**PASSIVE**

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In this chapter, you will:

* Learn about Passives and how it is used in sentences
* Apply Passive rules in Grammar Test

**Passive sentences are constructed with combination of “be” (in suitable tenses) and past participle (done, eaten, etc)**

Passive can be used with many types of tenses, with the form “be “will change according to the tenses used in the sentence.

1. **Simple Present Tense**: This cake **is** **made** from garlic, onion and capsicum.
2. **Present Continuous Tense**: The hall **is being painted** this week so our class will be in a different room. **(is/are + being + PP)**
3. **Present Perfect Tense:** Machines **have + been + manufactured** (PP) here for centuries.
4. **Past Perfect Tense:** When he got home he found that his flat **had + been + burned (PP)**
5. **Simple Future Tense:** The work **will + (not) + be + finished (PP)** until next week.

Passive is used in sentences when:

* **We do not know, or we are not interested in, who does an action. (DOER)**

Example of sentences:

1. It is reported that the manager’s car **was stolen** yesterday. (In this case, we do not know who stole the car?
2. It can be noted that a lot of mobile phones **are produced** in China (we do not know who produces the mobile phones)

* **The main topic of the sentence is not about who did the action.**

Example of sentences:

1. Television was invented in the 1920s.
2. Kennedy was assassinated in 1963.

In a passive sentence, **the person or thing doing the action (the actor / DOER) is usually preceded by the word by.** If we want to say who or what performs the action while using the passive voice, we use the preposition **by**. When we know who performed the action and are interested in him, it is always better to switch to the active voice instead.

For example:

* Nowadays, copyrights and patterns of new inventions are protected **by** law.
* The movie ET was directed by Spielberg
* "A Hard Day's Night" was written by the Beatles.

**Reasons to use Passive sentences instead of Active sentences**

1. **Passive sentences can show a neutral or objective tone.**

Example of sentence:

It is anticipated that concessions will be offered by both parties.

1. **Passive sentences allow you to put something you want to emphasize at the start of your sentence.**

Example of sentence:

An estimated 258,000 people **were injured** in alcohol-related crashes.

**Passives with Modal Verbs**

There are two types/patterns of how Passives can be used with Modal Verbs.

1. **modal + be + past participle**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Active Verb** | **Passive Verb** | **Example** |
| can see | can be seen | That painting can be seen in the Louvre. |
| should do | should be done | The work should be done on time. |
| would sell | would be sold | The tickets would be sold there if possible. |
| might finish | might be finished | It might be finished by next week. |
| must pay | must be paid | Employees must be paid on the last day of the month. |

1. **modal + have been + past participle**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Active Modal** | **Passive Modal** | **Example** |
| could have done | could have been done | It could have been done by John. |
| should have finished | should have been finished | It should have been finished yesterday. |
| might have lost | might have been lost | It might have been lost when we were travelling. |

Modal verbs are used in a particular way in sentences in passive voice. The form is similar to the form it acquires in respect of other verbs. The **general rule for sentences** using modals in passive voice is:

**‘Object + may, must, can, could, ought to, should + be + past participle of main verb (third form)**’ in an affirmative sentence.

**Negative sentences take the same form with ‘not’** inserted in between the modal and the main verb.

Passive voice for modals in present and future tenses take this form:

**‘modal + be + past participle**.’ For instance, ‘Alcohol **should not be consumed** by children’ is a sentence following the ‘be’ form.

Passive voice for modals in past tense takes this form:

**‘modal + have been + past participle**.’ For instance, ‘Automobiles **should + have been + driven (PP)** only by people older than the age of eighteen’ is a sentence following the ‘have been’ form.

**More example of sentences:**

1. They can be given money.
2. Money can be given to them.
3. Attention must be paid in class.
4. Books can be found on the shelves.

**Passives with Reporting Verbs**

Passive structures hide the source of the information. This is because a) it is obvious b) the source is unimportant or is 'people in general', or c) the source is unknown. This structure is used to report information in a formal style or to report facts.

**Example of reporting verbs used in Passive sentence:**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| allege | assume | believe | claim | consider | declare | discover | estimate |
| expect | feel | find | intend | know | observe | presume | prove |
| report | reveal | see | show | suppose | think | understand |  |

There are two types/patterns of how Passives can be used with Reporting Verbs

1. **it + passive reporting verb + that-clause**

Example of sentence:

It is known that the researcher likes new invention.

1. **subject + passive reporting verb + to-infinitive**

Example of sentence:

The researcher is known to like new invention.

Exercise 1 (Passive with Modal Verbs)

**Change each sentence into Passive form.**

1. You may forget the rules quickly.

The rules may be forgotten quickly.

1. You should study the lessons repeatedly.

The lessons should be studied repeatedly.

1. They should cancel the game.

The game should be canceled by them.

1. The doctor cannot persuade her.

She cannot be persuaded by the doctor.

1. They must repair my car.

My car must be repaired by them.

Exercise 2 (Passive with Reporting Verbs)

**Fill in the blanks with correct form of verbs in the bracket.**

1. He is considered to be (be) a good president.
2. The company is said to have lost (lose) more than 100 million dollars last month.
3. It is rumored he has left (leave) his position in the company.
4. The paintings are reported to have been destroyed (destroy) in the fire.
5. The fossil is believed to date (date) back to the Ice Age era.
6. It is thought that the competition is going to be (be) very tough.
7. The witness is expected to testify (testify) later this afternoon.
8. The suspect is known to have left (leave) the city after the murder.
9. The new IPhone is thought to came out (come out) next January.
10. He is said to has left (leave) the meeting after an argument with his superiors.