

Passives Exercises

► Practice 1. Forming the passive. (Charts 11-1 and 11-2)

Change the active to the passive by writing the correct form of *be*. Use the same tense for *be* in the passive sentence that is used in the active sentence.

Example: Mrs. Bell answered my question. My question was **answered** by Mrs. Bell.

1. *simple present:*

Authors write books. Books _____ **written** by authors.

2. *present progressive:*

Mr. Brown is writing that book. That book _____ **written** by Mr. Brown.

3. *present perfect:*

Ms. Lee has written the report. The report _____ **written** by Ms. Lee.

4. *simple past:*

Bob wrote that letter. That letter _____ **written** by Bob.

5. *past progressive:*

A student was writing the report. The report _____ **written** by a student.

6. *past perfect:*

Lucy had written a memo. A memo _____ **written** by Lucy.

7. *simple future:*

Your teacher will write a report. A report _____ **written** by your teacher.

8. *be going to:*

Tom is going to write a letter. The letter _____ **written** by Tom.

9. *future perfect:*

Alice will have written the report. The report _____ **written** by Alice.

10. The judges have made a decision. A decision _____ **made** by the judges.

11. Several people saw the accident. ... The accident _____ **seen** by several people.

12. Ann is sending the letters. The letters _____ **sent** by Ann.

13. Fred will plan the party. The party _____ **planned** by Fred.

14. The medicine had cured my illness. .. My illness _____ **cured** by the medicine.

15. The cat will have caught the mouse. .. The mouse _____ **caught** by the cat.

16. Engineers design bridges. Bridges _____ **designed** by engineers.

17. The city is going to build a bridge. A bridge _____ **built** by the city.

18. A guard was protecting the jewels. The jewels _____ **protected** by a guard.

► **Practice 2. Active vs. passive.** (Charts 11-1 and 11-2)

Underline the subject of each sentence. Circle the complete verb. Then identify the sentences as active (A) or passive (P).

1. A Henry visited a national park.
2. P The park was visited by over 10,000 people last month.
3. Olga was reading the comics.
4. Philippe has read all of Tolstoy's novels.
5. *Bambi* has been read by children all over the world.
6. Whales swim in the ocean.
7. Whales were hunted by fishermen until recently.
8. The answer won't be known for several months.
9. I know the answer.
10. Two new houses were built on our street.
11. A famous architect designed the new bank on First Street.
12. Television was invented before I was born.
13. The World Cup is seen on television all over the world.
14. Television has expanded the knowledge of people everywhere.

► **Practice 3. Forming the passive.** (Chart 11-2)

Complete the sentences. Change the verbs in *italics* from active to passive.

- | | | |
|---|---|------------------------------------|
| 1. Sue <i>writes</i> the book. | → | The book <u>is written</u> by Sue. |
| 2. Sue <i>is writing</i> the book. | → | The book _____ by Sue. |
| 3. Sue <i>has written</i> the book. | → | The book _____ by Sue. |
| 4. Sue <i>wrote</i> the book. | → | The book _____ by Sue. |
| 5. Sue <i>was writing</i> the book. | → | The book _____ by Sue. |
| 6. Sue <i>had written</i> the book. | → | The book _____ by Sue. |
| 7. Sue <i>will write</i> the book. | → | The book _____ by Sue. |
| 8. Sue <i>is going to write</i> the book. | → | The book _____ by Sue. |
| 9. Sue <i>will have written</i> the book. | → | The book _____ by Sue. |
| 10. <i>Did</i> Sue <i>write</i> the book? | → | _____ the book _____ by Sue? |
| 11. <i>Will</i> Sue <i>write</i> the book? | → | _____ the book _____ by Sue? |
| 12. <i>Has</i> Sue <i>written</i> the book? | → | _____ the book _____ by Sue? |

► **Practice 4. Forming the passive.** (Chart 11-2)

Part I. Complete the sentences. Change the verbs from active to passive.

1. Picasso painted that picture.
That picture was painted by Picasso.
2. Experienced pilots fly these planes.
These planes _____.

