

# simple past passive *I was stopped by a policeman.*

+	<i>I was woken</i>	<i>you were woken</i>	<i>he/she/it was woken</i> etc
?	<i>was I woken?</i>	<i>were you woken?</i>	<i>was he/she/it woken?</i> etc
-	<i>I was not woken</i>	<i>you were not woken</i>	<i>he/she/it was not woken</i> etc
For contractions ( <i>wasn't</i> etc), see page 301.			

We use the **simple past passive** like the simple past active, for **complete finished actions and events** (see page 47).

*This table was made by my grandfather. Was the letter signed? We weren't met at the door.*

## 1 Complete the sentences with *was/were*.

- The fire..... seen in Renton, a kilometre away.
- Most of the matches..... won by Indian teams.
- These keys..... found in the changing room yesterday – are they yours?
- We couldn't find the station, but we..... helped by a very kind woman.
- I..... stopped by a policeman in Green Road this morning.
- Yesterday a man..... caught trying to burn down the Town Hall.

## 2 Put simple past passive verbs into these sentences.

- Our passports ..... by a tall woman in a uniform. (*take*)
- These books ..... in the classroom on Monday. (*leave*)
- I don't think this room ..... yesterday. (*clean*)
- We ..... at the airport by a driver from the university. (*meet*)
- Nobody ..... what was happening. (*tell*)
- He ..... away to school when he was twelve. (*send*)

## 3 Make simple past passive negatives and questions.

- ▶ 'We *weren't paid* ..... when we finished the work.' (*not pay*)
- 'When *were you paid?* ..... 'Two months later.'
- 1 'My father ..... in England.' (*not educate*)
- 'Where ..... 'In Germany.'
- 2 'The letters ..... on Tuesday.' (*not post*)
- 'When ..... 'On Thursday.'
- 3 'This ..... in butter.' (*not cook*)
- 'How ..... 'In margarine.'
- 4 'My suit ..... in England.' (*not make*)
- 'Where ..... 'In Hong Kong.'
- 5 'The restaurant bill ..... in cash.' (*not pay*)
- 'How ..... 'With a credit card.'

We use a past passive structure – **to be born** – to give somebody's date or place of birth.

*I was born in 1964. (NOT I born in 1964. NOT I am born in 1964.) My sisters were born in Egypt.*

## 1 Write a sentence about your date and place of birth.

I .....