

PASSIVE VOICE Past Simple vs Present Simple

The passive voice is used when we focus on the object of the sentence. ... In the present simple, the passive is: **am / is / are + past participle** (3rd form of the verb). In the past simple, the passive is: **was / were + past participle** (3rd form of the verb). When it's important to know who does the action, use the preposition "**by**" the noun that follows **by** is called "**agent**".

Remember! The past participle always stays the same.

EXERCISE

Complete the sentences with the present or past simple passive of the verb in brackets. Use contractions where possible.

1. How many newspapers (print) in Britain every day?
2. Who (this play / write) by?
3. German (speak) in Germany, Austria, and part of Switzerland.
4. The royal wedding (watch) by millions of people in 2011.
5. Nowadays, a lot of computers (make) in Korea.
6. The *Harry Potter* films (not direct) by Steven Spielberg.
7. How much (paper / recycle) in Poland each year?
8. In the UK, alcohol (not sell) to anyone under 18. It's against the law.