

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*!

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