

# Passive

The object in the active sentence corresponds to the subject in the passive sentence:

All schools teach OBJECT  
maths.  
SUBJECT  
Maths is taught in all schools.

We make the **passive** form with auxiliary verb **be** + **past participle**. The form of **be** changes person (1st, 2nd, 3rd) and tense. The past participle always stays the same:

Present simple: *All letters are typed.*

Past simple: *The school was built in 1978.*

Write complete sentences about food production using the verb in the present simple passive.

- 0 Cheese / produce / from milk.  
*Cheese is produced from milk.*
- 1 Grapes / grow / in many countries. About half / eat / as fruit and half / make / into wine.  
.....
- 2 Nowadays, most fruit / wash / before it / sell / to the public.  
.....
- 3 At sea, fish / freeze / as soon as they / catch.  
.....
- 4 Some fish / keep / in fish farms. They / feed / with food that / produce / in a factory.  
.....
- 5 Oranges / often / pick / when they are green because they / transport / thousands of miles.  
.....
- 6 Flour / make / from cereal grains such as wheat and rye. It / use / to make bread and cakes.  
.....

Make questions and answers in the past simple passive using a verb from the first column and a person from the second column.

build	Usain Bolt, a Jamaican athlete
compose	Alexander Fleming, a Scottish scientist
discover	John Logie Baird, a Scottish inventor
invent	John Lennon, an English popstar
paint	Leonardo da Vinci, an Italian artist
win	J. K. Rowling, a British author
write	the ancient Egyptians

- 0 'Imagine' *Who was 'Imagine' composed by? It was composed by John Lennon, an English popstar.*
- 1 the Mona Lisa .....
- 2 penicillin .....
- 3 the television .....
- 4 the Harry Potter books .....
- 5 the 100m sprint at the Beijing Olympics .....
- 6 the pyramids .....

**Rewrite the sentences using the passive.**

- 0 They'd already served dinner at the school.  
*Dinner had already been served at the school.*
- 1 A few minutes later, someone found a fire in the school kitchen.  
.....
- 2 The fire started because someone had left a cooker on.  
.....
- 3 They notified the fire brigade a few minutes ago.  
.....

- 4 They've evacuated the school.  
.....
- 5 Someone has counted all the students.  
.....
- 6 They're checking the school to make sure no one is still inside.  
.....
- 7 They're allowing the students to go home early.  
.....

**Rewrite the phrases in italics in the passive.**

The other day, *someone stopped me* in the street. They wanted to ask me some questions about a festival that *they hold* in our town every year. *They asked me* if I thought the festival was a good idea. *They told me* that they wanted to make some changes to it this year and asked me how I thought *they could organise it* better. I said that *they provide lots of things* for adults and young kids, but not much for teenagers. I said I thought it would be good if *they brought more rock bands* to the festival. I also said *they should allow young bands to play* there. I said that because I'd love to play the festival with my band. I hope *they ask us!*

- 1 .....
- 2 .....
- 3 .....
- 4 .....
- 5 .....
- 6 .....
- 7 .....
- 8 .....
- 9 .....