

## The passive (present simple, past simple, will)

## Form

be in the right form + past participle

statement	negative	question
<b>Everyone is invited!</b>	<b>Some people aren't (are not) invited.</b>	<b>Is everyone invited?</b>
	Active	Passive
present simple	They always invite Grandma.	Grandma <b>is always invited.</b>
past simple	They invited Uncle Adrian.	Uncle Adrian <b>was invited.</b>
will	They <b>will / won't</b> invite the neighbours.	The neighbours <b>will / won't be invited.</b>
<b>Use</b>		<b>Example</b>
When we don't know who does something		My sister's bike <b>was stolen</b> yesterday.
When we don't want or need to say who does something		<b>Was</b> Simon <b>invited?</b>

## Helpful hints

If you are not sure how to form a passive sentence, think of the **active** sentence first.

Active sentence:

**Someone stole my sister's bike yesterday.**

Passive sentence:

**My sister's bike was stolen yesterday.**

- Look at the active sentence. The verb is *stole* and the object is *my sister's bike*.
- The object of the active sentence (*my sister's bike*) becomes the subject of the passive sentence.  
***My sister's bike* ...**
- Then we need the verb *be* in the same tense as the verb in the active sentence. Here, *stole* is past simple, so we need *was*.  
***My sister's bike was* ...**
- Then we need the past participle of the verb in the active sentence. The past participle of *steal* is *stolen*.  
***My sister's bike was stolen* ...**
- Finally, we finish the sentence in the right way.  
***My sister's bike was stolen yesterday.***

## Watch out!

- When the verb in a passive sentence is a phrasal verb, don't forget to include the particle.  
**They picked up the broken glass.** → **The broken glass was picked up.**
- Some verbs have irregular past participle forms. See page 182.

**A** The words and phrases in **bold** in each sentence are wrong. Write the correct word or phrase.

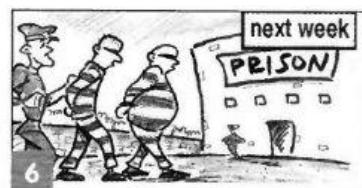
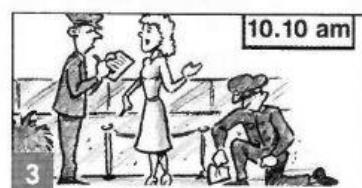
- 1 Every year, several prizes are **giving** to the best students. ....
- 2 When the pizza was **delivering**, it was cold. ....
- 3 You will be **telling** when you can come in. ....
- 4 That song **doesn't** played on the radio very often, is it? ....
- 5 **Your money was stealing** out of your bag? ....
- 6 We **haven't** allowed to use a dictionary in the exam yesterday. ....
- 7 That film won't **have** shown in our local cinema for a long time. ....
- 8 **I will be** picked up from the station on Saturday? ....

**B** Complete using the correct passive form of the verbs in brackets.

- 1 When people ..... (**arrest**), they ..... (**take**) to the police station.
- 2 Milk ..... (**usually / keep**) in the fridge.
- 3 ..... (**we / tell**) what's in next week's test?
- 4 How did people communicate over long distances before the phone ..... (**invent**)?
- 5 ..... (**you / allow**) to come to the party next Saturday?
- 6 You ..... (**give**) your exam results next Monday.
- 7 ..... (**Aidan's bike / find**) yesterday?

**C** Look at the pictures and complete the sentences. Use the correct passive form of the verbs in the box. Add any other words you need.

call • catch • find • investigate • rob • send



- 1 At ten o'clock yesterday morning, the local bank in the high street .....
- 2 At one minute past ten, the police .....
- 3 A few minutes later, the police arrived at the bank. The crime scene .....
- 4 At twenty past ten, the robbers' fingerprints .....
- 5 At half past eleven, the robbers .....
- 6 Next week, they .....

## D Answer the questions using your own ideas.

1 Where are cars usually fixed?  
They .....

2 Where will the next Olympic Games be held?  
They .....

3 Who are Oscars usually awarded to?  
They .....

4 What are you not allowed to do at school?  
I .....

5 What were you given for your birthday last year?  
I .....

6 What will you be given for your next birthday?  
I'll probably .....

## E Complete each second sentence using the word given, so that it has a similar meaning to the first sentence. Write between two and five words.

