# 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

ESLCollective.com