PASSIVE VOICE

We use passive voice when WHO or WHAT did the action is not so important.
The emphasis is on the action, not on the person who does the action.

Active voice = Subject + verb + COMPLEMENT
1 2 3

Passive voice = reverse elements **1** & **3**

New subject + keep the verb tense **be + past participle** / + **by** + new complement
3 2 1

OBSERVE

Present simple / singular

Sarah **writes** a letter
1 2 3
3 2 1
A letter **is written** by Sarah

Present simple / plural

Tourists **visit** the towers
1 2 3
3 2 1
The towers **are visited** by the tourists

Past simple / singular

Jane **took** a picture
1 2 3
3 2 1
A picture **was taken** by Jane

Past simple / plural

Paul and Carol **ate** the cookies.
1 2 3
3 2 1
The cookies **were eaten** by Paul and Carol

Present continuous

My mother **is baking** the cake
1 2 3
3 2 1
The cake **is being baked** by my mother

Present Perfect

Many people **have visited** the monument
1 2 3
3 2 1
The monument **have been visited** by many people.

EXERCISES

Classify the sentences: P for Passive or A for Active

1. They were informed by the police. P / A
2. You were listening to music. P / A
3. The cat was chased by the dog. P / A
4. There was an accident yesterday. P / A
5. Many posters were sold. P / A
6. It was a stormy night. P / A
7. She was given a new pencil case. P / A
8. I was taken to the hospital. P / A
9. My father was driving a red car. P / A
10. We are great people. P / A

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