

## **The Passive voice**

### **Exercises:**

#### **I) Fill in the correct form of the verbs in brackets: active or passive .**

Today, paper is used (USE) for hundreds of things - not only books and newspapers, but also money, stamps, bags and even clothes.

In ancient times, before the invention of paper, people wrote (WRITE) on animal skins, bones and stones. In 2700 BC the Egyptians started (START) to make papyrus, which was similar to paper. But the first real form of paper was invented (INVENT) in 105 AD by a Chinese government official. It was made (MAKE) from a mixture of plants and clothes. The Chinese have kept (KEEP) their new discovery a secret for many centuries.

Finally, in the 10th century, paper was brought (BRING) to Europe by the Arabs. The first European paper mill was built (BUILD) in Spain in 1150. Since the 18th century, most paper was made (MAKE) out of wood, because it is much stronger than cloth.

Today, each person uses (USE) about 300 kg of paper every year. It has become a material that we cannot do without.

#### **II) What happened in 1900 ? - Complete the information using the past tense passive of the verb in brackets.**

1. The first escalator was seen at the Paris exhibition (SEE).
2. Puccini's opera Tosca was first perform (PERFORM)
3. Paper clips were invented (INVENT)
4. Coca Cola \_\_\_\_\_ to Great Britain (INTRODUCE)
5. The word "brunch" was heard for the first time (HEAR)
6. Umberto I, the king of Italy was shot and killed (SHOOT, KILL)
7. The Book The Wizard of Oz was published (PUBLISH)
8. The minimum age of coal miners was raised from 12 to 13 (RAISE)

9. Hamburgers were eaten for the first time (EAT)
10. The first Davis Cup was won by the US men's tennis team (WIN)
11. The Central London Underground Railway was opened by the Prince of Wales (OPEN)
12. The ancient palace of Knossos was discovered by Sir Arthur Evans (DISCOVER)
13. The Kodak Brownie camera was put on sale in the US (PUT)
14. The telephone was used by one in fifty people in the USA (USE)

**III) Complete the text using the phrases from the box. the first one has been done for you !**

was obliged to	are believed to have been	<del>is known to have experienced</del>
is not known	are thought to be	was packed
is thought to have been	was seen	were made to
	was brought	

A plane carrying 15 members of the government to a conference in Brussels ***is known to have experienced*** a small scale fire earlier this morning. The plane \_\_\_\_\_ about 20 minutes into its journey when the fire occurred in the luggage department. It \_\_\_\_\_ how the plane caught fire, but early eyewitness reports confirm that a trail of smoke \_\_\_\_\_ coming from the undercarriage. The fire \_\_\_\_\_ rapidly under control, but the pilot \_\_\_\_\_ make an emergency landing. Five people \_\_\_\_\_ treated for shock. The plane \_\_\_\_\_ with business people flying to Belgium.

All 209 passengers \_\_\_\_\_ stay behind for questioning after landing at a military airport in northern France. Police \_\_\_\_\_ treating the incident as suspicious.