3. A famous singer is going to sing the national anthem.
The national anthem _____.
4. Yale University has accepted my cousin.
My cousin _____.
5. The doctor will examine the patient.
The patient _____.
6. The defense attorney is questioning a witness.
A witness _____.
7. A dog bit our mail carrier.
Our mail carrier _____.
8. The mother bird was feeding the baby bird.
The baby bird _____.
9. His words won't persuade me.
I _____.
10. I didn't paint this picture. Did Laura paint it?
The picture _____. Was it _____?
11. Does Mrs. Crane own this restaurant? I know that her father doesn't own it anymore.
Is this restaurant _____?
I know that it _____.
12. I didn't sign these papers. Someone else signed my name.
These papers _____.
My name _____.

Part II. Change each sentence to the active voice. The subject of the new sentence is given. Keep the same tense of the verb.

13. My teeth are going to be cleaned by the dental assistant.
The dental assistant _____.
14. Was that email sent by Mr. Tyrol?
_____ Mr. Tyrol _____?
15. The Fourth of July isn't celebrated by the British.
The British _____.
16. Has your house been sold by the realtor yet?
_____ the realtor _____?
17. The thief hasn't been caught by the police.
The police _____.
18. The carpets are being cleaned by the carpet cleaners.
The carpet cleaners _____.

► **Practice 5. Active vs. passive.** (Charts 11-1 and 11-2)

In these sentences, some of the verbs are transitive and some are intransitive. Underline the verb in each sentence. Then identify the object of the verb if there is one. If the verb has an object, change the sentence to the passive. If not, write Ø.

	Verb	Object Of Verb	Passive Sentence
1. Al <u>will pay</u> the bill.	<u>will pay</u>	<u>the bill</u>	<u>The bill will be paid by Al.</u>
2. Jane <u>will arrive</u> tomorrow.	<u>will arrive</u>	Ø	Ø
3. The hotel supplies towels.			
4. Accidents happen every day.			
5. Everyone noticed my error.			
6. The train arrived at three.			
7. The news didn't surprise me.			
8. Did the news surprise you?			
9. Do ghosts exist?			
10. Mr. Lee died last year.			
11. An old man told the story.			
12. It hasn't rained lately.			

► **Practice 6. Active vs. passive.** (Charts 11-1 and 11-2)

Complete the sentences. Write the letter of the correct verb.

- We'll let you know about the job. You ____ by my secretary next week.
a. will notify b. will be notified c. will have notified
- Last night I ____ to lock my front door.
a. wasn't remembered b. didn't remember c. hadn't been remembered
- This old wooden chest ____ by my grandfather over 40 years ago.
a. built b. had built c. was built
- Disneyland is a world-famous amusement park in Southern California. It ____ by millions of people every year.
a. is visited b. visited c. has visited
- I ____ with people who say space exploration is a waste of money. What do you think?
a. not agree b. don't agree c. am not agree
- Do you really think that we ____ by creatures from outer space in the near future?
a. will invade b. be invaded c. will be invaded
- Had you already ____ by this university when you heard about the scholarship offer from the other school?
a. were accepted b. accepted c. been accepted
- When Alex was only ten, his father ____.
a. was died b. died c. dead
- Elephants ____ a long time, sometimes for 70 years.
a. live b. were lived c. have been lived

10. The impact of the earthquake yesterday ____ by people who lived hundreds of kilometers from the epicenter.
a. felt b. has felt c. was felt
11. At one time, the entire world ____ by dinosaurs.
a. ruled b. was ruled c. been ruled
12. Some dinosaurs ____ on their hind legs and were as tall as palm trees.
a. walked b. were walked c. have stood

► **Practice 7. Using the passive.** (Chart 11-3)

Circle the letter of the sentence that has the same meaning as the given sentence.

1. In my dream, the monster is being chased.
a. The monster is chasing someone in my dream.
b. Someone is chasing the monster in my dream.
2. An airplane was delivered to a cargo facility last week.
a. The airplane delivered some cargo.
b. Someone delivered the airplane.
3. Witnesses are going to be asked for information.
a. Someone will request information from witnesses.
b. Witnesses will request information from someone.
4. Internet access will be provided free of charge.
a. The internet will provide access.
b. Someone will provide internet access.
5. All of the participants have been counted.
a. Someone has finished counting the participants.
b. The participants have finished counting.

► **Practice 8. Using the passive.** (Chart 11-3)

Complete each passage with the given verbs. Write the correct form of the verb, active or passive.

