

Grammar 2: PASSIVE VOICE

REMEMBER

PRESENT SIMPLE TENSE

The active voice is used when the subject of the sentence does the action.

Ex: My mom sings that song.

S O

The passive voice is used when we focus on the object of the sentence.

Ex: That song is sung **by** my mom.

O S

When it is important to know who does the action, we use **by**. The noun that follows by is called the "**agent**." My mom was the subject in the active sentence, but it becomes the agent in the passive sentence.

Sometimes, when **the agent is unknown, or unimportant to the meaning of the sentence, we do not use by**.

Ex: This sweater is made in China.

We form the passive with **be + past participle** (3rd form of the verb).

In the **present simple**, the passive is: **am / is / are + past participle**

	Subject	Verb	Object
Active	The teachers	help	the new student.
Passive	The new student	is helped	by the teacher.
Active	The teachers	help	the new students.
Passive	The new students	are helped	by the teachers.

Negative and Questions

	Active	Passive
Affirmative	Ben walks the dog. They make cookies here.	The dog is walked by Ben. Cookies are made here.
Negative	Ben doesn't walk the cat. They don't make sandwiches here.	The cat isn't walked by Ben. Sandwiches aren't made here.
Question	Does Ben walk the rabbit? How do they make the cookies?	Is the rabbit walked (by Ben)? How are the cookies made?

GRAMMAR PRACTICE 1

I – Complete the sentences in Present Simple Passive.

1. Tower Bridge / situate / on the River Thames

.....

2. the bridge / paint / red, white and blue

.....

3. many famous London landmarks / see / from the bridge

.....

4. the bridge's towers / use / as a museum

.....

5. Tower Bridge / visit / by more than 380,000 tourists / every year

.....

6. Tower Bridge / cross / by over 40,000 people / every day

.....

II – Complete the sentences in Present Simple Passive.

Six ravens are permanent residents of the Tower of London. Good care 1.

_____ (take) of these ravens because they are very important.

According to legend, if the ravens leave the Tower, the kingdom of England will fall.

Some facts:

- The ravens 2. _____ (lock) in the Tower every night to protect them from cats and foxes.

- The birds 3. _____ (keep) on a special diet. Each bird 4.

_____ (give) 170 grams of meat a day. Visitors 5. _____

(not allow) to feed the birds.