

IELTS BACKGROUND - GRAMMAR & LISTENING

LESSON 01

SKILL	CONTENT
GRAMMAR	✓ Passive Voice 1
	✓ Practice: Rewrite sentences into Passive Voice
LISTENING	✓ Picture Description
	✓ Practice: Catching keywords

We recommend the rule 1:2:1, which means 1 hour for reviewing past lessons, 2 hours for homework and 1 hour for extensive reading and listening (with materials close to the topics in class).

NOTES

[illegible]

PART 1 - GRAMMAR

Passive 1 (is done / was done)

A Study this example:



This house **was built** in 1961.

Was built is *passive*.

Compare active and passive:

Somebody **built** this house in 1961. (*active*)
subject object

This house **was built** in 1961. (*passive*)
subject

When we use an active verb, we say *what the subject does*:

- ☐ My grandfather was a builder. **He built** this house in 1961.
- ☐ It's a big company. **It employs** two hundred people.

When we use a passive verb, we say *what happens to the subject*:

- ☐ 'How old is this house?' **'It was built** in 1961.'
- ☐ **Two hundred people are employed** by the company.

B When we use the passive, who or what causes the action is often unknown or unimportant:

- ☐ A lot of money **was stolen** in the robbery. (somebody stole it, but we don't know who)
- ☐ **Is this room cleaned** every day? (does somebody clean it? – it's not important who)

If we want to say who does or what causes the action, we use **by**:

- ☐ This house was built **by my grandfather**.
- ☐ Two hundred people are employed **by the company**.

C The passive is **be (is/was etc.) + past participle (done/cleaned/seen etc.)**:
(be) done (be) cleaned (be) damaged (be) built (be) seen etc.

For irregular past participles (**done/seen/known** etc.), see Appendix 1.

Study the active and passive forms of the *present simple* and *past simple*:

Present simple

active **clean(s) / see(s)** etc.

Somebody **cleans** this room every day.

passive **am/is/are + cleaned/seen** etc.

This room **is cleaned** every day.

- ☐ Many accidents **are caused** by careless driving.
- ☐ I'm **not invited** to parties very often.
- ☐ How **is** this word **pronounced**?

Past simple

active **cleaned/saw** etc.

Somebody **cleaned** this room yesterday.

passive **was/were + cleaned/seen** etc.

This room **was cleaned** yesterday.

- ☐ We **were woken** up by a loud noise during the night.
- ☐ 'Did you go to the party?' 'No, I **wasn't invited**.'
- ☐ How much money **was stolen** in the robbery?

1 Complete the sentences using one of these verbs in the correct form, present or past:

cause	damage	hold	invite	make
overtake	show	surround	translate	write

- Many accidents are caused by dangerous driving.
- Cheese is made from milk.
- The roof of the building was damaged in a storm a few days ago.
- You was invited to the wedding. Why didn't you go?
- A cinema is a place where films are shown.
- In the United States, elections for president are held every four years.
- Originally the book was written in Spanish, and a few years ago it was translated into English.
- Although we were driving fast, we were overtaken by a lot of other cars.
- You can't see the house from the road. It is surrounded by trees.

2 Write questions using the passive. Some are present and some are past.

- Ask about glass. (how / make?) How is glass made?
- Ask about television. (when / invent?) When was television invented?
- Ask about mountains. (how / form?) How were mountains formed?
- Ask about antibiotics. (when / discover?) When were antibiotics discovered?
- Ask about silver. (what / use for?) What is silver used for?

3 Put the verb into the correct form, present simple or past simple, active or passive.

- It's a big factory. Five hundred people are employed (employ) there.
- Did somebody clean (somebody / clean) this room yesterday?
- Water covers (cover) most of the earth's surface.
- How much of the earth's surface is covered (cover) by water?
- The park gates are locked (lock) at 6.30 p.m. every evening.
- The letter was sent (send) a week ago and it (arrive) yesterday.
- The boat hit a rock and sank (sink) quickly. Fortunately everybody was rescued (rescue).
- Robert's parents died (die) when he was very young. He and his sister were brought up (bring up) by their grandparents.
- I was born in London, but I grew up (grow up) in Canada.
- While I was on holiday, my camera was stolen (steal) from my hotel room.
- While I was on holiday, my camera disappeared (disappear) from my hotel room.
- Why did Sue resign (Sue / resign) from her job? Didn't she enjoy it?
- Why was Ben fired (Ben / fire) from his job? Did he do something wrong?
- The company is not independent. It is owned (own) by a much larger company.
- I saw an accident last night. Somebody called (call) an ambulance but nobody was injured (injure), so the ambulance was not needed (not / need).
- Where are these pictures taken (these pictures / take)? In London?
- Sometimes it's quite noisy living here, but it's not a problem for me – I am not bothered (not / bother) by it.

