

PASSIVE VOICE (SIMPLE PAST)

SUBJECT	BE	PAST PARTICIPLE VERB
(I – YOU – HE – SHE – IT – WE – THEY)	(WAS – WERE) (WASN'T – WEREN'T)	

Fill in the blanks below to complete the sentences.

- 1 The Pyramids _____ (build) thousands of years ago.
- 2 The bulb _____ (invent) by Thomas Edison.
- 3 Pluto _____ (discover) by Clyde Tombaught in 1930.
- 4 Paper money _____ first _____ by the Chinese over a thousand years ago.
- 5 The first Iphone _____ (introduce) by Steve Jobs.
- 6 The first TV _____ (watch) in the 1920s.
- 7 The first McDonald's hamburger _____ (make) in 1955.

Rewrite the sentences using the past passive without by.

a They postponed the match.

The match was postponed.

b They built this house a hundred years ago.

c Did anyone answer your e-mail?

d Someone found this wallet in the street.

e A teacher wrote this workbook last year.

f They included VAT in the bill.

g They were building the metro when we were there.

h Someone was locking the doors when we arrived.

i He gave me a test.

Answer the questions using the passive form of the verbs below and by.

invent replace form write own heat write manufacture

a Who was the inventor of the light bulb?

The light bulb was invented by Thomas Edison.

b Which currency replaced the peseta, the franc, and the lira in 2002?

c How many countries form the United Kingdom?

d Who is the author of this book?

e Who is the owner of this book?

f What type of heating have you got in your school - oil, gas, or electric?

g Who was the author of Hamlet?

h Which company was the manufacturer of the first PC?

Write sentences: Use these date to the historical events:

1939 1919 1963 1961 1912 1981 1953 1941 1990



a Nelson Mandela / free

Nelson Mandela was freed in 1990.

b Kennedy / assassinate

c Everest / first / climb

d The Titanic / sink / iceberg

e Second World War / declare

f Atlantic / first / cross / plane

g Pearl Harbour / attack

h A man / launch / into space for the first time

i The first IBM 'PC' / sell