1 Will they send the letters first class? **sent**  
Will ..... first class?

2 I'm not sure if they eat pizza in China. **is**  
I'm not sure if ..... in China.

3 Someone told me that they don't make cars in the UK anymore. **made**  
Someone told me that ..... in the UK anymore.

4 Do they usually feed the animals three times a day? **fed**  
Are ..... three times a day?

5 Mr Jones is ill, so he won't give us a geography test today! **be**  
Mr Jones is ill, so ..... a geography test today!

6 Did they take her to hospital in an ambulance? **she**  
Was ..... to hospital in an ambulance?

## F Write one word in each gap.

*The National Trust*

There are lots of beautiful, large houses in Britain. Many of them (1) ..... built hundreds of years ago. In the past, they (2) ..... owned by very rich families. Today, many of them (3) ..... owned by an organisation called The National Trust, which (4) ..... created to look after them. The houses (5) ..... kept in perfect condition, and visitors (6) ..... allowed to look round them. It's interesting to learn how different life was in an old house. Milk was (7) ..... kept in the fridge, because they didn't have fridges! Washing machines (8) ..... only invented very recently, so washing (9) ..... done by hand. In some cases, the house (10) ..... still lived in today. When this happens, visitors (11) ..... only shown part of the house. The private rooms (12) ..... kept closed to the public. These houses often have beautiful gardens, too. The gardens (13) ..... looked after by professional gardeners.

You usually have to pay to look round National Trust houses. Members of the National Trust (14) ..... given a discount. This year, millions of people (15) ..... be given the chance to see what life in an old country house was like.

- The passive (present continuous, present perfect simple, past continuous, past perfect simple, be going to, modals)

be in the right form + past participle

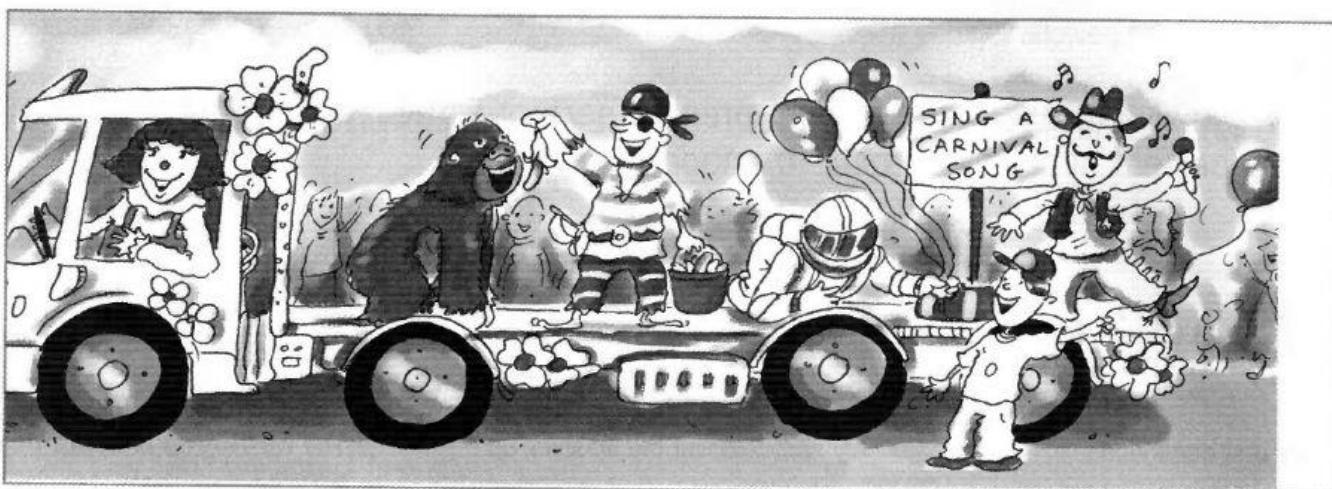
statement	negative	question
The pizzas <b>are being</b>	The pizzas <b>aren't (are not) being</b>	Are the pizzas <b>being</b>
Active		Passive
present continuous	My aunt <b>is doing</b> the washing-up.	The washing-up <b>is being done</b> by my aunt.
present perfect simple	My cousin <b>has sent</b> the invitations.	The invitations <b>have been sent</b> by my cousin.
past continuous	My uncle <b>was cleaning</b> the car.	The car <b>was being cleaned</b> by my uncle.
past perfect simple	Our neighbours <b>had taken</b> the twins to the zoo.	The twins <b>had been taken</b> to the zoo by our neighbours.
be going to	They're <b>going to invite</b> Phil to the party.	Phil <b>is going to be invited</b> to the party.
modals	They <b>might invite</b> Kyle to the party.	Kyle <b>might be invited</b> to the party.
	We <b>should tell</b> Jenny about the party.	Jenny <b>should be told</b> about the party.
	We <b>must tell</b> Dominic about the concert.	Dominic <b>must be told</b> about the concert.
	We <b>can hold</b> the party at Jack's house.	The party <b>can be held</b> at Jack's house.