4 Rewrite these sentences. Instead of using somebody, they, people etc., write a passive sentence.

- Somebody cleans the room every day. The room is cleaned every day.
- They cancelled all flights because of fog. All flights were cancelled because of fog.
- People don't use this road much. This road is not used much.
- Somebody accused me of stealing money. I was accused of stealing money.
- How do people learn languages? How are languages learned?
- People warned us not to go out alone. We were warned not to go out alone.

Passive 2 (be done / been done / being done)

Study the following active and passive forms:

A

Infinitive

active (to) do/clean/see etc.

Somebody will **clean** **this room** later.

passive (to) be + done/cleaned/seen etc.

This room will **be cleaned** later.

- ☐ The situation is serious. Something must **be done** before it's too late.
- ☐ A mystery is something that can't **be explained**.
- ☐ The music was very loud and could **be heard** from a long way away.
- ☐ A new supermarket is going **to be built** next year.
- ☐ Please go away. I want **to be left** alone.

B

Perfect infinitive

active (to) have + done/cleaned/seen etc.

Somebody should have **cleaned** **the room**.

passive (to) have been + done/cleaned/seen etc.

The room should have **been cleaned**.

- ☐ I should have received the letter by now. It might **have been sent** to the wrong address.
- ☐ If you had locked the car, it wouldn't **have been stolen**.
- ☐ There were some problems at first, but they seem **to have been solved**.

C

Present perfect

active have/has + done etc.

The room looks nice. Somebody **has cleaned** **it**.

passive have/has been + done etc.

The room looks nice. **It** **has been cleaned**.

- ☐ Have you heard? The trip **has been cancelled**.
- ☐ **Have** you ever **been bitten** by a dog?
- ☐ 'Are you going to the party?' 'No, I **haven't been invited**.'

Past perfect

active had + done etc.

The room looked nice. Somebody **had cleaned** **it**.

passive had been + done etc.

The room looked nice. **It** **had been cleaned**.

- ☐ The vegetables didn't taste good. They **had been cooked** too long.
- ☐ The car was three years old, but **hadn't been used** very much.

D

Present continuous

active am/is/are + (do)ing

Somebody **is cleaning** **the room** at the moment.

passive am/is/are + being (done)

The room **is being cleaned** at the moment.

- ☐ There's somebody walking behind us. I think we **are being followed**.
- ☐ (in a shop) 'Can I help you?' 'No, thanks. I'm **being served**.'

Past continuous

active was/were + (do)ing

Somebody **was cleaning** **the room** when I arrived.

passive was/were + being (done)

The room **was being cleaned** when I arrived.

- ☐ There was somebody walking behind us. I think we **were being followed**.

1 What do these words mean? Use **it can ...** or **it can't ...**. Use a dictionary if necessary.

If something is

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------|
| 1 washable, <u>it can be washed</u> | 4 unusable, _____ |
| 2 unbreakable, <u>it</u> | 5 invisible, _____ |
| 3 edible, _____ | 6 portable, _____ |

2 Complete these sentences with the following verbs (in the correct form):

arrest carry cause ~~do~~ make repair ~~send~~ spend wake up

Sometimes you need **have (might have, should have etc.)**.

- The situation is serious. Something must be done before it's too late.
- I should have received the letter by now. It might have been sent to the wrong address.
- A decision will not _____ until the next meeting.
- Do you think that more money should _____ on education?
- This road is in very bad condition. It should _____ a long time ago.
- The injured man couldn't walk and had to _____.
- I told the hotel receptionist I wanted to _____ at 6.30 the next morning.
- If you hadn't pushed the policeman, you wouldn't _____.
- It's not certain how the fire started, but it might _____ by an electrical fault.

3 Rewrite these sentences. Instead of using **somebody** or **they** etc., write a passive sentence.

- Somebody has cleaned the room.
The room has been cleaned.
- Somebody is using the computer right now.
The computer
- I didn't realise that somebody was recording our conversation.
I didn't realise that
- When we got to the stadium, we found that they had cancelled the game.
When we got to the stadium, we found that
- They are building a new ring road round the city.

- They have built a new hospital near the airport.

4 Make sentences from the words in brackets. Sometimes the verb is active, sometimes passive.

- There's somebody behind us. (I think / we / follow) I think we're being followed.
- This room looks different. (you / paint / the walls?) Have you painted the walls?
- My car has disappeared. (it / steal!) It
- My umbrella has disappeared. (somebody / take) Somebody
- Sam gets a higher salary now. (he / promote) He
- Ann can't use her office this week. (it / redecorate) It
- There was a problem with the photocopier yesterday, but now it's OK.
(it / work) It again. (it / repair) It
- When I went into the room, I saw that the table and chairs were not in the same place.
(the furniture / move) The
- A neighbour of mine disappeared six months ago. (he / not / see / since then)
He
- I wonder how Jane is these days. (I / not / see / for ages)
I
- A friend of mine was mugged on his way home a few nights ago. (you / ever / mug?)

