Passive Voice

The Passive

B1 (intermediate) level

Tense and structure	Active	Passive
Present simple Am/is/are + past participle	Julie kisses the baby.	The baby is kissed (by Julie).
Past simple Was/were + past participle	Someone stole my bike.	My bike was stolen (by someone).
Present continuous am / is / are + being + past participle	She is cleaning the house.	The house is being cleaned (by her).
Past continuous was / were + being + past participle	Someone was stealing a bag.	A bag was being stolen (by someone).
Present perfect Have/has + been + past participle	The children have broken the glass.	The glass has been broken (by the children).
Past perfect Had + been + past participle	Someone had tidied the flat.	The flat had been tidied (by someone).
Future simple Will + be + past participle	She will fix the problems.	The problems will be fixed (by her).
Future with 'be going to' am/is/are + going + to + be + past participle	They are going to do the homework.	The homework is going to be done (by them).
Infinitive to + be + past participle	I need to clean the house.	The house needs to be cleaned.

Directions: Study the table. In exercises 1 and 2 below identify the verb tense for each sentence.

1. Rewrite the sentences beginning with the words in brackets. Use the passive form. Add the agent when important. **Verb tense:**

1 An experienced dental hygienist has cleaned my teeth. (My teeth)

_____

2 They were presenting Dr Hughes with the certificate when we walked in. (The certificate)

_____

3 Companies will manufacture fewer tablets in the future. (Fewer tablets)

_____

4 Vitamin C protects the body against cancer. (The body)

_____

5 Alexander Fleming discovered penicillin. (Penicillin)

_____

_____/15 pt.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

2 Complete the text with the correct form of the verbs in brackets.

Aspirin

These days, aspirin [1] _____ (use) to treat a variety of aches and pains. Its medicinal properties [2] _____ (know) for over three thousand years. Even Hippocrates, the Ancient Greek who [3] _____ (often / refer) to as the 'father of medicine', knew about it. Indeed, historians believe that aspirin [4] _____ (prescribe) for headaches long before Hippocrates' time. However, it [5] _____ (not manufacture) in its present tablet form until the end of the 19th century when a scientist working for the drugs company Bayer synthesised aspirin for the first time.

Verb tense:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____

_____ **/10 pt.**

3 Use the prompts to write sentences using the passive infinitive or -ing form. _____ /16 pt.

Most teenagers: 1 don't enjoy / shout at *Most teenagers don't enjoy being shouted at.*

2 can't stand / ignore

_____

3 would prefer / not criticise

_____

4 would like / take / seriously

_____

5 get tired of judge

_____

6 just want / love

_____

7 dislike/tell / what to do

_____

8 aren't interested in / compare / to other teenagers

_____

LIVEWORKSHEETS

Make passive sentences using the word parts and the given tense.

1. The window – open (**present perfect**)

The window _____.

2. Her room – paint (**past continuous**)

Her room _____.

3. He – take – to the airport. (**present perfect**)

He _____to the airport.

4. The bike – repair – at the moment (**present continuous**)

The bike _____at the moment.

5. The cows – feed – every morning (**present simple**)

The cows _____ every morning.

6. The novel – write – a hundred years ago (**past simple**)

The novel _____ a hundred years ago.

7. The food – must put – in the fridge (**present simple**)

The food _____ in the fridge

8. A press conference – hold – tomorrow afternoon (**future simple**)

A press conference _____ tomorrow afternoon.

9. Our new house – just – finish (**present perfect**).

Our new house _____.

10.The thief – see – by the policeman (**past perfect**)

The thief_____by the policeman.

11.The story – often tell – by grandmother (**present simple**)

The story _____ by grandmother.

12.The package – send – by a good friend (**past simple**)

The package _____ by a good friend.

13.He – not see – for ages (**present perfect**)

He _____ for ages.

14. My dad – offer – a new job later this week (**future simple**)

My dad _____ a new job later this week.

15. The church – not renovate – for two hundred years (**present perfect**)

The church _____ for two hundred years.

16. Breakfast – serve – from 7 to 10 (**present simple**)

Breakfast _____ from 7 to 10.

_____**/16 pt.**

LIVEWORKSHEETS