Passive voice

Passive voice is very common in newspaper articles since headlines often omit the doer (the agent) of an action. The verb voice can be treated as passive or active, depending on the focus given to the subject/agent (doer) or the object/patient (*receiver*).

When do we use passive voice?

The passive voice can be used in affirmative, negative, and interrogative sentences. Its formation is expressed by:

Object + verb to be + Past Participle of the verb + complement

This structure can be used in various verb tenses of the present, past, and future. To do this, just conjugate the verb to be.

Passive voice in the Simple Present

Object + am/is/are + Past Participle + complement

Affirmative Form:

"New features are regularly implemented by the development team."

Negative Form:

"Critical issues are not typically ignored by the development team."

• Interrogative Form:

"Is the codebase regularly reviewed by the senior developers?"

