

Read the following sentences. Decide if the underlined verb is active (A) or passive (P).

The actress received an Oscar. A

The actress was given an Oscar. P

1. The actress wore a beautiful gown.
2. Halle Berry presented an Oscar.
3. Halle Berry has been seen in many movies.
4. The director has been nominated many times.
5. Old movies were filmed in black and white.
6. Many actors live in California.
7. Many movies are made in Hollywood.
8. The names of the winners will be printed in tomorrow's newspaper.
9. The actress thanked all the people who helped her win.
10. The actress was driven to the ceremony in a white limousine.
11. Hollywood was built at the beginning of the twentieth century.
12. Hollywood has become the movie capital of the U.S.

**Fill in the blanks with the passive voice of the verb in parentheses.
Use the tense or modal given.**

(simple present: *give*)

The best actor _____ **is given** an Oscar.

1. (simple present: *see*)

The awards ceremony _____ by millions of people.

2. (future: *choose*)

Which actor _____ next year?

3. (modal: *can / see*)

The movie _____ at many theaters.

4. (present perfect: *make*)

Many movies _____ about World War II.

5. (simple past: *give*)

Kate Winslet _____ the best actress award in 2009.

6. (present continuous: *show*)

A good movie _____ at a theater near my house.

7. (simple past: *make*)

Star Wars _____ in 1977.

8. (present perfect: *show*)

The movie _____ on TV many times.

9. (present perfect: *give*)

Over 2,000 Academy Awards _____ out since 1929.

10. (simple past: *give*)

In 1929, only one award _____ to a woman.

11. (simple past: *add*)

When _____ sound _____ to movies?

It _____ in 1927.

12. (simple present: often / *make*)

Movies _____ in Hollywood.

13. (present perfect: *film*)

How many movies _____ in black and white?

EXERCISE 4

Fill in the blanks with the passive voice of the verb in parentheses (). Choose an appropriate tense.

EXAMPLE Hollywood was built (build) in the early 1900s.

1. Most American movies _____ in Hollywood.
(make)
2. Let's get some popcorn. It's fresh. It _____ right now.
(make)

(continued)

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3. Movie listings _____ in the newspaper.
(can/find)
4. Children _____ to see some movies.
(not/allow)
5. Hurry! The winners _____ in ten minutes.
(announce)
6. In 1929, only fifteen Oscars _____.
(present)
7. Before 1941, the winners' names _____ in
newspapers the night before the ceremony.
(publish)

8. A new theater _____ near my house at this time.
(build)
9. We can't get into the movie theater because all the tickets
_____ already.
(sell)
10. Did you see the movie *Harry Potter*? Where _____ it
_____?
(film)
11. I went to the lobby to buy popcorn, and my seat _____.
(take)
12. No one knows why the award _____ "Oscar."
(call)
13. *Slumdog Millionaire* _____ as the best film of 2009.
(choose)
14. In a movie theater, coming attractions¹ _____
before the feature film begins.
(show)
15. Sound _____ to movies in 1927.
(add)
16. The Kodak Theatre, where the awards _____
each year, _____ in 2001.
(present)
(build)

| Fill in the blanks with the active or passive voice of the verb in parentheses (). Use the tense indicated.

5 I saw (past: see) an old movie on TV last night.

The movie was filmed (past: film) in black and white.

It will be shown (future: show) again on TV tonight.

1. Many movies _____ in Hollywood.
(present: make)

2. Steven Spielberg _____ many movies.
(present perfect: make)

3. We _____ a DVD this weekend.
(future: rent)

4. Vera Wang _____ beautiful dresses.
(present: design)

5. The actress _____ a dress that _____
(past continuous: wear) (past: design)
by Ralph Lauren.

6. Who _____ the music for the movie? The music
(past: write)
_____ by Randy Newman.
(past: write)

7. The first Academy Awards presentation _____
(past: have)
250 guests.

8. I _____ Star Wars.
(present perfect: never/see)

**Change the following sentences to passive voice in two ways.
Omit the agent.**

They gave the actress an award.

The actress was given an award.

An award was given to the actress.

1. They handed the actress an Oscar.

2. Someone served the guests dinner.

3. Someone told the students the answers.

4. Someone will send you an invitation.

5. They have shown us the movie.

6. They will give the winners flowers.

7. Someone has given you the key.

Fill in the blanks with the active or passive form of the verb in parentheses (). Use the past tense.

Ronald Reagan was elected president of the
(example: elect)

United States in 1980. Before he became
(example: become)
president, he was governor of California. Even before
that, he worked as a Hollywood actor.
(1 work)

He appeared in 53 Hollywood movies between
(2 appear)
1937 and 1964. He was considered a great actor, and
(3 not/consider)
he never won an Oscar.
(4 win)

On March 20, 1981, the day the Oscar ceremony

was scheduled to take place, something terrible
(5 schedule)

happened. Reagan was shot in an
(6 happen) (7 shoot)
assassination attempt. Fortunately, he survived
(8 past: not/die)
from his wounds. One of his aides, who was with him at the time,

also received a wound. Out of respect for the president, the Academy
(9 also/wound)

Awards ceremony was postponed for one day. Reagan
(10 postpone)
recovered and continued to serve as president until he
(11 recover)
finished his second term in 1989. He died
(12 finish) (13 die)
in 2004 at the age of 93



Exercise 2

Rewrite the following passages in the Passive Voice.

1. Some people saw a UFO in the sky above London last night. They reported it to the police. The army sent a helicopter to look at it more closely. The UFO shot the helicopter down and killed both men in it. People have given photographs of the UFO to the police. Experts are looking at them now.

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02. Someone broke into a local jewelry shop yesterday. The owner had just locked up the shop when a robber with a gun threatened him. The robber told him to unlock the shop and give him all the diamonds in the safe. Then the robber tied him up. The police have organized a search for the robber. They hope they will find him in a few days. Doctors are treating the owner of the shop for shock.