

## Passive Voice

### I-Rule:

**1-**The active form is when the subject does the action, so it (subject) becomes **active**.

**2-**When we do not know, who is the “doer” of the action in the **active sentence**, we use **someone** or **somebody**. We **leave out** these words in the passive sentence.

e.g. *Someone* stole my mobile.(**active**) - My mobile was stolen.(**passive**)

**3-**The passive form is when the subject of the active- which becomes the agent in the passive - becomes no longer active but passive i.e. submissive and receiving.

**4-**The **object of the active** verb becomes the **subject of the passive** form;

**5-** and the **subject of the active** becomes **the agent** in the passive sentence which is either introduced with “by” or is omitted.

**6-** Verbs without an object (intransitive verbs) normally cannot form a personal passive sentence (since there is no object that can become the subject of the passive sentence).

**7-**The passive form is formed by using the appropriate tense of the verb **to be+ past participle**.

**8-**The following tenses **are not used** in the passive: **Present Perfect Continuous, Past Perfect Continuous, Future Continuous and Future Perfect Continuous**.

**II- Consider the following table when transforming from the active into the passive:**

**Active**

**Passive**

1-Present Simple-----	am/is/are +V(past participle)
2- Present Continuous-----	am/is/are being(P.P)
3- Present Perfect-----	has/have been + V(P.P)
4- Present Perfect Continuous -----	not possible
5-Past Simple-----	was/were + V(P.P)
6- Past Continuous-----	was/were being + V(P.P)
7- Past Perfect-----	had been + V(P.P)
8- Past Perfect Continuous-----	not possible
9-Future Simple-----	will be + V(P.P)
10- Future with be going to-----	am/is/are going to be + V(P.P)
11- Future Continuous-----	not possible
12- Future Perfect-----	will have been + V(P.P)
13- Future Perfect Continuous-----	not possible
14-Modals+infinitive-----	Modals + be+ V(P.P)
15-Modals + have+ V(P.P)-----	Modals + have been+ V(P.P)
16.....object + gerund-----	.....object+ being + V(P.P)
17.....(ing) + V(P.P)-----	.....having been+ V(P.P)

**III- Rewrite the following in Passive voice.**

1- Mary teaches Mathematics.

.....

2- Some Indians still speak Sanskrit.

.....

3- They hurt the bus driver

.....

4- You should obey to your parents.

.....

5- She is reading an interesting book.

.....

6- They **have built** a new house.

.....

7- The storm **destroyed** lots of buildings.

.....

8- Graham Bell **invented** the bell.

.....

9- They **listen** to music.

.....

10- China **produces** these I phones.

.....

**IV- Rewrite the following in Passive voice.**

1-They **are going to build** a new house. (be going to)

- .....

2- By this time next summer she **will have received** a promotion.  
(future perfect)

- .....

3- I **had visited** India several times before I established there for good. (past perfect)

- .....

4- She **was taking** her shower yesterday at 6:00 pm. (past continuous)

- .....

5- They saw **her peeling** the banana for the monkey. (object +verb-ing)

- .....

6- **Having done** the homework, he went to play in the yard. (-ing form + verb(past participle))

- .....

7- He **must have passed** the exam.( modals +have + verb(past participle))

- .....

**V-Write the following in the correct passive form:**

1-(policeman/help/children to cross the street/)

.....

2-(The certificates/distribute/tomorrow)

.....

3-(The hostages/take/to an unknown place/now)

.....

4-(The house/not clean/yet)

.....

5-(The artist/interview/now)

.....

6-(All copies of the book/sell/before we got there)

.....

7-(The presenter/expect/a storm/these days)

.....

8-(The teacher/punish/the lazy pupils/tomorrow)

.....

9-(Rama/write/a report/yesterday)

.....

10-(the waiter/serve/the dinner)

.....

**VI- Use the verb in brackets to form the Passive voice.**

1- The lesson .....by the teacher today. **(to explain - Present perfect)**

2- A letter ..... yesterday. **(to send - Simple Past)**

3- My father's car..... **(just/to steal – Present Perfect)**

4- The ditch.....before another accident could happen. **(already/to close - Present Perfect)**

5- A new Fitness Center .....by this time next week. **(to open – future Perfect)**

6- He .....to the party yesterday. **(to invite - Simple Past)**

7- My mum.....in the crowd.**(could/not/to see)**

8- The scholarship.....by the administration of the University.**(to provide - Simple Past)**

9- The room .....by my mother. **(to tidy - Present continuous)**

10- He .....by the police.**(interrogate-Present Perfect)**

**VII- The Passive is used:**

-When the **agent** (the person who does the action) is **unknown**, **unimportant** or **obvious** from the context.

e.g. A woman was killed (we don't know who killed the woman- **unknown agent**)

e. g. Trees and flowers were planted along the main street.  
(the agent here is **obvious**- who planted the trees: the municipality)

e.g. I was offered an interesting bed stories book. (**unimportant agent**)

**VIII- Rewrite the following sentences in Passive voice.**

**(mention the agent) Example:**

Anna read a book. *A book was read.* Or *A book was read by Anna.*

1) The butcher sold all the meat.

