

HANDOUT PACK

Passive Voice

for teenagers and adults



PASSIVE VOICE

In the passive the object of the verb becomes the subject of the passive sentence.

e.g. (Active) The car is being washed by him. (Passive) The car is being washed by him.

Complete the table. The verbs in parentheses can be passive in the passive.

active	passive
present simple	They <u>are</u> selling postcards.
present continuous	They <u>are</u> selling postcards.
past simple	They <u>sold</u> postcards.
past continuous	They <u>were</u> selling postcards.
present perfect	They <u>have</u> sold postcards.
past perfect	They <u>had</u> sold postcards.
future simple	They <u>will</u> sell postcards.
future perfect	They <u>will have</u> sold postcards.
going to	They <u>are going to</u> sell postcards.
modal verbs	They <u>can</u> sell postcards.
infinitive	They <u>need</u> to sell postcards.
gerund	By <u>selling</u> postcards.

If daily actions in the active are followed by another action, the passive can be changed into the passive. Think of these actions as being changed.

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|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| a) The machine is broken. | b) The machine is broken. |
| It is not working. | It is not working. |
| It was broken. | It was broken. |
| It was not working. | It was not working. |
| It will be broken. | It will be broken. |
| It will not be working. | It will not be working. |

Two subjects

1) When there are two subjects, the active sentence will have two subjects. However, it is common to say the passive sentence with the passive.

e.g. (Active) The dog was barking at the cat.

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|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| 1) The cat was barking at the dog. | 2) The dog was barking at the cat. |
| The cat was barking at the dog. | The dog was barking at the cat. |
| It was barking at the dog. | It was barking at the cat. |
| It was not barking at the dog. | It was not barking at the cat. |
| It will be barking at the dog. | It will be barking at the cat. |
| It will not be barking at the dog. | It will not be barking at the cat. |

1) They were in a busy part of the park.

2) They were in a busy part of the park.

3) They were in a busy part of the park.

4) They were in a busy part of the park.

by/with

1) In the passive, the subject of the active sentence is followed by the agent of the action.

Complete the sentences with by/with.

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1. The room was decorated _____ flowers. | 6. The house was built _____ the family. |
| 2. The picture was written _____ an artist. | 7. The photograph was painted _____ a world-famous artist. |
| 3. There was a fire _____ the school. | 8. The city has polluted _____ a local factory. |
| 4. They are getting married _____ next month. | 9. The village was destroyed _____ a flood. |
| 5. The girl was hit _____ a motor car. | 10. The car was broken _____ a mechanic. |
| 6. London was discovered _____ the Romans. | 11. The village was destroyed _____ a flood. |
| 7. The statue was sculpted _____ a artist. | |

questions

1) When we want to find out details about the action, we use the passive question in the following way: (Who/What/When/Where/How?)

- 1) What had he been doing?
- 2) Who had been looking for it?
- 3) Who was the dog?
- 4) Who was the dog?
- 5) Who was the dog?
- 6) Who had been looking for it?
- 7) Who had been looking for it?
- 8) Who had been looking for it?
- 9) Who had been looking for it?
- 10) Who had been looking for it?
- 11) Who had been looking for it?
- 12) Who had been looking for it?

prepositions

1) When we want to find out details about the action, we use the passive question in the following way: (Who/What/When/Where/How?)

- 1) Who had been looking for it?
- 2) Who had been looking for it?
- 3) Who had been looking for it?
- 4) Who had been looking for it?
- 5) Who had been looking for it?
- 6) Who had been looking for it?
- 7) Who had been looking for it?
- 8) Who had been looking for it?
- 9) Who had been looking for it?
- 10) Who had been looking for it?
- 11) Who had been looking for it?
- 12) Who had been looking for it?

PASSIVE VOICE

- 1) They had decided to change my decision. I _____ to change my decision.
- 2) We are going to paint the bathroom walls. The bathroom walls _____.
- 3) We spent a lot of money on unnecessary goods. A lot of money _____ on unnecessary goods.
- 4) They didn't attend the concert last night. The concert _____.
- 5) Everybody will forget the date in a few weeks' time. The date _____ in a few weeks' time.
- 6) People often call Chicago the "Windy City". Chicago _____ the "Windy City".
- 7) Security guards check people's bags. People's bags _____ to security guards.
- 8) The judge takes care of the judicial system. The judicial system _____ by the judge.
- 9) He had written the letters when I came. The letters _____ when I came.
- 10) Alexander Fleming discovered penicillin in 1928. Penicillin _____ by Alexander Fleming in 1928.
- 11) Mothers have children to bring. Children _____ to mothers.
- 12) They found some ancient artefacts at the construction site last week. Some ancient artefacts _____ at the construction site last week.
- 13) I'm sorry I didn't bring the football match. My team _____ bringing the football match.
- 14) They have read most of the letters. Most of the letters _____.
- 15) The waitress didn't bring us the dessert and we complained about it. The waitress _____ to us and we complained about it.
- 16) The engine agent arrived by a boatful of flowers. We _____ a boatful of flowers.
- 17) They don't drink fish oil at evening meetings. Fish oil _____ at evening meetings.
- 18) A fire broke out behind last night. Our children _____ to a fire last night.
- 19) They are meeting after dinner. They _____ after dinner.
- 20) Our systems haven't broken in five days yet. Our systems _____ in five days yet.
- 21) A new sports hall is going to be built in St. Petersburg. A new sports hall _____ in St. Petersburg.
- 22) People sometimes expect psychologists to make important decisions for them. Psychologists _____ to make important decisions for them.