1. *invent, tell*

The sandwich _____ by John Montagu, an Englishman with the title of the Earl of Sandwich. In about 1762, he is reputed to have been too busy to sit down at a regular meal, so he _____ his cook to pack his meat inside some bread in order to save him time.

2. *attend, establish, give*

Al-Azhar University in Cairo, Egypt, is one of the oldest universities in the world. It _____ at about the same time as the city of Cairo, in 969 A.D. The first lecture _____ in 975 A.D. Students (*still*) _____ the university today.

10. The impact of the earthquake yesterday ____ by people who lived hundreds of kilometers from the epicenter.
a. felt b. has felt c. was felt
11. At one time, the entire world ____ by dinosaurs.
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a. Someone will request information from witnesses.
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3. *become, kill, know, live, relate, save*

One animal that is famous in the history of the American West is actually a bison, but it _____ by the name of *buffalo*. The American buffalo _____ to a similar animal in Asia, the water buffalo. Buffaloes _____ in parks and flat grasslands. At the end of the nineteenth century, they almost _____ extinct because thousands of them _____ by hunters. Fortunately, they _____ by the efforts of naturalists and the government.



4. *believe, give, like, originate, treat, use, value*

Garlic _____ in Asia over 6,000 years ago, and it spread throughout Europe and Africa. Today, people _____ to use garlic not only for its strong flavor, but because it _____ them physical strength and good health. In ancient times, garlic _____ so highly that it _____ as money. Injuries and illnesses _____ with garlic by the ancient Greeks. Even today, garlic _____ to be effective by some people in lowering cholesterol and in treating other digestive disorders.



► **Practice 9. Active vs. passive.** (Charts 11-1 → 11-3)

Write complete sentences with the given words. Use the simple past.

1. the chefs \ prepare \ the food _____.
2. the food \ prepare \ yesterday _____.
3. the rain \ stop _____.
4. a rainbow \ appear \ in the sky _____.
5. the documents \ send \ to you \ yesterday _____.
6. my lawyer \ send \ the documents to me _____.
7. the winner of the election \ announce \ on TV _____.
8. I \ not agree \ with you about this _____.
9. what \ happen \ yesterday _____?
10. something wonderful \ happen \ to me _____.
11. the trees \ die \ of a disease _____.
12. the trees \ kill \ by a disease _____.
13. a disease \ kill \ the trees _____.
14. I \ accept \ at the University of Chicago _____.
15. I \ recommend \ for a scholarship _____.

► **Practice 10. The passive form of modals and phrasal modals.** (Chart 11-4)

Circle the correct verb.

1. A language (*can't be / couldn't have been*) learned only by reading about it. You have to practice speaking it.
2. These jeans (*should be washed / should have been washed*) before you wear them. The material will be softer and more comfortable.
3. This shirt was washed in hot water, and it shrank. It (*should have washed / should have been washed*) in cold water.
4. The road is still being fixed. It is supposed (*to be finished / to finish*) by next month, but I'm not so sure it will be.
5. There's an old house for sale on Route 411. They say that George Washington visited it, so it (*must be built / must have been built*) in the 1700s.
6. Taxes (*have to pay / have to be paid*) on or before April 15th. Payments (*must be sent / must have been sent*) to the government on or before April 15th.
7. The senator has made a good point, but I disagree. May I (*permit / be permitted*) to speak now?
8. Our kitchen is old and dark. We're going to renovate it. It (*ought to be painted / ought to paint*) a light shade of green or white to make it look brighter.

► **Practice 11. The passive form of modals and phrasal modals.** (Chart 11-4)

Complete the sentences with the given words. Write the appropriate form, active or passive.

1. The decision (*should + make*) _____ as soon as possible.
2. We (*should + make*) _____ our decision right now, without further discussion.
3. A decision (*should + make*) _____ before now.
4. They say that Einstein (*couldn't + talk*) _____ until he was four years old.
5. I (*couldn't + talk*) _____ to Mr. Forth this morning even if I had wanted to. It would have been impossible. He is in Europe on business all this week.
6. All vehicles (*must + register*) _____ with the Department of Motor Vehicles of this state.
7. You (*must + register*) _____ your car with the Department of Motor Vehicles.
8. This bill (*have to + pay*) _____ by tomorrow. I (*had better not + send*) _____ a check by mail. It won't get there on time.
9. A: Who called?
B: I don't know who it was. They hung up. It (*must + be*) _____ a wrong number.