.....  
.....

2) The woman bought a pram.

.....  
.....

3) The man stole the blue car.

.....  
.....

4) Sherlock Holmes arrested the criminal.

.....  
.....

5) The boy ate three apples.

.....  
.....

6) Sam bought new shoes.

.....  
.....

7) She took a shower.

.....  
.....

## IX- Passive Sentences with Two Objects

-We can form two kinds of passive from an active sentence which contains two objects (direct and indirect)

- The direct and indirect objects of the active become the subject in the passive form.

e.g. My parents offered **me a present** for my birthday.

- **(me) becomes I = I was offered a present.**

- **A present was offered to me by my parents.**

### X- Turn to passive:

1- the mother gave a hug to her children.

- .....
- .....

2- He told her a lie.

- .....
- .....

3- The waitress has given us the menu to order.

- .....
- .....

4- My friend told me a joke.

- .....
- .....

5- The university has awarded Ann a scholarship.

- .....
- .....

6- I will email him my answer later today.

- .....
- .....

7- Mr. Huntington teaches us French.

- .....
- .....

8- My parents gave me some advice for my career.

- .....
- .....

**XI- Personal and impersonal construction of Passive:**

1- Verbs without an object (**intransitive verbs**) normally cannot form a personal passive sentence (since there is no object that can become the subject of the passive sentence).

2- If you want to use an intransitive verb in passive voice, you need an impersonal construction – therefore this passive is called **Impersonal Passive**.

e.g. **He** believes – personal construction introduced by “**He**”

**It** is believed – impersonal construction introduced by “**It**”

3-The verbs **expect, feel, hope, think, know, say, report, believe** etc are used in the formation of the personal and impersonal construction of Passive:

e.g. People **think** she is guilty (**active**)

a- **subject (person) + passive + to-infinitive: (personal construction)**

e.g. **She** is thought to be guilty. (**Personal**)

b- **It + passive + that-clause: (impersonal construction)**

e.g. It is thought that she is guilty. (**impersonal**)

**XII- Turn the following sentences into personal and impersonal constructions:**

1-People believe aliens don't exist.

- .....
- .....

2-Some believe that society is a source of evil.

- .....
- .....

3- She told him she loved him.

- .....
- .....



4- The doctor advised me to get plenty of rest.

- .....
- .....

5- She hopes he has understood that he can't expect any change.

- .....
- .....

6- They don't expect their students to arrive on time for the exam.

- .....
- .....

7- She knows he betrays her.

- .....
- .....

8- They say that men live longer than women.

- .....
- .....

**XIII-Verbs followed by a preposition:**

- Verbs followed by a preposition take the preposition immediately after them when turned into the passive. The following are the most common stative Passive prepositional verbs.

\_e.g. He was addicted to drugs.

be accustomed to be acquainted with be addicted to be annoyed with/by/at be associated with	be bored with/by	be cluttered with be composed of be concerned about be connected to be coordinated with be covered with be crowded with	be dedicated to be devoted to be disappointed in/ with be discriminated against be divorced from be done with be dressed in be dismissed by	be engaged to be equipped with be excited about be exhausted from be exposed to
be filled with be finished with be frightened of, by be loaded with	be gone from	be interested in be involved in be influenced by	be known for be kept from	be limited to be located in
be made of be married to	be opposed to be observed by	be pleased with be prepared for be protected from be provided with be performed by	be qualified for	be related to be remembered for
be satisfied with be scared of/by	be terrified of/ by be tired of/from be tied with	be worried about		

**XIV-Fill in "by" ,"with", "about" ,"of" or "to":**

- 1-He was annoyed..... my remarks.
- 2- Mary was married..... John before they divorced.
- 3- He became accustomed ..... the new job.
- 4- My mother is annoyed .....me because I insisted in going out .
- 5-He was released but was observed.....the police.
- 6-His wife was worried.....his new friends .
- 7-Students are terrified.....exams.
- 8-These cookies are filled.....chocolate.
- 9-In winter the Pyrenees is completely covered.....snow.
- 10-In Christmas the streets are crowded.....children and people for buying gifts.

**XV- Passive Questions:**

-We don't omit "by" with whom/who/which

e.g. Who ate the bananas? Who were the bananas eaten by?

e.g. Who told you the truth? Who were you told the truth by?

**XVI- Turn the following questions into the Passive questions:**

1-Who is going to visit you ?

-.....

2- Who did the catch the criminals?

-.....

3-Which car will you buy?

-.....

4- Do America produce cars?

-.....

5- When did they hijack the plane?

-.....

6- Why has the president signed such treaty?

-.....

7- Does she write emails regularly?

-.....

8- Did anyone find my wallet?

-.....

