

## **PASSIVE VOICE**

**A transitive verb has an object. It has two voices 1. Active voice. 2. passive voice.**

**Active voice expresses an action performed by the subject of a sentence.**

**Passive voice expresses an action performed upon the subject.**

**The following chart shows the changes in verb forms in active and passive voice. Future continuous and perfect continuous tenses don't have passive voice.**

<b>Tense</b>	<b>Active voice</b>	<b>Passive voice</b>
Simple present	He <b>sings</b> a song	A song <b>is sung</b> by him
Present continuous	He <b>is singing</b> a song	A song <b>is being sung</b> by him
Present perfect	He <b>has a sung</b> a song	A song <b>has been sung</b> by him
Simple Past	He <b>sang</b> a song	A song <b>was sung</b> by him
Past continuous	He <b>was singing</b> a song	A song <b>was being sung</b> by him
Past perfect	He <b>had sung</b> a song	A song <b>had been sung</b> by him
Simple future	He <b>will sing</b> a song	A song <b>will be sung</b> by him
Future perfect	He <b>will have sung</b> a song	A song <b>will have been sung</b> by him

Banu sings a song.

What is the action performed? Singing

What is the subject of the verb sing? Banu

Who performs the action of singing? Banu

**The subject of the verb performs the action named in the verb. The sentence is said to be in the active voice.**

**When the subject of a verb receives the action named in the verb, the verb is said to be in the passive voice.**

### **Active and passive voice examples**

#### **Simple present tense**

- We take exercise regularly.
- Exercise is **taken by us**
- The cats catch rats.
- Rats are **caught by the cats.**
- The teacher corrects all the answers.
- All the answers are **corrected by the teacher.**
- The gardener waters the plants.
- The plants **are watered by the gardener.**

#### **Present continuous**

- She is reading a book.
- A book **is being read by her**
- The painters are cleaning the wall.
- The wall **is being cleaned by the painter**
- The mechanic is repairing the car
- The car **is being repaired by the mechanic**
- The students are eating a mango.
- A mango **is being eaten by the students**

## Present perfect

- They have started repairing work.
- Repairing work has been **started by the them**
- Students have recently arranged the programme
- The programme **has been arranged by the students**
- Our team has won the match.
- The match **has been won by our team**
- The servant has swept the room.
- The room **has been swept by the sweeper.**

## Simple past

- We presented a bouquet
- A bouquet **was presented by us**
- The girl set a new record
- A new record **was set by the girl**
- Our new car **was sold by our driver**
- He sold his old car last year.
- We found a new route
- A new route **was found by us.**

## Past continuous

- The teacher was punishing all the children
- All the children **were being punished by the teacher**
- She was collecting the pictures
- The pictures **were being collected by her.**
- The street boys were helping the old woman
- The old woman **was being helped by the street boys**

## Past perfect

- We had arranged a tour.
- A tour **had been arranged by us**

- They had prepared nice food.
- Nice food **had been prepared by them**
- The policeman had caught the thief.
- The thief **had been caught the policeman.**

### Simple future

- My mother will cook food
- Food **will be cooked by my mother**
- We will release a new film.
- A new film **will be released**
- We will sell all the furniture
- All the new furniture **will be sold by us.**

### Future perfect

- We will have decided the tour.
- The tour **will have been decided by us.**
- My father will have purchased the ticket.
- The ticket **will have been purchased by father.**
- The painters will have completed the work.
- The work **will have been completed by the painters.**

### Change it into passive voice.

1. He sings a song.
2. The boy killed the spider.
4. Farmers sow maize in the rainy season.
5. Are you writing a letter?
6. The workers were digging a canal.

7. I will finish the job by the end of this week.
8. Have you finished your job?
9. They have informed him of his mother's death.
10. They took all the necessary precautions.

### Answers

1. A song **is sung** by him. (Active verb – sings; passive verb – is sung)
2. The spider **was killed** by the boy. (Active verb – killed; passive verb – was killed)
3. Let him be helped. (Imperative sentences in the passive voice begin with **let**.)
4. Maize **is sown** in the rainy season. (Active verb – sow; passive verb – is/are sown)
5. Is a letter **being written** by you? (Active verb – is/are writing; passive verb – is/are being written)
6. A canal **was being dug** by the workers. (Active verb – was/were digging; passive verb – was/were being dug)
7. The job **will be finished** (by me) by the end of this week. (Active verb – will finish; passive verb – will be finished)
8. **Has** your job **been finished** by you? (Active verb – has/have finished; passive verb – has/have been finished)
9. He **has been informed** of his mother's death. (Active verb – has/have informed; passive verb – has/have been informed)
10. All the necessary precautions **were taken** by them. (Active verb – took; passive verb – was/were taken)

