

The Passive

How do we form the passive?

Alan wrote a letter yesterday.



A letter was written (by Alan) yesterday.

FORM: +

Rule #1

Rule #2

Example Sentences

- A report **is sent** to the manager every Friday.
- The trees **were cut** by them last week.
- The tourists **will be given** a leaflet.

Important Notes

- We use the passive voice when we...
 - **Don't know the doer**
 - **Don't want to say the doer**
 - **The doer is not important**
- Intransitive verbs do not have passive forms!
Eg. The concert ~~was happened~~ yesterday.

Intransitive verb: Verbs do not take an object, such as *arrive, laugh, or talk.*

Some Passive Reporting Phrases

- ✓ It is said that...
- ✓ It is known that...
- ✓ It is thought that...
- ✓ It is believed that...
- ✓ It is expected that...
- ✓ It is assumed that...

Tense

Passive Voice

Present Simple	One-third of all coffee _____ (grow) in Brazil.
Present Continuous	Your homework _____ (print) now.
Past Simple	The first iPhone _____ (produce) in 2007.
Past Continuous	They _____ (serve) with china wares.
Present Perfect	His left arm _____ (break).
Past Perfect	When I bought a new camera, the old one _____ (steal).
Future Simple	He _____ (honour) with a ceremony.
Future Perfect	Your dress _____ (make) ready by tonight.
Going to	Our anniversary _____ (hold) in a posh restaurant.
Present Modals	This book _____ (must/return) tomorrow.
Past Modals	He _____ (could/injure) in that accident.
Gerunds	I hate _____ (laugh) at.
Present Infinitive	He wants _____ (call) by his middle name.
Perfect Infinitive	He was lucky _____ (rescue) the fire.

Personal Notes

The Passive

How do we form the passive?

Alan wrote a letter yesterday.

A letter was written (by Alan) yesterday.

TO BE + PAST PARTICIPLE (V₃)

Rule #1 We keep the tense.

(wrote > was written)

Rule #2 'To be' can be singular or plural.

(A letter *was written*, but two letters *were written*)

Example Sentences

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Important Notes

- We use the passive voice when we...
 - Don't know the doer
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 - The doer is not important
- Intransitive verbs do not have passive forms!
Eg. The concert ~~was happened~~ yesterday.

Intransitive verb: Verbs do not take an object, such as *arrive, laugh, or talk*.

Some Passive Reporting Phrases

- ✓ It is said that...
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- ✓ It is thought that...
- ✓ It is believed that...
- ✓ It is expected that...
- ✓ It is assumed that...

Tense

Passive Voice

Present Simple	One-third of all coffee is grown in Brazil.
Present Continuous	Your homework is being printed now.
Past Simple	The first iPhone was produced in 2007.
Past Continuous	They were being served with china wares.
Present Perfect	His left arm has been broken .
Past Perfect	When I bought a new camera, the old one had been stolen .
Future Simple	He'll be honoured with a ceremony.
Future Perfect	Your dress will have been made ready by tonight.
Going to	Our anniversary is going to be held in a posh restaurant.
Present Modals	This book must be returned tomorrow.
Past Modals	He could have been injured in that accident.
Gerunds	I hate being laughed at .
Present Infinitive	He wants to be called by his middle name.
Perfect Infinitive	He was lucky to have been rescued the fire.

Personal Notes