

Present and past Continuous - ACTIVE

We use the active when the subject of the sentence does the action:

They **are building** the house now. (Present cont.)

Jenny **was reading** the paper. (Past cont. tense)

Present and past Continuous - PASSIVE

We use the passive when the person who does something is not known or not important:

✚ The house **is being built**.

✚ The paper **was being read**.

Change the following sentences to passive.

- 1 The mechanics **are repairing** Carlos' car. **His car is being repaired by the mechanics**
- 2 Three men **are not following** Tom.
- 3 **Is** The thief **following** Mary?
- 4 We **are making** progress.
- 5 Tom **is using** the computer.
- 6 Mary **is watering** the plants.
- 7 Tom and Mary **are not helping** the children.
- 8 **Are** Tom and Mary **helping** John?
- 9 Mary **is treating** Tom like a child.
- 10 The policeman **is arresting** Tom.
- 11 Tom and Mary **are not picking** flowers.
- 12 **Are** Most of them **building** a new bridge?

Complete the sentences with the present continuous passive of the verbs in brackets.

- 1 The teachers' room and the gym **are being renovated** (RENOVATE).
- 2 The plants **are being watered** (WATER).
- 3 Progress **is being made** (MAKE).
- 4 A new museum **is being built** (BUILD) in the center of the city.
- 5 My car **is being repaired** (REPAIR).
- 6 My office **is being painted** (PAINT) today.
- 7 Tom and Mary **are being questioned** (QUESTION) by the police.
- 8 The child **is being taken** (TAKE) good care of by the doctor.
- 9 Tom **is being charged** (CHARGE) with murder.
- 10 A reward **is being offered** (OFFER).

Change the following sentences to passive.

- 1 They **were not giving** Tom money.
- 2 The detective **was collecting** information.
- 3 **Were** The policemen **patrolling** the street?
- 4 Tom and Mary **were cleaning** the rooms.
- 5 **Was** She **eating** the sandwich?
- 6 Tom and Mary **were speaking** French.
- 7 A car **was blocking** the gateway.
- 8 My father **was painting** the house.
- 9 Tom and Mary **were not looking** at John.
- 10 My mother **was helping** my little brother.

Complete the sentences with the past continuous passive of the verbs in brackets.

- 20 His grain **was being eaten** (EAT) by the field mice.
- 21 Mary **was being ignored** (IGNORE) by Tom.
- 22 I **was being kept** (KEEP) from me by Tom.
- 23 The bus **was being driven** (DRIVE) by Tom when I called him.
- 24 Tom said I **was being looked for** (LOOK FOR) by the FBI.
- 25 A flag **was being waved** (WAVE) by Tom.
- 26 I **was being taught** (TEACH) by Tom.
- 27 A speech **was being given** (GIVE) by him while everybody was getting bored.
- 28 I **was being pushed** (PUSH) by Tom.
- 29 Two suitcases **were being carried** (CARRY) by Greg.