

### 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**

OBSERVE *20*

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

Diagram illustrating the transformation of the sentence "Lane took a picture" into "A picture was taken by Lane". The diagram shows the original sentence structure with words and their corresponding positions in the transformed sentence. Arrows indicate the movement of words:

- "Lane" (1) moves to the end of the sentence.
- "took" (2) moves to the middle of the sentence.
- "a picture" (3) moves to the beginning of the sentence.

The transformed sentence is: "A picture was taken by Lane".

Past simple / plural

Paul and Carol ate the cookies.  
1 2 3

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

### 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

3 ← 1 2 | 3

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