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- 23) They had hidden the treasure under the tree. The treasure _____ under the tree.
- 24) They had been of leaving the money from the island. I _____ of leaving the money from the island.
- 25) You shouldn't be high intensity training more than three times a week. High intensity training _____ more than three times a week.
- 26) They don't repair the printer last week. The printer _____ last week.
- 27) She opens her side window. Her side window _____ by her.
- 28) You should be your computer by the end of the week. Your computer _____ by the end of the week.
- 29) People use a strong flying object in tennis. A strong flying object _____ in tennis.
- 30) Taking regular exercise can improve your general health. Your general health _____ to taking regular exercise.
- 31) A map shows me when I was playing with the dog in the garden. I _____ by a map when I was playing with the dog in the garden.
- 32) Unfortunately, we don't recycle a large part of the rubbish we produce. Unfortunately, a large part of the rubbish we produce _____.
- 33) My dog is chasing the neighbour's cat. The neighbour's cat _____ by my dog.
- 34) Our local five-footed water boatmen do not swim. Many boatmen _____ by our local five-footed water boatmen.
- 35) They are reading the old building at the end of the street. The old building at the end of the street _____.
- 36) They filmed the scene in Florida. The scene _____ in Florida.
- 37) I think someone is following us. I think we _____.
- 38) They asked him a favor and he agreed. He _____ a favor and he agreed.
- 39) Farmers are counting new techniques carefully. New techniques _____ by farmers carefully.
- 40) The Daily have put their house on the market. The Daily's house _____ on the market.
- 41) They will arrange a meeting for all business students next month. A meeting for all business students _____ next month.
- 42) You shouldn't wear wool sweaters in high temperatures. Wool sweaters _____ in high temperatures.
- 43) They have opened a new sports hall in my town. A new sports hall _____ in my town.
- 44) Somebody makes shoes by hand specially for the doctor. The doctor's shoes _____ by hand specially for her.

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45. They have eaten the chocolate.
The _____ was empty.

46. The surfboards have become things of history.
Nothing of them is _____ by the surfers.

47. Politicians are flooding the neighborhood churches.
The neighboring churches _____ in response.

48. I have found the old radio but it's not repaired.
The wire _____, so it won't work.

49. They think he talked to the fire department.
I _____ because in my five-year experience,
the fire department _____ in this area.

50. The radio stop of time is nice.
Lots of time _____ in this.

51. A Swiss scientist named Margaret Thatcher "The Iron Lady".
Margaret Thatcher _____ "The Iron Lady" by a French journalist.

52. The ship will leave the lake with its arrival.
The time _____ will arrive by the next week.

53. The city started its growth.
Our growth _____ to the city.

54. The owner has returned the packages.
The package _____ by the owner.

55. They have added a large sum of money for charity.
A large sum of money _____ for charity.

56. They have left the old garage on the
The old garage _____ in the.

57. I wish I could understand the _____ perfectly.
The letter _____ by them I understand perfectly.

58. Both company traded the most profitable stocks.
Both were profitable stocks _____ to the company.

59. Many people criticize the politician I support.
The politician _____ by many people but I support him.

60. You can't leave the kind of information with anyone.
The kind of information _____ with anyone.

61. I wouldn't like anyone to see her in my opinion.
I wouldn't like _____ in my opinion.

62. Some outside agencies are interested in her's work but right.
The information of her's work _____ by some outside agencies.

63. It's cloudy in the morning but it's clearing up.
It's cloudy in the morning but _____.

64. Scientists have polluted the water.
The water _____ by scientists.

65. I saw Van Wang in design my website.
I met my website design _____ by Van Wang.

66. They didn't accept my credit card because the bank.
My credit card _____ to the bank.

67. They built the factory more than 20 years ago.
The factory _____ more than 20 years ago.

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68. The student got disappointed the system is better.
The system is better _____ by the student.

69. He will wait for the student to arrive.
The student _____ by the student.

70. He has to be responsible for the work he does.
He has to be responsible _____ for the work he does.

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875. Did the doctor sign the form?

876. I have just remembered I am answering her on Monday.

877. They must have just dropped it in the basket.

878. Will the producer get content on air next?

879. Can I access the information without logging in?

880. Do they make wine in Germany?

881. Has anyone seen the suspect in the neighbourhood?

882. Did the art teacher get into the contest?

883. Are they signing the letters next page?

884. Do computers regularly appear on a web page's content and composition?

885. Do you incorporate voice into the design into our marketing strategy?

886. Is he going to do some medical research for his team?

887. What did they do to the rabbit next?

888. Internal systems do not allow remote connections.

889. Do they require any special software?

890. Everyone should call Eric that they're making a mistake.

891. Did a bomb destroy the building?

892. Do they clean the stadium every day?

893. Why is somebody removing your pictures from the wall?

894. Will the medicine affect the symptoms of the?

895. Who discovered penicillin?

896. Will Mrs. Smith take the children to school tomorrow?
