Passive Voice

Active voice: The manager chose Sara.

subject verb object

Passive voice: Sara was chosen by the manager.

object auxiliary verb past participle verb subject

We don't specify the agent (with BY) when is unknown, unimportant or obvious from the context (ex. people, someone, etc.)

ACTIVE TO PASSIVE: tricks

- 1 verb (be) more than in active
- always ends in past participle (3rd column irregular / -ed regular verbs)
- Replace the mail verb (ex. write) by the verb to be in the same form (what goes before the verb remains but in agreement with the subject) (ex. I have → a book has written)

ACTIVE	PASSIVE
I **wrote (1)** a book	A book **was written (2)**
I have written **(2)** a book	A book has been written **(3)**

TENSE	ACTIVE	PASSIVE
Present Simple	I do my homework.	My homework is done.
Present Continuous	I'm doing my homework.	My homework is being done.
Past Simple	I did my homework.	My homework was done.
Past Continuous	I was doing my homework.	My homework was being done.
Present Perfect	I have done my homework.	My homework has been done.
Past Perfect	I had done my homework.	My homework had been done.
Future Simple	I will do my homework.	My homework will be done.
Future Be going to	I'm going to do my homework.	My homework is going to be done.
Modal	I must do my homework.	My homework must be done.
Modal Perfect	I should have done my homework.	My homework should have been done

Turn the following sentences into the passive voice. Use BY only when necessary.

1. Spain **won** the World Football Championship in 2010.
2. The English make Rolls Royce cars.
3. They **are building** a new skyscraper in New York.
4. The scientists **will complete** the project in 2005.
5. Where do you buy these apples?
6. One **should** never **press** that button.
7. Someone **stole** my wife's car yesterday.
8. They **have** just **bought** that laptop.
9. A man **was giving** warnings on the radio.
10. Spanish engineers **have invented** a new instrument.
11. The police **are investigating** the crime.
12. Somebody **must finish** this project.
13. The director of the show **didn't choose** a famous actor.
14. The police **could find** the stolen jewels.
15. My friend **had** already **seen** that movie before.
16. **Can** anyone **do** anything about global warming?

Put the verbs in brackets in the correct passive tense.

1. Sam was reading the today's newspaper while his car (wash).
2. The invitations should (send) by registered post.
3. The statue (bury) for two thousand years before it (uncover) during an archaeological dig.
4. Those paintings (display) at the local art gallery for the next two weeks.
5. The Garma Festival (hold) in Australia every year and celebrates Aboriginal culture.
6. Dinner (serve) in the hotel restaurant right now.
7. Restoration works on the castle (not complete) yet.
8. We (amaze) by all the fossils in the museum yesterday.
9. The new concert hall (open) by the mayor next month.

Tick the sentences where the BY phrase is unnecessary

1. Two atomic bombs were dropped by American planes on Japan in 1945.
2. Millions of Euros have been stolen by thieves this morning.
3. The Everest can be seen by people from that window.
4. The first books were printed by someone in the 15th century.
5. That planet was discovered by a famous astrophysicist last month.
6. The stolen painting has been recovered by the police this week.
7. This book may be read by people in many different languages.
8. Have your clothes been designed by Dior?
9. These diamonds couldn't be bought by the poor.
10. New roads are being built by them all over the country.

Fill in: is/are, was/were, has/have, will, can.

1. Visitors asked not to take any photos in the museum.
2. The archaeological site be excavated next week.
3. The terracotta army visited by thousands of tourists every year.
4. The statues discovered by a group of farmers.
5. A few ancient artefacts been recently found in a small village in China.
6. The Parthenon regarded as a symbol of ancient Greece.
7. Many archaeological discoveries been made in recent years.
8. The gallery be renovated next month.
9. The Great Wall of China built over 2,000 years ago.
10. The museum already been closed for a month.
11. Souvenirs be bought in the museum gift shop.
12. The Arc de Triomphe completed in 1835.

Choose the active or passive form

Some stars like / are liked the paparazzi because they make them feel important Their photographs publish / are published in many magazines and newspapers all over the world.

Photographers often pay / are often paid thousands of pounds by these magazines and newspapers However, celebrities sometimes get so angry with the paparazzi that they attack / are attacked them.

Recently, one photographer claimed / was claimed that Keanu Reeves had attacked him. He said that he had hurt / had been hurt and couldn't work. Keanu Reeves didn't believe / wasn't believed him and wanted to show that the photographer was lying. So, the photographer filmed / was filmed secretly by a private detective. The photographer was working and he was still taking photographs. There was nothing wrong with him! In the end, Keanu was right after all.

Buckingham Palace

Buckingham Palace (build) in 1702 and was the Duke of Buckingham's city home. Since 1837, it (occupy) by Britain's Royal Family. Every year, the Palace hosts royal ceremonies and other events which (organise) by the Royal Family. Buckingham Palace has 775 rooms and it (decorate) with extremely valuable works of art. The largest room is the Ballroom. It (open) in 1856 with a ball to celebrate the end of the Crimean War and since then, it (use) as a concert hall for various arts performances. Apart from being the Royal Family's home Buckingham Palace (use) also for the administrative work for the monarchy.

Many Royal Weddings (celebrate) at Buckingham Palace. The palace is also a major tourist attraction. The Palace's nineteen state rooms can (visit) by the public. The Palace (guard) by five regiments of Foot Guards. The monarch and the royal palaces (guard) by the Household Troops since 1660.

In 2002, a music concert (stage) in the garden of Buckingham Palace to mark The Queen's Golden Jubilee.