## Answers:

### III- Rewrite the following in Passive voice.

- 1-Mathematics was taught (by Mary)
- 2- Sanskrit is still spoken by some Indians.
- 3- The bus driver was hurt
- 4- Your parents should be obeyed to.
- 5- An interesting book is being to be read(by her).
- 6- A new house has been built.
- 7- Lots of buildings were destroyed by the storm.
- 8- The bell was invented by Graham Bell.
- 9- Music is listened.
- 10- These i phones are produced in China.

### IV- Rewrite the following in Passive voice.

- 1 - A new house is going to be built.
- 2 - A promotion will have been received by this time next summer
- 3 - India had been visited several times.
- 4- A shower was being taken yesterday at 6:00 pm.
- 5- They saw a banana being peeled for the monkey.
- 6- The homework having been done, he went to play in the yard.
- 7- The exam must have been passed.

### V-Write the following in the correct passive form:

- 1-The children are helped to cross the street. (permanent)
- 2-The certificates will be distributed tomorrow.
- 3-The hostages are being taken now.
- 4- The house hasn't been cleaned yet.
- 5-The artist is being interviewed now.
- 6-All copies of the book had been sold before we got there
- 7-A storm is being expected by the presenter these days.
- 8-The lazy pupils will be punished tomorrow(by the teacher)
- 9- A report was written by Rama yesterday
- 10-The dinner is served by the waiter. (permanent)

## VI- Use the verb in brackets to form the Passive voice.

- 1- The lesson **has been explained** by the teacher today.
- 2- A letter **was sent** yesterday.
- 3- My father's car **has just been stolen**.
- 4- The ditch **has already been closed** before another accident could happen.
- 5- A new Fitness Center **will have been opened** by this time next week.
- 6- He **was invited** to the party yesterday.
- 7- My mum **couldn't be seen** in the crowd.
- 8- The scholarship **was provided** by the administration of the University.
- 9- The room **is being tidied** by my mother.
- 10- He **has been interrogated** by the police.

## VIII- Rewrite the following sentences in Passive voice. (mention the agent) Example:

- 1) - All the meat **was sold**.  
- All the meat **was sold by the butcher**.
- 2) - A pram **was bought** .  
- A pram **was bought by the woman**.
- 3) - The blue car **was stolen**.  
- The blue car **was stolen by the man**.
- 4) - The criminal **was arrested**.  
- The criminal **was arrested by Sherlock Holmes**.
- 5) - Three apples **were eaten**.  
- Three apples **were eaten by the boy**.
- 6) - New shoes **were bought**.  
- New shoes **were bought by Sam**.
- 7) - A shower **was taken** by her.  
- A shower **was taken**.

## X- Passive Sentences with Two Objects

- 1 - A hug was given to her children. (object 1)  
- The children were given a hug by the mother. (object 2)
  
- 2- A lie was told to her. (object 1)  
- She was told a lie by him. (object 2)
  
- 3 - We were given the menu to order. (object 1)  
- The menu was given to us by the waitress. (object 2)
  
- 4 - A joke was told to me by my friend. (object 1)  
- I was told a joke. (object 2)
  
- 5 - A scholarship has been awarded to Ann by the university.  
(object 1)  
- Ann has been awarded a scholarship. (object 2)
  
- 6 - My answer will be emailed to him later today. (object 1)  
- He will be emailed my answer later today. (object 2)
  
- 7 - We are taught French by Mr. Huntington. (object 1)  
- French is taught to us by Mr. Huntington. (object 2)
  
- 8 - Some advice were given to me for my career. (object 1)  
- I was given some advice for my career. (object 2)

**XII- Turn the following sentences into personal and impersonal constructions:**

**1- People believe aliens don't exist.**

- Aliens are believed not to exist.
- It is believed that aliens don't exist.

**2- Some believe that society is a source of evil.**

- Society is believed to be a source of evil.
- It is believed that society is a source of evil.

**3- She told him she loved him.**

- He was told she loved him.
- It was told that she loved him.

**4- The doctor advised me to get plenty of rest.**

- I was advised to get plenty of rest.
- It was advised that I should get plenty of rest.

**5- She hopes he has understood that he cannot expect any change.**

- He has been hoped to have understood that he can't expect any change.
- It has been hoped that he has understood that he can't expect any change.

**6- They don't expect their students to arrive on time for the exam.**

- The students aren't expected to arrive on time for the exam.
- It isn't expected that their students arrive on time for the exam.

**7- She knows he betrays her.**

- He is known to betray her.
- It is known that he betrays her.

**8- They say that men live longer than women.**

- Men are said to live longer than women
- It is said that men live longer than women.

**XIV-Fill in "by" ,"with", "about" ,"of" , "at "or "to":**

- 1-at
- 2-to
- 3-to
- 4-with
- 5-by
- 6-about
- 7-of
- 8-with
- 9-with
- 10-with

**XVI- Turn the following questions into Passive questions:**

- 1-Who are you going to be visited by?
- 2- Who were the criminals caught by?
- 3- Which car will be bought by you?
- 4- Are cars produced in America?
- 5- When was the plane hijacked?
- 6-Why such treaty was signed by the president?
- 7-Are emails written regularly by her?
- 8-Was the wallet found by anyone?