For the passive form of the present simple, past simple and will, see Unit 10.  
For the uses of the passive, see Unit 10.

**Watch out!**

- We can use **by** to emphasise who does something.  
✓ *My sister's bedroom was painted **by** my parents.* (= My parents painted my sister's bedroom.)
- We can use **with** to emphasise what someone uses.  
✓ *Soup is usually eaten **with** a spoon.* (= You usually use a spoon to eat soup.)
- We don't use **by** or **with** when we don't need to say, or don't know, who does something.  
✓ *Mrs Fisher was taken to hospital yesterday.*

## A Look at the picture and match to make sentences.



1 The carnival lorry is	.....	A been given a banana by the pirate.
2 The lorry has	.....	B going to be given a balloon by the astronaut.
3 The gorilla has	.....	C be sung by the cowboy.
4 Everyone watching is	.....	D being driven by a clown.
5 The best song might	.....	E been bought from a fancy-dress shop?
6 Have the costumes	.....	F been decorated with lots of flowers.

## B Look at the picture again and circle the correct word.

- 1 The balloons had all been **blowing** / **blown** up before the carnival started.
- 2 The bananas **haven't** / **aren't** all been eaten yet.
- 3 The lorry isn't **been** / **being** driven by the gorilla.
- 4 A young boy **was** / **has** just taken a balloon from the astronaut.
- 5 A prize is going to **have** / **be** given to the person in the best fancy dress.
- 6 The prize might not be **awarding** / **awarded** to the clown.
- 7 **Has** / **Is** the lorry been decorated well?
- 8 Can songs be sung **by** / **with** people in the crowd, too?

C Complete using *by* or *with*.

- 1 That book was written ..... my uncle!
- 2 Are the best photos usually taken ..... digital cameras?
- 3 That song has been sung ..... lots of famous singers.
- 4 Is your hair cut ..... a professional hairdresser?
- 5 Should the paper be cut ..... a pair of scissors?
- 6 All the candles had been lit ..... the same match.
- 7 The film isn't going to be directed ..... Steven Spielberg after all.

**D** Complete each second sentence so that it has a similar meaning to the first sentence. Write no more than four words.

- I think John has taken my jacket.  
I think my jacket ..... John.
- You should cook the chicken for at least an hour.  
The chicken ..... for at least an hour.
- They're showing that film at the cinema in town.  
That film ..... at the cinema in town.
- They hadn't invented digital cameras when we took that photo.  
Digital cameras ..... when that photo was taken.
- When I got there, Carly was doing the ironing, so I didn't have to do it!  
When I got there, the ironing ..... Carly, so I didn't have to do it!
- They were using hot soapy water to wash all the cars.  
All the cars ..... hot soapy water.

**E** Read the text and answer the questions. Use the correct form of the passive.

## Doing the housework

by Lisa Porter, Class 4b

At home, we all share the housework. My dad loves cooking, so he cooks all the food. Sometimes we help him, though. Next weekend, for example, we're having a party so I'm going to help him. In the past, my mum did all the shopping. She started a new job last year though, so I've done most of the shopping since then. It's easy, because I shop online. That means I order everything on the Internet (my dad lets me use his credit card!) and someone from the supermarket delivers it to our house.

My brother, Andy, cleans the bathroom nearly every day. He didn't do it yesterday, so he might do it later today. My sister Angelina sweeps the floors. She uses a really old brush. I think she should use a vacuum cleaner! You can save time if you use electrical equipment.

- Does only one person do the housework in Lisa's house?  
No, the housework .....
- Who cooks the food?  
The food .....
- Who is going to help Lisa's dad next weekend?  
Lisa's dad .....
- Who did all the shopping until about a year ago?  
Until about a year ago, the shopping .....
- Who has done most of the shopping since then?  
Since then, most of the shopping .....
- Does Lisa take the shopping home from the supermarket?  
No, it .....
- How often does someone clean the bathroom?  
It .....
- When might someone next clean the bathroom?  
It .....
- How does Angelina sweep the floors?  
The floors .....
- What does Lisa think Angelina should use?  
Lisa thinks a vacuum cleaner .....