

Practice paper Grade 11

Name:

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Date:

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The Passive

The Forbidden City is situated in the centre of Beijing. It was built as the Imperial Palace for the emperors of China. It was named the Forbidden City because no common or foreign person was allowed to go inside without special permission.



We form the passive with the verb to be and the past participle of the main verb.

Active

- **Present Simple**
- **Present Continuous**
- Past Simple
- **Past Continuous**
- **Future Simple**
- **Present Perfect**
- Past Perfect

- He delivers the parcels.
- He is delivering the parcels.
- He delivered the parcels.
- He was delivering the parcels.
- He will deliver the parcels.
- He has delivered the parcels.
- He had delivered the parcels.
- Modals + be + p.p. He should deliver the parcels.

Passive

- The parcels are delivered.
- The parcels are being delivered.
- The parcels were delivered.
- The parcels were being delivered.
- The parcels will be delivered.
- The parcels have been delivered.
- The parcels had been delivered.
- The parcels should be delivered.

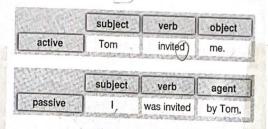
We use the passive:

- a) when the person who carries out the action is unknown, unimportant or obvious from the context.
 - e.g. a) My flat was broken into last week. (We do not know who broke into the flat.)
 - b) Coffee beans are grown in Brazil. (It is not important to know who grows the coffee.)
 - c) My car was serviced yesterday. (It is obvious that a mechanic serviced it.)
- b) when the action itself is more mportant than the person who carries it out, as in news headlines, newspaper articles, formal notices, instructions, advertisements, processes, etc.
 - e.g. a) The new hospital will be opened by the Queen on May 15th. (formal notice)
 - b) Then, the milk is taken to a factory where it is pasteurised. (process)
- c) when we refer to an unpleasant event and we do not want to say who or what is to blame.
 - e.g. A lot of mistakes have been made. (instead of 'You have made a lot of mistakes'.)

Changing from active into passive

To change a sentence from the active into the passive:

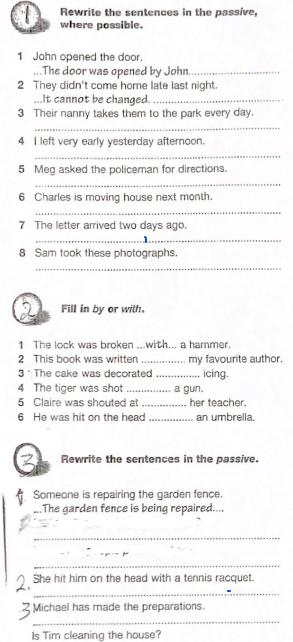
- a) the object of the active sentence becomes the subject in the passive sentence.
- b) the active verb remains in the same tense, but changes into a passive form.
- the subject of the active sentence becomes the agent, and is either introduced with the preposition by or omitted.



- Only transitive verbs (verbs followed by an object) can be changed into the passive.
 - e.g. active: Grandma knitted my jumper. (transitive verb)
 - passive: My jumper was knitted by Grandma.
 - But: They travelled to Lisbon last summer. (intransitive verb)
 - Some transitive verbs such as have, fit, suit, resemble, etc. cannot be changed into the passive.
 - e.g. I have a shower every morning. (NOT: A shower is had by me ...)
- We use by + agent to say who or what carries out the action. We use with + instrument/material/ ingredient to say what the agent used.
 - e.g. The pancakes were made by Claire. They were made with eggs, flour and milk.
- The agent is often omitted in the passive sentence when the subject of the active sentence is one of the following words: people, one, someone/somebody, they, he, etc.
 - e.g. active: Somebody has rearranged the furniture.
 passive: The furniture has been rearranged.

 But: The agent is not omitted when it is a specific or important person or when it is essential to the
 - meaning of the sentence.
 e.g. a) The 'Mona Lisa' was painted by Leonardo da Vinci.
 - b) A new law has been passed by the government.





The boss is going to give us a pay rise. They will deliver my new car soon.
5. They will deliver my new car soon.
6. The police are questioning the suspects.
Paul remembers his teacher asking him to star in the school play.
A lot of children use computers nowadays.
They won't completed the work by the end of the month.
The children will post the letters.
People make cheese from milk.
12 Heldin hooklosed the windows before she left the house'
Jill hasn't done the housework yet.
They may not deliver the parcel today.
Put the verbs in brackets into the correct passive tense.
 A: Do you still work at Browns and Co? B: Yes, I do. I 1)have been employed (employ) by Mr Brown for five years now, you know.
A: Oh. Do you still enjoy it? B: Oh yes! I 2)(give) a
promotion last year and I'm very happy. A: A promotion? So, what is your job now?
B: 13) (make) Head of European Sales.
A: So, what do you do? B: Well, sometimes I 4)(send) to
other countries on business.
A: I see. Do they pay you well?
B: Well, I 5)
A: Good for you!