

Passive Voice

We use the present perfect tense:

The passive voice is used when we want to emphasize the action (the verb) and the object of a sentence rather than subject.

This means that the subject is either less important than the action itself or that we don't know who or what the subject is.

Form of the passive voice:



Human scales **are made out of** protein.

Subject + **the appropriate form of to be** + **Past Participle** + complement.

NOTE: The appropriate form of to be = To be is put in the the tense of the active voice main verb.

When rewriting active sentences in passive voice, note the following:

°The object of the active sentence becomes the subject of the passive sentence.

°The form of the verb is the appropriate form of to be (the tense of the active voice main verb) + the past participle.

°The subject of the active sentence becomes the object of the passive sentence (or is dropped.)

Examples:

An equally giant and never-ending army of skin cells in the underlying epidermis carries out this armor.

Passive: This armor **is carried out** by an equally giant and never-ending army of skin cells in the underlying epidermis.

Active: An equally giant and never-ending army of skin cells in the underlying epidermis **carries out** this armor.