The passive

Present simple		
Spanish	is	spoken in many countries.
Tigers	aren't	found in Africa.

Past simple		
Writing	was	invented in Asia.
Planes	weren't	used until the 1900s.

will		
The prize	will be	awarded next week.
The food	won't be	served until 10 pm.

Questions			
Will	your project	be	finished by next week?

- We use the **passive** when we don't know or are not interested in who or what does an action.
- To form the **passive**, we use the appropriate form of ***be*** + **past participle**.
  Millions of emails are written every day.
  Brian wasn't invited to the party.
  The microwave will be repaired tomorrow.
- We use the **present simple passive** to talk about facts in the present.
  English is spoken in most hotels and tourist offices.
- We use the **past simple passive** to talk about facts in the past.
  The first video game console was made in 1972.
- We use ***will*** with the **passive** to talk about facts and actions we believe will happen in the future.
  Results will be emailed to students next week.
- We use ***by*** with the **passive** to show who or what was responsible for an action.
  The book was written by a marketing expert.
- To form questions in the present and past, we use the appropriate form of ***be*** + **subject** + **past participle**. We put *Wh-* question words before ***be***.
  Was the light bulb really invented by Edison?
  Where is the most coffee drunk in the world?
- To form questions with ***will***, we use ***will*** + **subject** + ***be*** + **past participle**.
  When will the next drama club meeting be held?

Question tags

Main clause	*be/do/have*/modal + subject pronoun
They aren't ready,	are they?
They are ready,	aren't they?
We don't need a pencil,	do we?
We need a pen,	don't we?
He was ill,	wasn't he?
He wasn't ill,	was he?
She can't run a marathon,	can she?
She can run a marathon,	can't she?
You won't be late,	will you?
You'll be late,	won't you?
You haven't seen it,	have you?
You've seen it,	haven't you?

- We use **question tags** at the end of statements to invite a response from the listener.
  A: You're an athlete, aren't you?
  B: Yes, I am.
- To create **question tags** we use the main verb ***to be***, auxiliary verbs ***to do*** or ***to have*** or a **modal verb**, plus a **subject**. The subject is normally a pronoun.
- Positive sentences have negative question tags and negative sentences have positive tags.
- When we use the auxiliary *be*, *do* or *have*, a modal verb or main verb *be* in the main clause, this verb is used in the tag.

Questions with prepositions

- When a **question word** is the object of a **preposition**, the preposition usually comes at the end of the clause, especially in an informal style.
  What are you looking for?
  Who is this pizza for?
  Who is he listening to?
  Which programme are you talking about?
  What are you laughing at?
  What's it full of?
- We often form questions with prepositions at the end in passive questions.
  Who was it written by?

LIVEWORKSHEETS

LANGUAGE PRACTICE

The passive

1 Complete the sentences with the passive form of the verbs in brackets.

1 Our shopping *will be delivered* (deliver) to our house tomorrow morning.
2 These problems _____ (solve) a long time ago.
3 _____ phone batteries _____ (produce) in this factory?
4 A lot time _____ (waste) if we don't do something now.
5 It was delicious. The meat _____ (chop) into small pieces.
6 My computer _____ (not connect) to the wi-fi.

2 Use the prompts to write questions in the passive. Use the tense in brackets.

1 When / the books / deliver / ? (past)
When were the books delivered?
2 Why / flies / attract / to the smell of food / ? (present)
_____
3 How / these images / create / ? (past)
_____
4 Where / we / collect / after the museum visit / ? (future)
_____
5 How / the meat / cook / ? (past)
_____
6 When / a time machine / develop / ? (future)
_____

3 Rewrite the sentences in the passive.

1 This lake supplies water to our town.
Water is supplied to our town from this lake.
2 They will communicate your grades to you in a week.
Your grades _____
3 We measured the ingredients very carefully.
The ingredients _____
4 They grill the fish over a fire.
The fish _____

4 Complete the text with the passive form of the verbs in brackets.

The city of Dubai is incredible. Before oil [1] *was discovered* (discover) in 1966, it was a small town, but it [2] _____ (develop) into a modern city where millions of tourists [3] _____ (attract) to its shopping malls. In 1999, the seven-star Burj Al Arab [4] _____ (complete), and the 828-metre tall Burj Khalifa [5] _____ (open) in 2010. A new city with air conditioning [6] _____ (plan) for the future. Hotels and apartments [7] _____ (connect) with seven kilometres of shops.

Question tags

5 Complete the questions with the correct auxiliary verbs.

1 James *isn't* coming to lunch tomorrow, is he?
2 They _____ have to take the train, do they?
3 You _____ deliver the message later, won't you?
4 Robbie _____ going to call us today, wasn't he?

6 Complete the questions with the correct questions tags.

1 You don't know the answer, *do you* ?
2 Dad collected his car from the garage, _____ ?
3 Everyone knows the answer, _____ ?
4 They can't see the screen, _____ ?
5 Elena doesn't want to help us, _____ ?
6 You won't tell anyone what I told you, _____ ?

Questions with prepositions

7 Write questions asking about the underlined words. Use the preposition in bold.

1 Grace is listening **to** some classical music.
What is Grace listening to?
2 The class was **about** the main rivers in Europe.
_____
3 Logan baked a cake **for** his grandmother.
_____
4 The food was delivered **by** a man on a bike.
_____
5 My dad's very angry **with** my brother.
_____

LIVEWORKSHEETS