

use:

We use the passive voice when we are more interested in the action itself rather than in "who" or "what" did the action.

The agent can be:

* **unimportant** – "These shoes are made in Indonesia." (the action is more important than who made the shoes)

* **unknown** – "The windows were broken yesterday." (somebody broke the windows and we don't know who did it)

* **implicit** – "He was arrested." (most certainly by the police)

PASSIVE VOICE

with the PRESENT and PAST SIMPLE

form:

Basic steps to form the passive voice:

The object of the active becomes the subject of the passive.

We add the auxiliary "to be" – "is/are" when the main verb of the active is present, and "was/were" when it is past.

examples:

Magazines **use** pop singers as models.

Pop singers **are used** as models by magazines.

Tom **wrote** this letter

this letter **was written** by Tom?

SIMPLE PRESENT

A. Complete the blanks with **is/are + participle**.

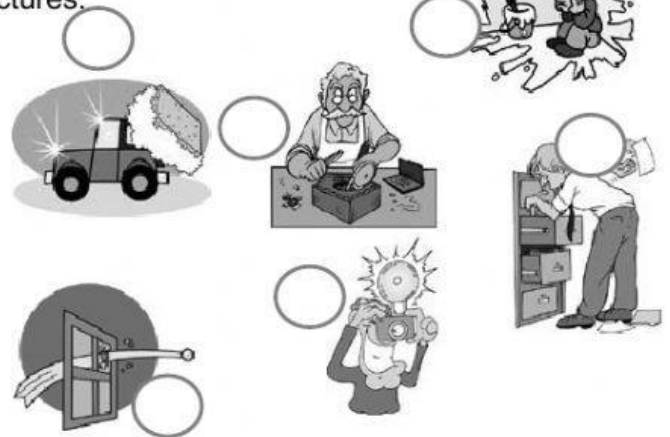
- Computers _____ (sell) in many different stores.
- English _____ (speak) almost everywhere.
- Less ice-cream _____ (eat) in the winter.
- Spanish _____ (teach) in my school too.
- Many people _____ (influence) by the media.

B. Rewrite the sentences in the passive – use the "by" agent only when necessary.

- He takes Linda to school every day.
Linda is taken to school everyday
- People invent new things all the time.
- He keeps his money in a safe place.
- My mother buys all my clothes.
- Do you sell safety-pins in your store?

SIMPLE PAST

c. Rewrite the sentences in the passive and match them with the pictures.



- He found his files.
His files were found
- He washed his car on Sunday.
- I painted the whole room.
- My grandfather repaired the old clock.
- John took a lot of photos at the party.
- Richard broke the window.