

## PASSIVE VOICE

## BASIC PASSIVE STRUCTURE.

Facebook **is** commonly **used** in eastern countries

A new brand of car **will be released** soon

Where **was** it **stolen**?

English **is being** ..... all over the world

**Passive Voice with BY + agent. We use BY when the agent is important.**

The future will be dominated **by a minority**

The door was closed **by the wind**

The Guernica was painted **by** .....

**In all of these cases, the agent is essential. Otherwise, the sentences are unfinished**



**We do not use BY + agent when the agent is not specific: ~~by someone~~, ~~by them~~, ...**

The criminal was arrested

Nobody was hurt

It will be hidden

**BE ALLOWED TO / BE SUPPOSED TO. These structures are passive in themselves.**

**Present:** You're not allowed to be here

What ..... I allowed to do now?

Where are we allowed to sit?

..... we allowed to stay?

**Past:** They ..... allowed to speak

She ..... allowed to sit the exam

**Future neg:** You ..... allowed to leave

**Present:** You're not supposed to be here

What ..... I supposed to do now?

**Past:** They were supposed to help

You ..... supposed to pay

## PASSIVE SENTENCES WITH PREPOSITIONS

The managers will **speak to** you as soon as possible

= You will **be spoken to** by the manager as soon as possible

I know they **spoke about** me at the party

= I know I was ..... at the party

She **took care of** the baby all day

= The baby was ..... all day

## CAUSATIVE

When another person (usually a professional) is the one who did a job for us, we use a specific passive structure: **HAVE + SOMETHING + DONE** (GB)

**GET + SOMETHING + DONE** (USA)

This is also called **THE CAUSATIVE**.

I **had** my car **repaired** = I got my car repaired (= the mechanic repaired my car)

She'll **have** her room **decorated** (= a designer will decorate her room)

We'll **get** our hair **cut** (= a hairdresser will cut our hair)

She **has had** her eyes **tested** (=an optician.....)

We **have got** our bikes **checked** (=a mechanic .....

## TWO-OBJECT SENTENCES (Direct + Indirect object)

**Two-object verbs:** send, give, promise, offer, teach, pass, write,...

They sent him a letter

→ A letter **was sent** to him

→ He **was sent** a letter

She promised us a new car

→ .....  
→ .....

## NON-PERSONAL or IMPERSONAL PASSIVE SENTENCES

Impersonal sentences do not have a clear subject (general).

### ACTIVE

People say

People commented

People will suggest

People imagine

People believed

People have known

} that the crisis will be over  
soon

### PASSIVE

It is said

It was .....

It will .....

It .....

It ..... believed

It ..... known

} that the crisis will be over  
soon

## INFINITIVE PASSIVE.

### 1. Introductory verbs

Love  
Need  
Like  
Want  
Hate  
Hope  
...

+ to be + V3

She hopes ..... chosen  
The baby ..... to be fed  
She ..... told everything  
We ..... shouted at  
I love ..... hugged

### 2. To refer to the present or future we use present simple infinitive.

It is believed that he is a good manager.

= He is believed to be a good manager.

It is known that those people are criminals

= They ..... criminals

**To refer to an activity in progress at the moment of speaking we use present continuous infinitive.**

It is rumored that inflation is increasing.

= Inflation is rumored to be increasing.

It was generally believed that things were improving

= Things were generally ..... improving

**To refer to the past we use perfect infinitive.**

It is said that they suffered huge losses last year.

= They are said to have suffered huge losses last year.

It is worldwide known that they got over the crisis

= They ..... the crisis

**We use this structure for newspaper reporting or formal structures**

**Complete these sentences with the missing words.**

ACTIVE	IMPERSONAL PASSIVE	INFINITIVE PASSIVE
People say inflation is over	It is said <u>inflation is</u> over	<u>Inflation is</u> said to be over
They expect the economy will expand	It is ..... the <u>economy will</u> expand.	<u>The economy</u> ..... expected ..... expand
They believe he's a good manager	It.....	He.....