

- (Icono de letras) **Grammar** (descargable)

## Use of Passive

Passive voice is used when the focus is on the action. It is not important or not known, however, who or what is performing the action.

Example: My bike was stolen.

In the example above, the focus is on the fact that my bike was stolen. I do not know, however, who did it.

Sometimes a statement in passive is more polite than active voice, as the following example shows:

Example: A mistake was made.

In this case, I focus on the fact that a mistake was made, but I do not blame anyone (e.g. you have made a mistake.).

## Form of Passive

Subject + finite form of *to be* + Past Participle

Tense		Subject	Verb	Object
<b>Simple Present</b>	<i>Active:</i>	Rita	writes	a letter.
	<i>Passive:</i>	A letter	is written	by Rita.
<b>Simple Past</b>	<i>Active:</i>	Rita	wrote	a letter.
	<i>Passive:</i>	A letter	was written	by Rita.
	<i>Passive:</i>	A letter	has been written	by Rita.
<b>Future</b>	<i>Active:</i>	Rita	will write	a letter.
	<i>Passive:</i>	A letter	will be written	by Rita.
<b>Present Progressive</b>	<i>Active:</i>	Rita	is writing	a letter.
	<i>Passive:</i>	A letter	is being written	by Rita.
<b>Past Progressive</b>	<i>Active:</i>	Rita	was writing	a letter.
	<i>Passive:</i>	A letter	was being written	by Rita.
<b>Past Perfect</b>	<i>Active:</i>	Rita	had written	a letter.
	<i>Passive:</i>	A letter	had been written	by Rita.