

**1 Read about the passive.**

We use the passive voice when the action is more important than the agent, when we don't know the agent or it is not important.

*The newspaper **is published** in the UK.*

*This article **was written** in Bolivia.*

We form the passive voice with the appropriate tense of *to be* and the past participle of the main verb. We can use *to get* instead of *to be* to talk about something unpleasant that happens by accident or unexpectedly.

*The website **was set up** in 2009.*

*The correspondent **got killed** in India.*

We form the passive of:

- a gerund with *being* + past participle.
***Being interviewed** by the journalist was fun.*
- a bare infinitive with *be* + past participle.
*An article about the famine **must be written**.*
*The article **had better be written** soon.*
- a full infinitive with *to be* + past participle.
*When is the story **supposed to be printed**?*

Note: When it is important to mention the agent in a passive sentence, we use the word *by* + name/noun. When we want to mention the tool, object or instrument that was used for something we use the word *with*.

*A number of newspapers are owned **by Guardian Media Group**.*

*The magazine photo was taken **with a digital camera**.*

2 Read the sentences and underline the passive verb forms. Which sentence talks about something unpleasant that happened by accident or unexpectedly? Which verb has been used?

a The correspondent got kidnapped in South America.

b The sports columnist was given a new office.

Read 7.1 of the Grammar Reference before you do the tasks.

3 Complete the sentences with the correct form of the passive.

- The basketball star _____ (interview) by the sports columnist now.
- This review needs _____ (write) again.
- This website _____ (set up) by a teenager in Bristol last year.
- She wanted her blog _____ (notice) all over the world.
- The newspaper I work for is supposed _____ (give) an award next month.
- My article _____ (publish) in a well-known journal tomorrow.
- Many books _____ (read) on e-readers these days.
- A journalist must _____ (send) to France to talk to the president.
- I remember _____ (shock) by the pictures on the news.
- _____ (offer) a job at Google would be a dream come true!

4 Rewrite the sentences in the passive. Write them in your notebook.

- They should do something about cyber-bullying.
- My company will sell this comic all over the world.
- The editor had edited the magazine before it went to print.
- This man has created many advertisements for the *Chicago Tribune*.
- Journalists want their employer to send them to interesting places.
- Teenagers write a lot of text messages every day.
- The interviewer will have asked the film star a lot of questions by the end of the interview.

