THEME 7

Passive Sentences

When we describe an action or a process, we can use a Passive sentence if we want to emphasize the action itself rather than who is responsible for doing it.

We form a Passive sentence with the verb **be** and the past participle of the main verb of the active sentence.

(You can see the list of irregular verbs on page 157 for the past participles.)

Active sentences	Passive sentences
You peel the cucumbers.	The cucumbers are peeled.
You chop the potatoes.	The potatoes are chopped.
You fry the peppers.	The peppers are fried.
We grate the onions.	The onions are grated.
We melt the butter.	The butter is melted.
We mix all the ingredients well.	All the ingredients are mixed well.
I sprinkle some cummin on the soup.	Some cummin is sprinkled on the soup.
You add one liter of milk.	One liter of milk is added.
We pour a glass of water into the pot.	A glass of water is poured into the pot.
We bake the cake for about twenty minutes.	The cake is baked for about twenty minutes.
You slice the strawberries.	The strawberries are sliced.
I boil the chicken wings for ten minutes.	The chicken wings are boiled for ten minutes.
I serve the fish with green salad.	The fish is served with green salad.

A. Rice is a popular dish in China. There are different methods to cook rice there. Read the process of cooking rice below. Use the correct form of the verbs in brackets to fill in the gaps.

First, we need two glasses of water. The water ..... (pour) into a large pot. Second, one teaspoonful of salt ..... (sprinkle) into the water.

Third, the water ..... (boil). Next, one glass of rice ..... (rinse) in a few changes of cold water, and the rice ..... (add) into the boiling water. Then, one spoonful of butter ..... (put) into the pot. After that, a wooden spoon ..... (use) to stir, but stir only once. If you over-stir, the rice becomes sticky. The pot ..... (cover), and the heat ..... (turn) down. Let the rice simmer for about fifteen minutes. Finally, the pot ..... (remove) from the stove, and the rice ..... (allow) to steam in the pot for about five more minutes. Your rice is ready to eat.

Good appetite!

B. Read the steps of making candles for Diwali in India and turned them into passive sentences.

1. We cut the wax into small chunks.

   ..... .

2. We boil some water in a large pot.

   ..... .

3. We put the wax chunks in a small heat-resistant container.

   ..... .

4. We place the container inside the large pot to melt the wax.

   ..... .

5. We place a wick in the center of a small jar.

   ..... .

6. We cool the wax in the jar.

   ..... .

LIVEWORKSHEETS