

Test your grammar the passive!

1) Are the following sentences active or passive?

- A. The trial is being held at the moment. _____
- B. The police arrested Nita yesterday. _____
- C. Voleak saw the crime happening. _____
- D. The body was discovered by a dog walker. _____
- E. The man was bitten by a shark. _____
- F. The shark bit the man on the leg. _____

2) Look at the sentences below. Underline the subject, the verb, and the object in a and b.

a) The shark bit the man on the leg.

b) The man was bitten by a shark.

c) How do you form the active?

d) How do you form the passive?

3) Sentences with an agent / instrument

The agent is the person or thing which does the action.

Which sentence includes an agent? What is the agent?

Sentence	Has an agent?	The agent
ex) A lot of the fruit in Cambodia is grown by local farmers.	Yes	Local farmers
a) Hundreds of houses were built last year.		
b) Hundreds of houses were built by the government last year.		
c) A lot of stones were thrown by angry football fans.		
d) A lot of stones were thrown.		

How are the agents introduced?

4) Instruments are things that are used to perform actions.

What is the instrument? How was it introduced?

Sentence	Instrument	How was it introduced?
e) The windows were broken with a baseball bat.		

5) Sentences without an agent

Look at the sentences below, why do you think no agent is mentioned?

Sentence	Reason agent not mentioned
f) Theng's phone was stolen last night	
g) One protester was arrested.	
h) A lot of computers are sold every year.	

6) How do we show tense in the passive?

Sentence	Tense	How do you know?
ex) Cars are made in Japan	Present simple	Are
1) The exam results are being released tomorrow.		
2) My motorbike was stolen last night		
3) The exam results will be released next month.		

7) What's the difference in the use of the verb 'have' in the sentence below?

a) I've just **had** my motorbike stolen.

b) I've just **had** my hair cut.

8) Why are the underlined phrases used in the sentence below?

a) It is said that the fire was started deliberately.

b) It is thought that Cambodia will host the next world cup.

9) Why do we use the passive?