

## GRAMMAR The passive

## Present Simple passive

The quote **is** never really **used** by Sherlock Holmes.

## Past Simple passive

The detective stories **were written** by a British author.

- 1 ● Complete the table. Write the verb forms and mark the verbs R (regular) or I (irregular).

Verb	Past Simple	Past Participle	Regular/Irregular
ask	<sup>1</sup> <i>asked</i>	asked	<i>R</i>
build	built	<sup>2</sup>	
catch	<sup>3</sup>	caught	
chase	chased	<sup>4</sup>	
hide	<sup>5</sup>	hidden	
make	made	<sup>6</sup>	
see	<sup>7</sup>	seen	
use	used	<sup>8</sup>	
watch	<sup>9</sup>	watched	
write	wrote	<sup>10</sup>	

- 2 ● Choose the correct option.

- The two robbers *was* / *were* caught as they were leaving the bank.
- Is* / *Are* a lot of science used to solve crimes nowadays?
- Was* / *Were* a secret microphone hidden under her clothes?
- Sometimes ordinary people *is* / *are* asked to help the police with information.
- Security cameras *isn't* / *aren't* used in the shopping centre.

- 3 ● Order the words to make sentences.

- my / stolen / purse / pickpocket / was / a / by  
*My purse was stolen by a pickpocket.*
- every year / a lot of / stolen / mobile phones / are
- asked / she / questions / the police / by / was
- some / reported / aren't / to / the police / crimes
- your / car / when / stolen / was / ?

- 4 ●● Complete the second sentence so that it means the same as the first one. Use no more than three words.

- They hid the paintings in their van.  
The paintings *were hidden in* their van.
- A shop assistant caught the shoplifter.  
The shoplifter \_\_\_\_\_ a shop assistant.
- Millions of people watch crime dramas on TV.  
Crime dramas \_\_\_\_\_ millions of people on TV.
- Did they send the thief to prison?  
Was \_\_\_\_\_ to prison?
- People steal a lot of jewellery from this shop.  
A lot of jewellery \_\_\_\_\_ this shop.
- They didn't find the missing money.  
The missing money \_\_\_\_\_.

- 5 ●●● Complete the article with the correct passive form of the verbs below.

create help know make publish solve watch



### The Belgian detective

The character of the Belgian detective Hercule Poirot <sup>1</sup>*was created* by the writer Agatha Christie in the 1920s. Between 1920 and 1975, over eighty Poirot novels and short stories <sup>2</sup>\_\_\_\_\_. In the stories, Poirot sometimes works alone, but usually he <sup>3</sup>\_\_\_\_\_ by his assistant, Captain Hastings. Poirot always dresses smartly and he <sup>4</sup>\_\_\_\_\_ for his neat moustache and his polite manners. He is very intelligent and believes that all crimes <sup>5</sup>\_\_\_\_\_ by using the 'little grey cells' in your brain.

In 2017, a new version of a Poirot story, *Murder on the Orient Express*, <sup>6</sup>\_\_\_\_\_ by the famous director, Kenneth Branagh. But even today, Poirot films from the 1970s <sup>7</sup>\_\_\_\_\_ by millions of people each year on TV.