

Passive Voice + By Phrase

The sunken ship was found **by some divers**.

The passengers were rescued near the coast **by the Coast Guard**.

1. Use a <i>by</i> phrase with the passive voice to indicate who or what performed the action.	Some errors were made by the students . Their house was destroyed by a tornado .
2. Use a <i>by</i> phrase when it is important to know who or what did the action of the verb.	Our class was interrupted by a loud noise . The researcher is paid by the government .
3. Do not use a <i>by</i> phrase if the agent is a. unknown b. understood from context	a. The items were stolen late last night. b. The new health laws were passed yesterday.

5 Read the paragraph about the discovery of the *SS Republic*. Cross out four more unnecessary *by* phrases.

Treasure Found on the *SS Republic*

The wreck of the *SS Republic* was discovered in 2003 by a private company called Odyssey Marine Exploration. The ship was found **by the company** at the bottom of the ocean 100 miles southeast of Savannah, Georgia.

The remains of the *SS Republic* were around 1700 feet (518 meters) deep. New high-tech equipment was used by Odyssey to aid in the exploration and recovery effort. For example, items were removed from the wreck by a robotic craft called ZEUS.

Over 51,000 gold and silver coins were recovered by the Odyssey team from the wreck. Everyday items such as shoes, cups, and bottles were also found by the team. Photos of these artifacts are displayed on the company's website. Facts and details are also given by the company on the site for anyone who wants more information.

► Coins from the
SS Republic



PRACTICE

7 Rewrite the sentences using the bold verbs in the passive. Add a *by* phrase only when necessary.

1. People **can see** many historic items in the museum's new exhibit.

Many historic items can be seen in the museum's new exhibit.

2. Groups **can't buy** tickets.

Tickets _____.

3. Visitors to the museum **may not park** cars outside the building.

Cars _____ outside the building.

4. Adults **must not use** cameras in the exhibit.

Cameras _____ in the exhibit.

5. However, children on school visits **may take** photographs.

However, photographs _____.

6. Visitors **should leave** their coats and bags in the coat check.

Coats and bags _____ in the coat check.

7. The museum **might change** the objects on display without notice.

The objects on display _____ without notice.

8. You **can purchase** souvenirs in the gift shop.

Souvenirs _____ in the gift shop.

8 READ, WRITE & SPEAK.

A Read the following project information.

Anthropology Project

Project Preparation and Details

Theme What can we learn from disastrous or mysterious events?

What to do

- Choose a historical event from any period.
- You can write about any country or culture.
- You can do the work alone or with a partner.

What to study

- Read accounts of the event soon after it happened.
- Study artifacts from the site.
- Research the opinions of archaeologists and anthropologists.

Resources to use

- Visit the college library.
- Use the Internet.
- Interview members of the faculty (for interviews, by appointment).

Project Tasks and Due Dates

Choose a topic January 31: Professor Lopez has to approve all topics.

Complete outline February 7: A faculty member must sign your outline before you begin your project.

Present project February 26: Dr. Henderson will arrange exact times.

B Complete the sentences. Use the passive voice and verbs from the information sheet in exercise A. Complete the *by* phrases where indicated.

1. A disaster from any period in history may _____ *be chosen* _____.

2. Any country or culture can _____ about.

3. The work can _____ alone or with a partner.

4. Accounts of events should _____ soon after they happen.

5. Artifacts found at the site should _____ and expert opinions should _____.

6. The Internet can _____ as a resource.

7. Members of the faculty may _____.

8. All topics must _____ by _____ on or before January 31.

9. Project outlines should _____ by _____.

10. Presentation times will _____ by _____.

C Put the words in the correct order to make passive questions. Add *by* where necessary.

1. (who / must / the outline / sign)

Who must the outline be signed by?

2. (can / the work / do / with a partner)

3. (whose opinions / should / research)

4. (can / the Internet / use)

5. (who / must / the topic / approve)

6. (who / will / the presentations / arrange)

9 WRITE & LISTEN.

A Complete the information about Pompeii. Write the *by* phrases from the box.

by archaeologists, the ~~By disaster~~ of Pompeii ~~by millions of tourists~~ ~~by Mount Vesuvius~~ The

city was buried when tons of burning ash, stone, and deadly gases were shot into the air

In AD _____, the nearby volcano. Sixteen thousand people were killed in one night. The disaster happened so quickly that evidence of everyday life was perfectly preserved under the ash until the city was discovered

(3) _____ 1700 years later. Now Pompeii is visited

(4) _____ every year.

10 **EDIT.** Read the extract from a student's project. Find and correct six more errors with passive modals and the use of the *by* phrase.

Mystery at Sea: The *Mary Celeste*

I have chosen to research the mystery of the ship *Mary Celeste*. This famous story ^{be included} should ^{include} on any list of historical mysteries. In early November 1872, the ship left New York carrying goods to Italy. One month later, the ship was discovered in the Atlantic Ocean by another ship. There was no one on board, but the goods that the *Mary Celeste* was carrying were still on the ship.

There was no sign of trouble, but the sailors, the captain, and his family could not be found. The ship's lifeboat was missing, and a long rope was attached to the back of the ship. Some versions of the story say that a fully prepared meal could be seen on the table, so maybe everyone left in a hurry. This, however, cannot be confirmed. Even now we don't understand exactly what happened, and the truth may never be known.

In my opinion, the evidence should be examined again by people. New information might be discovered using modern technology. Many people don't agree with me, though. They think some things just can't be explained.

