PASSIVE: PAST, PRESENT AND FUTURE

1 Active vs Passive. Underline the correct alternative.

I never used to like history lessons at school. The teacher never **1** ***was brought / brought*** history to life and it was really boring. We **2** ***were always told / always told*** to just read out long passages from textbooks to the class. You never **3** ***were known / knew*** when it was going to be your turn and then, suddenly, you **4** ***were chosen / chose*** by the teacher to read the next paragraph. Since then, I **5** ***'ve been discovered / 've discovered*** that history is actually really interesting. I **6** ***'ve been shown / 've shown*** some really interesting documentaries over the years by friends, which have really got me interested. At the moment I **7** ***'m being done / 'm doing*** a course on twentieth century history, and we **8** ***'ve been given / 've given*** various topics to research and present to the class. It's absolutely fascinating, and next week I **9** ***'ll be given / 'll give*** the opportunity to present what I found out. I hope children **10** ***are taught / teach*** history in a similar way at school these days.

Hadrian's Wall

2 Fill the gaps with the correct tenses (active or passive voice).

In the year 122 AD, the Roman Emperor Hadrian 1_____ **(visit)** his provinces in Britain. On his visit, the Roman soldiers told him that Pictish tribes from Britain's north 2_____ **(attack)** them. So Hadrian 3_____ **(give)** the order to build a protective wall across one of the narrowest parts of the country. After 6 years of hard work, the Wall 4_____ **(finish)** in 128. It 5_____ **(be)** 117 kilometres long and about 4 metres high. The Wall 6_____ **(guard)** by 15,000 Roman soldiers. Every 8 kilometres there was a large fort in which up to 1,000 soldiers 7_____ **(find)** shelter. The soldiers watched over the frontier to the north and checked the people who 8_____ **(want)** to enter or leave Roman Britain. In order to pass through the Wall, people had to go to one of the small forts that 9_____ **(serve)** as gateways. Those forts were called milecastles because the distance from one fort to another 10_____ **(be)** one Roman mile (about 1,500 metres). Between the milecastles there were two turrets from which the soldiers 11_____ **(guard)** the Wall. If the Wall was attacked by enemies, the soldiers at the turrets ran to the nearest milecastle for help or lit a fire that 12_____ **(see)** by the soldiers in the milecastle.

In 383 Hadrian's Wall 13_____ **(abandon)**. Today Hadrian's Wall **14**_____ **(be)** the most popular tourist attraction in northern England. In 1987, it 15_____ **(become)** a UNESCO World Heritage Site.