

## They did it for money (passive voice)

1. Look at the headlines and think of two possible details for each story.

*Bank customers claim their money was stolen*

*How to make your savings disappear in ten seconds*

*Boyfriend who never existed*

2. Match the sentence halves.

- |                                  |   |
|----------------------------------|---|
| a) She was sentenced             | 1) because they'd said they would only accept cash. |
| b) He withdrew money from an ATM | 2) the bank's computers.                            |
| c) The police managed            | 3) that the gang who robbed the bank flew overseas. |
| d) They hacked                   | 4) to ten years in prison.                          |
| e) The investigation discovered  | 5) to recover the stolen money.                     |

**3. Look at the sentences in ex. 2 and answer the questions.**

- a) What else can criminals be sentenced to?
- b) Which two verbs in ex. 2 collocate with 'money'?
- c) Which two meanings of the word 'recover' are correct?  
1) find/get back      2) destroy      3) become healthy again
- d) What else can be robbed?
- e) What does a detective conduct?

**4. You are going to watch a video about a crime. It all started when bank computers were hacked and account information was stolen. Put the statements in the right order to predict what happened.**

- a) Cash and expensive watches were noticed.
- b) Most of the money has not been recovered.
- c) The gang members were being watched.
- d) A gang member was arrested.
- e) All withdrawal limits were removed from the accounts.
- f) The gang members were sent ATM numbers.
- g) The hacker was sentenced to eight years in prison.

**5. Watch the [video](https://youtu.be/6Vhs0qb6kJE) [https://youtu.be/6Vhs0qb6kJE] and check your answers in ex. 4.**

**6. Discuss the questions.**

- Have you heard of a similar crime to the one in the video? What happened? What punishment did the criminals get?
- Do you think that the punishment of eight years in prison fits the crime? Why/Why not?
- How should the gang members be punished?
- Is there a way for the victims of the crime to recover their money? Should the banks be blamed for their lack of security systems?
- Why do you think people risk so much to steal money from others?

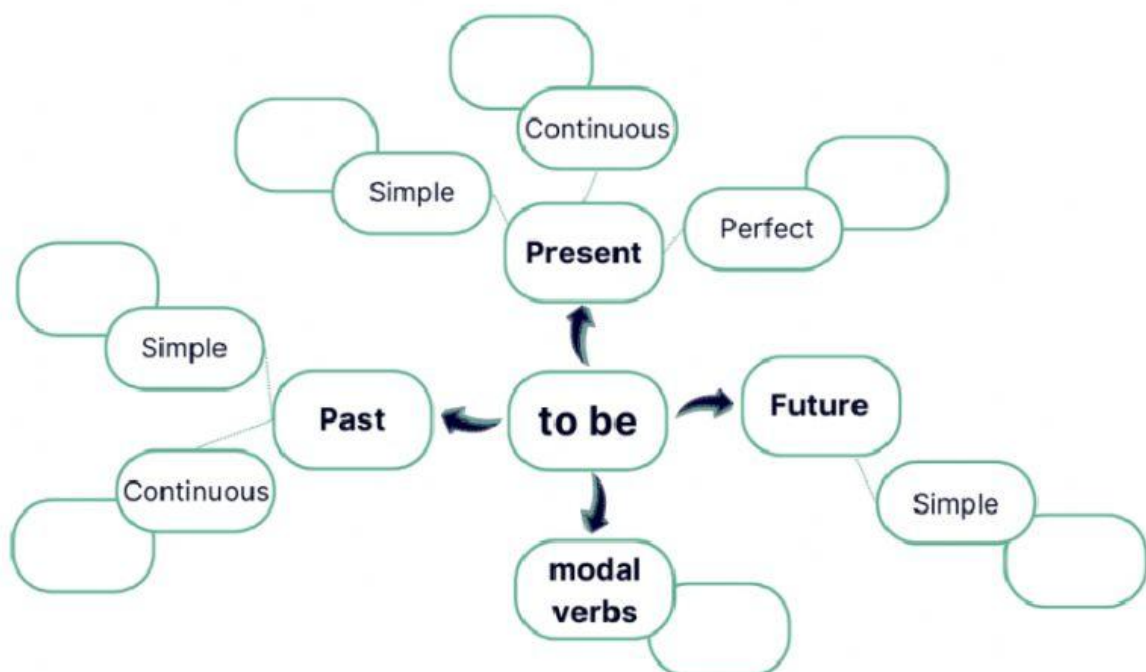
**7. Look at the sentences in passive voice and do the tasks below.**

- 1) Money was stolen from ATMs.
- 2) The gang members were being watched.
- 3) Most of the money has not been recovered.
- 4) How should the gang members be punished?



- a) Decide who does the action in each statement: a judge, the hacker, the gang members or the police.
- b) Rewrite the statements in active voice. Start with 'The gang members...', 'The hacker...', 'The police...' or use 'a judge'.
- c) Decide which three grammatical elements a **passive voice** sentence must contain.
  - 1) subject (somebody or something taking the action)
  - 2) object (somebody or something affected by the action)
  - 3) verb 'to be' in the correct form
  - 4) past simple (e.g. 'went', 'ate')
  - 5) past participle (e.g. 'gone', 'eaten')

- d) Complete the mind map with the correct forms of the verb 'to be'.





8. Read the texts about crimes and choose the correct verb forms. Then, discuss the questions.

- a) A woman developed technology which would allow patients to **diagnose/be diagnosed/being diagnosed** using only very small amounts of their blood. The woman started a company and raised hundreds of millions of dollars from investors. It turned out that she never invented anything but she **was convinced/was being convinced/convinced** people that she did. She **has /has been/has being** sentenced to 11 years in prison for fraud.

**fraud:**  
lying to get money

- Is 11 years in prison a fair sentence? Why/Why not?
- Have you heard of similar crimes?
- What **could to be done/could they do/could be done** to prevent this type of crime?

- b) One morning, a man entered a bank and passed a bag and a note to a member of staff. The note said: 'Put all the money in the bag. I have a gun.' While the bag **was being filled/was filled/filled**, the police came, so the man took the bag and ran. He was caught ten minutes later. Over \$30,000 **were recovered/recovered/was being recovered**.

The man **will probably sentence/will probably being sentenced/will probably be sentenced** to at least ten years in prison.

- Is ten years in prison a fair sentence? Why/Why not?
- Have you heard of similar crimes?
- How **can banks protect/can banks be protected/can be banks protected** themselves from robberies?

9. Look at the pictures and guess what the crimes might be. The crimes are committed for money.



catfishing



social engineering

**10. Complete the gaps with the correct forms of the verbs in brackets. Use active or passive voice.**

- a) Catfishing involves creating a fake online identity to trick people. A catfishing victim ..... (lie) to. He or she starts a relationship with the catfisher, and is soon asked for money. Once the catfisher gets the money, they ..... (ask) for more. Then they disappear.  
64% of catfishers ..... (be) women.
- b) Manipulating people so that they share sensitive information or do something inappropriate is called social engineering. Victims ..... (might, tell) over the phone that they owe money to a bank and need to transfer it immediately or they ..... (take) to court.  
People aged 60 and older ..... (manipulate) and lose money most often.