

Complete the following sentences using appropriate active or passive verb forms. Choose your answers from the given options.

1. The problem ..... to the children. (explained / was explained)
2. Those pyramids ..... around 400 AD. (built / were built)
3. All the trouble ..... by your mother. (has caused / was caused)
4. The visitors ..... (were shown / have shown) a collection of old manuscripts.
5. I ..... him ten thousand pounds last year. (lend / lent / was lent)
6. She ..... of spiders. (frightened / is frightened)
7. That picture ..... by my grandmother. (painted / was painted)
8. I ..... by his attitude. (shocked / have shocked / was shocked)
9. Excuse the mess. The house ..... (is painting / is being painted / has painted)
10. I knew why I ..... (had chosen / had been chosen)

### Answers

1. The problem **was explained** to the children.
2. Those pyramids **were built** around 400 AD.
3. All the trouble **was caused** by your mother.
4. The visitors **were shown** a collection of old manuscripts.
5. I **lent** him ten thousand pounds last year.
6. She **is frightened** of spiders.
7. That picture **was painted** by my grandmother.
8. I **was shocked** by his attitude.
9. Excuse the mess. The house **is being painted**.
10. I knew why I **had been chosen**.

### ACTIVE AND PASSIVE VOICE EXERCISE



**The cat drank the milk.**



**The milk was drunk.**

Ref: National Geographic Learning