8.2 Grammar

Present and Past Simple passive

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	[1] *asked*	asked	*R*
build	built	[2]	
catch	[3]	caught	
chase	chased	[4]	
hide	[5]	hidden	
make	made	[6]	
see	[7]	seen	
use	used	[8]	
watch	[9]	watched	
write	wrote	[10]	

2 ● Choose the correct option.

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

3 ● Order the words to make sentences.

1 my / stolen / purse / pickpocket / was / a / by
My purse was stolen by a pickpocket.
2 every year / a lot of / stolen / mobile phones / are
_____
3 asked / she / questions / the police / by / was
_____
4 some / reported / aren't / to / the police / crimes
_____
5 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.

1 They hid the paintings in their van.
The paintings *were hidden in* their van.
2 A shop assistant caught the shoplifter.
The shoplifter _____ a shop assistant.
3 Millions of people watch crime dramas on TV.
Crime dramas _____ millions of people on TV.
4 Did they send the thief to prison?
Was _____ to prison?
5 People steal a lot of jewellery from this shop.
A lot of jewellery _____ this shop.
6 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 [1] *was created* by the writer Agatha Christie in the 1920s. Between 1920 and 1975, over eighty Poirot novels and short stories [2] _____. In the stories, Poirot sometimes works alone, but usually he [3] _____ by his assistant, Captain Hastings. Poirot always dresses smartly and he [4] _____ for his neat moustache and his polite manners. He is very intelligent and believes that all crimes [5] _____ by using the 'little grey cells' in your brain.

In 2017, a new version of a Poirot story, *Murder on the Orient Express*, [6] _____ by the famous director, Kenneth Branagh. But even today, Poirot films from the 1970s [7] _____ by millions of people each year on TV.

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