

Passive voice: Simple Past



Name: _____

The passive: Simple past

Affirmative and negative

Affirmative

The cloth **was sewn** in India.

Their cups **were thrown** away.

Negative

Shirin **wasn't paid** much.

The T-shirts **weren't made** locally.

by + agent

Polystyrene **was discovered** by Eduard Simon.

The birds **were killed by** plastic.

We use **by + agent** when it is important to know who or what did the action.

Questions and short answers

yes / no questions and short answers

Was the wood **made** into paper?

Yes, it **was**. / **No**, it **wasn't**.

Were any animals **killed** by plastic last year?

Yes, they **were**. / **No**, they **weren't**.

Wh- questions

Where was paper **invented**?

How many birds **were killed** by plastic?

1 Complete the sentences with the simple past passive form of the verbs in parentheses.

The wheel was invented before the year 3500 BC. (invent)

1 The Eiffel Tower _____ by Stephen Sauvestre. (design)

2 The meal _____ by my mom. (not cook)

3 The Golden Gate Bridge in San Francisco _____ in 1933. (build)

4 The swimmer _____ by a dolphin. (save)

5 Mike _____ in the car accident. (not hurt)

6 The Harry Potter books _____ by Suzanne Collins. (not write)

7 The song Happy _____ by Pharrell Williams. (sing)

2. Write sentences with the affirmative (✓) or negative (✗) passive simple past form of the verbs in the box.

award catch invent paint sing wear write



The Girl with the Pearl Earring was painted

by Vermeer. (✓)

- 1 Jason was given the prize of Best Soccer Player. (✓)
- 2 *Shake it off* was written by Beyoncé. (✗)
- 3 Large hats and long dresses were worn by women in the 19th century. (✓)
- 4 These fish were caught this morning. (✓)
- 5 The vacuum cleaner was invented in 1960. (✗)
- 6 *Pride and Prejudice* was written by Charles Dickens. (✗)

3.

Write questions and affirmative (✓) or negative (✗) short answers in the passive simple past.



this / ice cream / make / in / Italy? (✓)

Was this ice cream made in Italy ? Yes, it was .

- 1 the burglars / catch (✗)
_____ ? _____.
- 2 Where / pizza / invent?
_____ ? _____.
- 3 When / the cave paintings / find?
_____ ? _____.
- 4 all / the litter / on the beach / clear? (✗)
_____ ? _____.
- 5 the baby monkeys / rescue? (✓)
_____ ? _____.