

8.2 Grammar

The Passive

I can understand and use the Passive.

1. You will read a text about Robben Island. How many different things has the island been used for?

1. Prison
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____

Robben Island is situated nine kilometres from Cape Town. From the seventeenth to the twentieth century, the island was used as a prison. During World War II, prisoners were sent to Robben Island, but at that time **it was also being used** as a hospital. Later, Nelson Mandela was imprisoned there for eighteen years. After a total of twenty-seven years in prison, **Mandela was elected** as the first black president of South Africa.

Robben Island isn't used as a prison any more. **It has been made** into a museum and at the moment **is being promoted** as a popular tourist attraction. There is a large African penguin colony there now, but **Robben Island will always be remembered** as the place where Mandela was imprisoned.



GRAMMAR FOCUS



The Passive

- You use passive forms when it isn't important or you don't know who performed the action.
- You use **by + person (or thing)** if you want to mention who (or what) performed the action.

Tense

→ Example

Present Simple → Robben Island **is situated**

Present

→ **It is being promoted**

Continuous →

→ **Mandela was elected**

Past Simple →

→ **it was being used**

Past Continuous →

→ **It has been made**

Present Perfect →

→ **RI will be remembered**

future with will →

2. Make correct passive phrases. Mind the tenses in brackets.

1. She bought four apples. (Past Simple) Four apples were bought by her

2. We won the match. (Past Simple) _____

3. The man stole the blue car. (Past Simple) _____

4. The police arrested the thieves. (Past Simple) _____

5. They have opened a new shop. (Present Perfect) A new shop has been opened

6. Rick has interviewed the lady. (Present Perfect) _____

7. We have not sold the bike. (Present Perfect) _____

8. Tim has forgotten the sandwiches. (Present Perfect) _____

9. Henry will drive Charlie home. (Future Simple) Charlie will be driven home by Henry

10. We will not send the tickets (Future Simple) _____

11. The bus driver will take the tourists to the hotel (Future Simple) _____

12. Ella will not print invitation cards. (Future Simple) _____

13. She is reading a comic. (Present Continuous) A comic is being read by her

14. We are cleaning the kitchen. (Present Continuous) _____

15. I am opening the presents (Present Continuous) _____

16. Ema is singing a song (Present Continuous) _____