



PASSIVE VOICE

What do these words mean? Use **it can ...** or **it can't ...**. Use a dictionary if necessary.

If something is

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------|
| 1 washable, <u>it can be washed</u> | 4 unusable, |
| 2 unbreakable, it | 5 invisible, |
| 3 edible, | 6 portable, |

Complete these sentences with the following verbs (in the correct form):

arrest carry cause ~~do~~ make repair ~~send~~ spend wake up

Sometimes you need **have (might have, should have etc.)**.

- 1 The situation is serious. Something must be done before it's too late.
- 2 I should have received the letter by now. It might have been sent to the wrong address.
- 3 A decision will not until the next meeting.
- 4 Do you think that more money should on education?
- 5 This road is in very bad condition. It should a long time ago.
- 6 The injured man couldn't walk and had to
- 7 I told the hotel receptionist I wanted to at 6.30 the next morning.
- 8 If you hadn't pushed the policeman, you wouldn't
- 9 It's not certain how the fire started, but it might by an electrical fault.

Put the verb into the correct form, present simple or past simple, active or passive.

- 1 It's a big factory. Five hundred people are employed (employ) there.
- 2 Did somebody clean (somebody / clean) this room yesterday?
- 3 Water (cover) most of the earth's surface.
- 4 How much of the earth's surface (cover) by water?
- 5 The park gates (lock) at 6.30 p.m. every evening.
- 6 The letter (send) a week ago and it (arrive) yesterday.
- 7 The boat hit a rock and (sink) quickly. Fortunately everybody (rescue).
- 8 Robert's parents (die) when he was very young. He and his sister (bring up) by their grandparents.
- 9 I was born in London, but I (grow up) in Canada.
- 10 While I was on holiday, my camera (steal) from my hotel room.
- 11 While I was on holiday, my camera (disappear) from my hotel room.
- 12 Why (Sue / resign) from her job? Didn't she enjoy it?
- 13 Why (Ben / fire) from his job? Did he do something wrong?
- 14 The company is not independent. It (own) by a much larger company.
- 15 I saw an accident last night. Somebody (call) an ambulance but nobody (injure), so the ambulance (not / need).
- 16 Where (these pictures / take)? In London? (you / take) them, or somebody else?
- 17 Sometimes it's quite noisy living here, but it's not a problem for me – I (not / bother) by it.

Complete the sentences using one of these verbs in the correct form, present or past:

cause	damage	hold	invite	make
overtake	show	surround	translate	write

- 1 Many accidents are caused by dangerous driving.
- 2 Cheese is made from milk.
- 3 The roof of the building was damaged in a storm a few days ago.
- 4 You are invited to the wedding. Why didn't you go?
- 5 A cinema is a place where films are shown.
- 6 In the United States, elections for president are held every four years.
- 7 Originally the book was written in Spanish, and a few years ago it was translated into English.
- 8 Although we were driving fast, we were overtaken by a lot of other cars.
- 9 You can't see the house from the road. It is surrounded by trees.

Make sentences from the words in brackets. Sometimes the verb is active, sometimes passive.

- 1 There's somebody behind us. (I think / we / follow) I think we're being followed.
- 2 This room looks different. (you / paint / the walls?) Have you painted the walls?
- 3 My car has disappeared. (it / steal!) It was stolen.
- 4 My umbrella has disappeared. (somebody / take) Somebody took it.
- 5 Sam gets a higher salary now. (he / promote) He is promoted.
- 6 Ann can't use her office this week. (it / redecorate) It is being redecorated.
- 7 There was a problem with the photocopier yesterday, but now it's OK.
(it / work) It is working again. (it / repair) It has been repaired.
- 8 When I went into the room, I saw that the table and chairs were not in the same place.
(the furniture / move) The furniture was moved.
- 9 A neighbour of mine disappeared six months ago. (he / not / see / since then)
He hasn't been seen since then.
- 10 I wonder how Jane is these days. (I / not / see / for ages)
I haven't seen her for ages.
- 11 A friend of mine was mugged on his way home a few nights ago. (you / ever / mug?)
I have never been mugged.

Rewrite these sentences. Instead of using **somebody** or **they** etc., write a passive sentence.

- 1 Somebody has cleaned the room.
The room has been cleaned.
- 2 Somebody is using the computer right now.
The computer is being used.
- 3 I didn't realise that somebody was recording our conversation.
I didn't realise that I was being recorded.
- 4 When we got to the stadium, we found that they had cancelled the game.
When we got to the stadium, we found that the game had been cancelled.
- 5 They are building a new ring road round the city.
A new ring road is being built round the city.
- 6 They have built a new hospital near the airport.
A new hospital has been built near the airport.