FURTHER PRACTICE

I. Re-arrange these words to make meaningful sentences.

1. brought/ employees/ during/ the/ meeting/ issue/ this/ up/ by/ the/ was

⇒ _____

2. accident/ been/ police/ to/ has/ the/ reported/ the

⇒ _____

3. fruits/ Vietnam/ being/ are/ from/ fresh/ US/ special/ the/ crates/ to/ transported/ in

⇒ _____

4. mechanic/ DVD player/ been/ the/ repaired/ not/ by/ has/ the/ yet

⇒ _____

5. destroyed/ millions/ rainforests/ year/ world/ all/ over/ the/ hectares/ of/ are/ every/ of

⇒ _____

6. hotel/ clean/ morning/ must/ provided/ towels/ guests/ every/ be/ to

⇒ _____

7. Mike/ full/ abroad/ has/ full/ a/ been/ study/ offered/ to

⇒ _____

8. from/ pandas/ saved/ extinction/ saved/ be

⇒ _____

9. morning/ stored/ picked/ can/ tomatoes/ the/ be/ in/ and

⇒ _____

10. Tet/ most/ shops/ area/ are/ during/ holidays/ the/ the/ in/ this/ closed/ of

⇒ _____

II. Translate into English.

1. Cánh tay của đứa bé đã bị sưng vù lên vì cậu ta bị ong đốt.

⇒ _____

2. Một vài đề xuất mới đang được xem xét bởi hội đồng của công ty.

⇒ _____

3. Hằng năm có rất nhiều nhà cửa bị phá hủy bởi bão nhiệt đới.

⇒ _____

4. Những bản hợp đồng này phải được vị quản lý ký ngay trong hôm nay.

⇒ _____

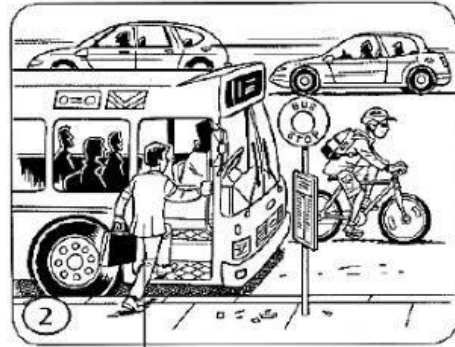
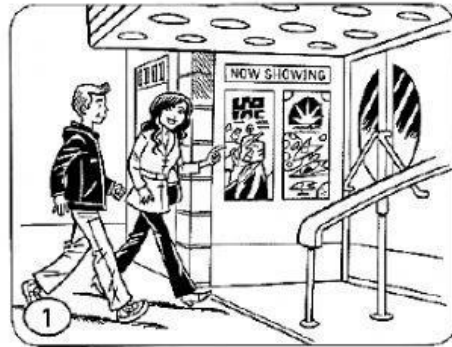
5. Một vài trang thiết bị công nghệ cao mới vừa được đặt hàng.

⇒ _____

PART 2 - LISTENING

Part 1

Look at the pictures. For each picture you will hear a question and four statements. Choose the statement that best matches the picture.



Joel

Train Departures			
Destination	Time	Platform	Status
Cambridge	13:25	3	on time
Boston	14:05	4	delayed 10 mins
Philadelphia	15:00	1	on time
Washington DC	14:10	2	delayed 15 mins



))) Part 2

Listen to each question. Choose the correct response. Use your answer sheet.

- | | |
|---|---|
| 7. A. Oh, I met some friends and we went out for dinner.
B. Yes, it's too bad the weekend is over.
C. I worked all day on Monday.
D. I think I'll stay home and relax. | 10. A. It is a great game.
B. It's just not my favorite.
C. When I drive the car.
D. It makes me want to dance. |
| 8. A. Yes, I think it was last night.
B. I don't really like playing games.
C. What time does it start?
D. No, I fell asleep on the sofa. | 11. A. He goes to the gym.
B. I think he rented a movie.
C. He said it's his last weekend.
D. He's moving to a new house. |
| 9. A. But I love classical music.
B. Yes, it is the next station.
C. We can take the bus from here.
D. I think they already changed it. | 12. A. Yes, I had a really good time.
B. You can bring a friend if you like.
C. No, it's not my birthday.
D. Sure. What kind of party is it? |

))) Part 3

Listen to the following short conversations and answer the questions below. Use your answer sheet.

- | | |
|---|--|
| 13. What did the woman do on Saturday?
A. She went bowling with her boyfriend.
B. She had a boring weekend at home.
C. She met her girlfriends in the evening.
D. She stayed home and watched TV. | 15. What does the woman say about the food?
A. She likes the cheese.
B. She made them herself.
C. She's never had goat meat before.
D. Her mother gave her the recipe. |
| 14. Who is the man?
A. A hotel guest
B. A passenger
C. A cyclist
D. A taxi driver | |