

THE PASSIVE VOICE

1) Observe the sentences and underline the verbal forms

- a) The colony of Jamestown was founded in May 1607.
- b) The declaration of Independence was adopted on July 4th, 1776.
- c) The Civil War was won by the northern states and slavery was abolished.
- d) I was told that Martin Luther King had received the Nobel Peace Prize in 1964

2) Observe the construction of the verbal forms

_____ + _____ (ou **be** + **en**)

→ Conjugate be:

Present : I _____, he/she/it _____, we /you / they _____

Simple past: I, he/she/it _____, you / we/ they _____

Present perfect: I / you / we / they _____, he/she/it _____

→ Modal auxiliaries

With CAN, COULD, MUST, WILL, WOULD, SHOULD... :

I / he / she / it / you / we / they _____

→ Formation of the past participle:

Regular verbs _____ irregular verbs _____

3) Find the agent (= complément d'agent, celui qui fait l'action)

Dans quelle(s) phrase(s) le nomme-t-on, et quelle est la préposition qui l'introduit ?

Pourquoi n'apparaît-il pas dans les autres ?

Put sentence c) at the active voice :

The Civil War was won by the northern states and slavery was abolished.

Translate the sentence

4) Observe sentence d).

I was told that Martin Luther King had received the Nobel Peace Prize in 1964

Translate : Do you use a passive in French ? _____

Which pronoun do you use ? _____

5) Put the verb at the passive voice.

- a) The Civil war _____ (fight) from 1861 to 1865.
- b) The thirteen British colonies _____ (declare) free and independent states in 1776.
- c) Martin Luther King _____ (shoot) in Memphis, Tennessee in 1963.
- d) John Fitzgerald Kennedy _____ (kill) by Lee Harvey Oswald.
- e) Abraham Lincoln _____ (remember) forever for setting the slaves free.
- f) Black people _____ (allow) to vote in the USA since 1965.

TENSE	ACTIVE	PASSIVE
Present Simple	I make a cake	A cake is made
Present Contin.	I'm making a cake	A cake is being made.
Past Simple	I made a cake.	A cake was made.
Past Continuous	I was making a cake.	A cake was being made.
Present Perfect	I have made a cake	A cake has been made.
Past Perfect	I had made a cake.	A cake had been made.
Future Simple	I will make a cake.	A cake will be made.
Future be going to	I'm going to make a cake.	A cake is going to be made.
Modal	I must make a cake.	A cake must be made.
Modal Perfect	I should have made a cake.	A cake should have been made.