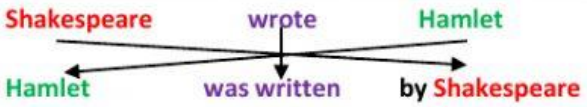
THE PASSIVE VOICE



Passive voice is used when the action is more important than the person or thing doing the action. The agent is usually obvious, unimportant or unknown. It is often found in news and scientific reports, adverts, processes, instructions, polite and formal statements

We form the passive voice with an appropriate tense of the verb **TO BE** + **PAST PARTICIPLE**



1. The object of the active becomes the new subject in the passive
2.- The passive verb changes into its passive form
3.- The subject of the active becomes the by agent

VERB TENSE	ACTIVE VOICE	PASSIVE VOICE
PRESENT SIMPLE	Once a week, Paul cleans the house	Once a week, the house is cleaned by Paul
PRESENT CONTINUOUS	Tim is sending text messages now	Text messages are being sent by Tim now
PAST SIMPLE	Helen repaired the car yesterday	The car was repaired by Helen yesterday
PAST CONTINUOUS	He was delivering the letters	The letters were being delivered
PRESENT PERFECT	Many tourists have visited that castle	That castle has been visited by many tourists
PAST PERFECT	Joe had cooked dinner before I arrived	Dinner had been cooked by Joe before I arrived
FUTURE SIMPLE	Ann will sing a beautiful song	A beautiful song will be sung by Ann
FUTURE PERFECT	They will have built the house by 2025	The house will have been built by 2025
BE GOING TO	His teacher is going to explain the rule	The rule is going to be explained by his teacher



Study this sentence
"They gave Lucy a better job in the company." it contains a verb with two objects: direct and indirect. Two passives are possible in these cases:

1.- One of them with the indirect object as the subject:
Lucy was given a better job in the company
2.- Also, with the direct object as subject. Note that the preposition "to" must be used:
A better job in the company was given to Lucy



The passive voice is also used for reporting comments, opinions and rumours. We often employ verbs like: *think, believe, say, consider, expect, suppose, claim, know*... Examples:

1.- They **claim** that Lionel Messi **is** the best footballer in the world
-It is claimed that Lionel Messi is the best footballer in the world
-Lionel Messi **is claimed to be** the best footballer in the world (present simple infinitive)

2.-People **said** that Lord Byron **lived** on vinegar and potatoes
-It was said that Lord Byron lived on vinegar and potatoes
-Lord **Byron is said to have lived** on vinegar and potatoes (perfect infinitive)

3.-They believe that the Government is planning new measures for gender equality
-It is believed that the Government is planning new measures for gender equality
-The Government **is believed to be planning** new measures for gender equality (continuous inf)



We use **HAVE + SOMETHING + DONE** or **GET + SOMETHING + DONE** (informal style):

1.- when someone makes something for us:
The mechanic will repair my car in two days
I will have my car repaired in two days.

2.- to say that something unpleasant has happened to us:
The thief stole her bag last week
She had her bag stolen last week



LIVEWORKSHEETS LIVEWORKSHEETS

1.- REWRITE THESE SENTENCES IN THE PASSIVE VOICE.

1.- She hasn't opened the bottle of Californian wine yet.

2.- Where did they film the movie?

3.- They sent a present to our friends in America.

4.- The government has introduced taxes on environmental issues.

5.- They never tested the bilingual students.

6.- When did they find the missing child?

7.- Michael grew wonderful flowers in his garden.

8.- Mary is feeding the dog that comes every night.

9.- People say that Iceland's waterfalls are wonderful.

10.- They didn't give us the ticket at the shop.

11.- They are making many arrangements to celebrate the Erasmus anniversary.

12.- Young people always follow the latest trends in technology.

13.- Anne often posts nice messages to the media.

14.- People believed that the prisoner had escaped by climbing over the wall.

15.- Will they deliver the goods immediately?

16.- Visitors find peace and joy at the monastery.

17.-We would receive him with open arms.

18.-The international community is not paying enough attention to this issue.

19.- Many adults are reading Harry Potter's books.

20.-They can sell alcohol in pubs.

21.-New Yorkers are placing and receiving calls.

22.- Great predators rarely eat plants.

23.- The astronauts are giving the journalists a lot of information.

24.-We are going to invite Dr Livingstone to participate in the project.

25.-American companies have introduced a new product in Asia.

26.-The traffic warden gave the driver a ticket.

27.-Radiohead couldn't release their new record last December.

28.-They never gave me instructions.

29.-Medical advances have greatly reduced the number of deaths.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

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