## Active and passive voice

1. Ms Sullivan **teaches** us grammar.
2. The teacher **praised** him.
3. The firemen **took** the injured to the hospital.
4. An earthquake **destroyed** the town.
5. The boy's work **pleased** the teacher.
6. The fire **damaged** the building.
7. Who **taught** you French?
8. The manager **will give** you a ticket.
9. Spectators **thronged** the streets.
10. Everyone **will blame** us.
11. The wind **blew down** the trees.
12. The police **caught** the thieves.
13. Alice **posted** the letter.
14. The hostess **received** us.
15. They/somebody **killed** the snake with a stick.
16. The people **welcomed** the minister.
17. They **found** him guilty of murder.
18. John Mathews **built** this house in 1991.

## Answers

1. We are taught grammar by Ms Sullivan.
2. He was praised by the teacher.
3. The injured were taken to the hospital by the firemen.
4. The town was destroyed by an earthquake.
5. The teacher was pleased with the boy's work.
6. The building was damaged by the fire.
7. By whom were you taught French?
8. You will be given a ticket by the manager.
9. The streets were thronged with spectators.
10. We will be blamed by everyone.
11. The trees were blown down by the wind.
12. The thieves were caught by the police.

13. The letter was posted by Alice.
14. We were received by the hostess.
15. The snake was killed with a stick.
16. The minister was welcomed by the people.
17. He was found guilty of murder.
18. This house was built by John Mathews in 1991.

1. Somebody hit me. - I was hit by somebody.
2. We stopped the bus. - The bus was stopped by us.
3. A thief stole my car. - My car was stolen by a thief.
4. They didn't let him go. - He was not let go by them.
5. She She sang a song. - **A song was sung by her.**
6. didn't win the prize. - The prize was not won by her.
7. They didn't make their beds. - Their beds were not made by them.
8. I did not tell them. - They were not told by me.
9. Did you tell them? - Were they told by you?
10. Did he send the letter? - Was the letter sent by him?
11. Kerrie has paid the bill. - **The bill has been paid by Kerrie.**
12. I have eaten a hamburger. - A hamburger has been eaten by me.
13. We have cycled five miles. - Five miles have been cycled by us.
14. I have opened the present. - The present has been opened by me.
15. They have not read the book. - The book has not been read by them.
16. You have not sent the parcel. - The parcel has not been sent by you.
17. We have not agreed to this issue. - This issue has not been agreed to by us.
18. They have not caught the thieves. - The thieves have not been caught by them.
19. Has she phoned him? - Has he been phoned by her?
20. Have they noticed us? - Have we been noticed by them?

**Complete the sentences in passive voice using the verbs given in bracket (use in present tense )**

1. Rajan ----- to the custody by the police. (take)
2. The candidate----- a question by the examiner.(ask)
3. His toys----- by the thief.(steal)

4. My brother ----- the news. (inform)
5. English----- all over the world. (speak)
6. My suggestion ----- in the meeting.(reject)
7. The poor people ----- by Mahir (help)
8. Gandiji is ----- by the whole world.(respect)
9. My birthday gift is ----- by my uncle (select)
- 10.This wall ----- by the artists( decorate)
- 11.They are ----- in the accident(hurt)
- 12.The room is ----- the woman (clean)

**Complete the sentences in passive form using the verbs given verbs given in bracket (use in past tense )**

1. This programme----- by the minister(attend)
2. The new order----- by the judge. (sign)
3. My friend----- by the gang(attack)
4. Old books----- in this book shop (sell)
5. The chair----- by the painter (paint)
6. This house ----- by the robbers (loot)
7. The branches ----- by the cutters (cut)
8. The fruit----- by the seller (sell)
9. The programme ----- by the manager
- 10.The medals ----- by the principal (give away)
- 11.My new pen ----- in my school (lose)

### **CHANGE IN TO PASSIVE VOICE**

1. The hunter caught the lion
2. We change our pass word
3. The teacher was sending all the students
4. The cow eats grass
5. Ahmed is writing letters to his father
6. Meera has completed the examination
7. The doctor was checking the patients
8. The police was running behind the thief
9. The police took him to the custody.



- 10.The examiner asked the candidates a question.
- 11.Somebody has taken away his toys
- 12.I have already bought the new book.
- 13.They speak English.
- 14.They accept my suggestion.
- 15.Sheeba was helping the poor.
- 16.Nishad will attend the programme.
- 17.The president signs a new order.
- 18.Children play football.
- 19.The owner will sell the houses.
- 20.The whole world is respecting Gandiji.
- 21.Somebody stole my watch.

**PREPARED BY**

**ASHRAF VVN**

**HST ENGLISH**

**DGHSS, TANUR, Malappuram**

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