PRACTICE 1, p. 106

1. are
2. is being
3. has been
4. was
5. was being
6. had been
7. will be
8. is going to be
9. will have been
10. has been
11. was
12. are being
13. will be
14. had been
15. will have been
16. are
17. is going to be
18. were being

PRACTICE 2, p. 107

	Subject	Verb
1. A	<u>Henry</u>	visited
2. P	<u>The park</u>	was visited
3. A	<u>Olga</u>	was reading
4. A	<u>Philippe</u>	has read
5. P	<u>Bambi</u>	has been read
6. A	<u>Whales</u>	swim
7. P	<u>Whales</u>	were hunted
8. P	<u>The answer</u>	won't be known
9. A	<u>I</u>	know
10. P	<u>Two new houses</u>	were built

11. A A famous architect designed
12. P Television was invented
13. P The World Cup is seen
14. A Television has expanded

PRACTICE 3, p. 107

1. is written
2. is being written
3. has been written
4. was written
5. was being written
6. had been written
7. will be written
8. is going to be written
9. will have been written
10. Was . . . written
11. Will . . . be written
12. Has . . . been written

PRACTICE 4, p. 107

Part I.

1. was painted by Picasso
2. are flown by experienced pilots
3. is going to be sung by a famous singer
4. has been accepted by Yale University
5. will be examined by the doctor
6. is being questioned by the defense attorney
7. was bitten by a dog
8. was being fed by the mother bird
9. won't be persuaded by his words
10. wasn't painted by me . . . painted by Laura
11. owned by Mrs. Crane
isn't owned by her father anymore
12. weren't signed by me
was signed by someone else

Part II.

13. is going to clean my teeth
14. Did . . . send that email
15. don't celebrate the Fourth of July
16. Has . . . sold your house yet
17. haven't caught the thief
18. are cleaning the carpets

PRACTICE 5, p. 109

Verb	Object Of Verb	Passive Sentence
1. will pay	the bill	The bill will be paid by Al.
2. will arrive	Ø	Ø
3. supplies	towels	Towels are supplied by the hotel.
4. happen	Ø	Ø
5. noticed	my error	My error was noticed by everyone.
6. arrived	Ø	Ø
7. didn't surprise	me	I was not surprised by the news.
8. Did . . . surprise	you	Were you surprised by the news?
9. Do . . . exist	Ø	Ø
10. died	Ø	Ø
11. told	the story	The story was told by an old man.
12. hasn't rained	Ø	Ø

PRACTICE 6, p. 109

- | | |
|------------------------|---------------------|
| 1. b. will be notified | 7. c. been accepted |
| 2. b. didn't remember | 8. b. died |
| 3. c. was built | 9. a. live |
| 4. a. is visited | 10. c. was felt |
| 5. b. don't agree | 11. b. was ruled |
| 6. c. will be invaded | 12. a. walked |

PRACTICE 7, p. 110

- | | |
|------|------|
| 1. b | 4. b |
| 2. b | 5. a |
| 3. a | |

PRACTICE 8, p. 110

1. was invented . . . told
2. was established . . . was given . . . still attend
3. is known . . . is related . . . live . . . became . . .
were killed . . . were saved
4. originated . . . like . . . gives . . . was valued . . .
was used . . . were treated . . . is believed

PRACTICE 9, p. 111

1. The chefs prepared the food.
2. The food was prepared yesterday.
3. The rain stopped.
4. A rainbow appeared in the sky.
5. The documents were sent to you yesterday.
6. My lawyer sent the documents to me.
7. The winner of the election was announced on TV.
8. I didn't agree with you about this.
9. What happened yesterday?
10. Something wonderful happened to me.
11. The trees died of a disease.
12. The trees were killed by a disease.
13. A disease killed the trees.
14. I was accepted at the University of Chicago.
15. I was recommended for a scholarship.

PRACTICE 10, p. 112

1. can't be
2. should be washed
3. should have been washed
4. to be finished
5. must have been built
6. have to be paid . . . must be sent
7. be permitted
8. ought to be painted

PRACTICE 11, p. 112

1. should be made
2. should make
3. should have been made
4. couldn't talk
5. couldn't have talked
6. must be registered
7. must register
8. has to be paid . . . had better not send
9. must have been
10. may have been