LANGUAGE IN ACTION

Past simple passive

1 ☆ **Complete the sentences with the past simple passive form of the verbs in brackets.**

1 Tolstoy's novel *War and Peace* was published (publish) in 1867.
2 The world's most expensive violins _____ (make) by Antonio Stradivari.
3 Facebook _____ (start) by Harvard University students in 2004.
4 Is it true that some of Shakespeare's plays _____ (not write) by him?
5 Lots of my photos _____ (lose) when my phone broke.
6 Paper _____ (not invent) in Europe but in China.

2 ☆☆ **Write questions in the past simple passive.**

1 when / first antibiotic / discover?
When was the first antibiotic discovered?
2 where / the world's first underground railway / open?
_____
3 where / the first modern Olympics / hold?
_____
4 what / the first Pixar movie / call?
_____
5 where / the largest Egyptian pyramids / build?
_____
6 when / the first email / write?
_____
7 where / the first CD / make?
_____
8 when / Google / start?
_____

3 ☆☆ **Match the answers in the box with the questions in Exercise 2. Write sentences in the past simple passive.**

~~1928~~	1971	1998	Athens	Germany
Giza	*Toy Story*	London		

1 The first antibiotic was discovered in 1928.
2 _____
3 _____
4 _____
5 _____
6 _____
7 _____
8 _____

4 ☆☆☆ **Read the text about Stonehenge. Rewrite the underlined sentences using the past simple passive.**

Who built Stonehenge and why [1]someone built it continues to be a great mystery. It is one of the most famous prehistoric monuments in the UK. [2]Someone started the building of Stonehenge about 5,000 years ago. Some people believe that [3]someone used Stonehenge in a celebration of the sun. [4]Someone designed it in exact mathematical detail, as the stone circle perfectly matches the direction of the midsummer sunrise and the midwinter sunset. There are two types of stone at Stonehenge. The larger stones are called 'sarsens'. The tallest sarsen stands nine metres high and weighs 25 tons – [5]someone carried the stones 32 kilometres to Stonehenge! The smaller 'bluestones' weigh much less, but [6]someone brought these stones from Wales, a distance of 225 kilometres. Nobody knows how [7]someone transported such heavy stones so far in those days.



1 it was built
2 _____
3 _____
4 _____
5 _____
6 _____
7 _____

LIVEWORKSHEETS