

Grammar

The Passive Voice: Tenses

A Look at this sentence and notice the verb in **bold**. Then answer the questions below.

They use cameras in shops to help prevent crime.

- 1 Is the verb in the active or the passive voice? _____
- 2 What tense is the verb in? _____
- 3 What is the subject of the verb? _____
- 4 What is the object of the verb? _____

B The sentence in **A** can also be written in the passive voice. Look at the verb in **bold** and answer the questions below.

Cameras **are used** in shops to help prevent crime.

- 1 What is the subject of the passive verb? _____
- 2 What tense is the verb *be* in? _____
- 3 What form of the verb *use* appears? _____

C Now complete the rules.

We use the passive voice when we want to emphasise the action or event, or when we don't know the agent (the person/thing who did the action). We form the passive voice by using the auxiliary verb _____ in the correct tense and the past participle of the main verb. The _____ of the active sentence becomes the subject of the passive sentence.

by and with

D Look at the use of **by** and **with** in these sentences and then answer the questions below.

The laboratory was filled **with** smoke.
The new worker will be shown around the factory **by** the manager.
The computer has been cleaned **with** a special brush.

- 1 Which word do we use when we want to mention the agent? _____
- 2 Which word do we use when we want to mention the tool or material that is used? _____

Grammar Focus pp.169 & 170 (9.1 & 9.2)

A robot pet Aibo designed by Sony



E Complete the sentences with the correct passive form of the verbs in brackets.

- 1 My computer _____ (check) for viruses twice a day. It's very practical.
- 2 _____ (the food / deliver) to the house by lunch time?
- 3 The USB stick _____ (not need) yet.
- 4 Her tablet _____ (steal) last week.
- 5 While the songs _____ (download), I was watching a film online.
- 6 The young children _____ (teach) how to log in at the moment.
- 7 It was noon and all the emails _____ (already / send).
- 8 The new CCTV camera _____ (install) next week.

F Complete the second sentences with the passive voice.

- 1 Manufacturers are developing a new type of mobile phone.
A new type of mobile phone _____ manufacturers.
- 2 Technology has changed our lives dramatically.
Our lives _____ technology.
- 3 The scientist sent the lab some blood samples.
Some blood samples _____ the scientist.
- 4 NASA will have designed a new robot for space exploration by 2035.
A new robot for space exploration _____ NASA by 2035.
- 5 We will give Maria instructions on what to do.
Maria _____ on what to do.
- 6 Will science ever answer people's questions about the universe?
Will people's questions about the universe _____ science?