

How do I make a verb passive?

1 Tick the correct sentence in each pair.

- 1 a My home is located in the western part of the city.
b My home locates in the western part of the city.
- 2 a These funds can be give to the poorer people to help them.
b These funds can be given to the poorer people to help them.

The passive is formed with the verb *to be* + the past participle of the verb:
*Nowadays, a great deal of money **is spent** on advertising.*

The verb *to be* should be changed into the correct tense:

| Tense | Passive |
|--------------------|------------------------|
| present simple | is spent |
| present continuous | is being spent |
| simple past | was spent |
| past continuous | was being spent |
| present perfect | has been spent |
| past perfect | had been spent |

To make the negative, we put *not* between the verb *to be* and the past participle:
*We **were not told** that the rules had changed.*

The passive can also be used in the infinitive form:

*Children need **to be taught** the correct way to behave in public.*

After modal verbs, we use the passive infinitive without *to*:

*Some adults believe that children **should be seen** and not **heard**.*
*You **will be paid** on the last Friday of each month.*

2 Correct the mistake below.



I

3 Correct the mistakes in the following sentences. You do not need to change the tense.

- 1 The house was sell for over one million dollars.
- 2 The class has allowed to eat in the staff dining room during the renovations.
- 3 The potatoes carry along a conveyor belt to a room where they wash and peel.
- 4 The teacher told to take her class out of the school if the fire bell rang.
- 5 Smoking do not allow in any part of the aeroplane.
- 6 The museum was being renovating when we were there, so we could not visit it.
- 7 Bus tickets can buy at any newsagents.
- 8 New employees have instructed not to operate the photocopier until they are trained.