

PASSIVES & CAUSATIVES

PART 1: PASSIVES

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WHAT IS PASSIVE?

- Function: We use passive when the «*doer*» of the sentence (subject) is not *important*, but *the «object» of the sentence or the action itself is more important* than the doer.
- The object of the active sentence becomes the subject of the passive sentence.
 - ✓ ACTIVE: People **sell** electronic items in digital stores.
(Doer: People; not important)
 - ✓ PASSIVE: Electronic items **are sold** in digital stores.
 - ✓ ACTIVE: People **set up** a camp here every summer.
 - ✓ PASSIVE: A camp **is set up** here every summer.

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WHAT IS PASSIVE?

- Only transitive verbs (verbs that can take a direct object) can be used to form a passive sentence.
 - ✓ ACTIVE: Christopher Columbus **discovered** America. (America: Object; discover: transitive verb)
 - ✓ PASSIVE: America **was discovered** by Christopher Columbus.
- We cannot form a passive sentence with intransitive verbs.
 - ✓ I go to school everyday. (NO PASSIVE!)

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WHEN DO WE USE PASSIVE?

- When we do not know who did the action:
 - ✓ ACTIVE: Someone **stole** our bicycle yesterday. (not common)
 - PASSIVE: Our bicycle **was stolen** yesterday. ✓ ✓
 - ✓ ACTIVE: People **built** this monument 5.000 years ago. XX
 - PASSIVE: This monument **was built** 5.000 years ago. ✓ ✓
- When the job or the action itself is more important than the person that does the action.
 - ✓ ACTIVE: Oh! A painter **has painted** your house. X X
 - PASSIVE: Oh! Your house **has been painted**. ✓ ✓
 - ✓ ACTIVE: The government **will buy** our product at the end of the season. (not common)
 - PASSIVE: Our product **will be bought** by the government at the end of the season. ✓ ✓

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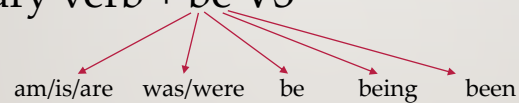
WHEN DO WE USE PASSIVE?

- We use «by + person» only when the doer is important; otherwise, we do not tell who does the action.
 - ✓ Mona Lisa **was painted** by Da Vinci. ✓
 - ✓ The Pyramids **were built** by the Egyptians. ✓
 - ✓ The poor man **was murdered** on a train by a murderer. X X
 - ✓ My mobile phone **was stolen** in the cafe last week by a thief. X X

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HOW DO WE FORM PASSIVE?

- Passive = be V3
- Auxiliary verb + be V3



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1. SIMPLE PRESENT & SIMPLE PAST TENSES

- *am/is/are + V3*

was/were + V3

- ✓ ACTIVE: People **buy** plane tickets mostly online these days.
PASSIVE: Plane tickets **are bought** mostly online these days.
- ✓ ACTIVE: We **sold** only two cars last month.
PASSIVE: Only two cars **were sold** last month.

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2. PRESENT CONTINUOUS & PAST CONTINUOUS TENSES

- *am/is/are being + V3*

was/were being + V3

- ✓ ACTIVE: The police **are searching** Mr. Badger's house for clues.
PASSIVE: Mr. Badger's house **is being searched** for clues.
- ✓ ACTIVE: They **were playing** classical music in the elevator.
PASSIVE: Classical music **was being played** in the elevator.

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3. PRESENT PERFECT & PAST PERFECT TENSES

- *have/has been + V3*
had been + V3

- ✓ ACTIVE: They **have built** many skyscrapers in the last 10 years.
PASSIVE: Many skyscrapers **have been built** in the last 10 years.
- ✓ ACTIVE: They **had stolen** the gold by the time the police arrived.
PASSIVE: The gold **had been stolen** by the time the police arrived.

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4. MODAL VERBS

- *modal + be V3*

- ✓ ACTIVE: The mechanic **will repair** the car today.
PASSIVE: The car **will be repaired** today.
- ✓ ACTIVE: People **can observe** the full lunar eclipse tonight.
PASSIVE: Full lunar eclipse **can be observed** tonight.
- ✓ ACTIVE: You **should water** these plants twice a week.
PASSIVE: These plants **should be watered** twice a week.
- ✓ ACTIVE: You **have to mail** the documents today.
PASSIVE: The documents **have to be mailed** today.

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SHORT SUMMARY...

- Simple Present & Past Tenses : am/is/are V3
 was/were V3
- Present & Past Cont. Tenses: am/is/are + being V3
 was/were + being V3
- Perfect Tenses : have/has been V3
 had been V3
- All modals: modal + be V3

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AN IMPORTANT POINT...

- «**Perfect Continuous**» tenses have no passive form. Instead, we use the passive forms of «**Perfect Tenses**».
- ✓ (Past Perfect Cont.) ACTIVE: They **had been building** the church for eight years when....
 PASSIVE: The church **had been built** for eight years when....
- ✓ (Present Perf. Cont.) ACTIVE: They **have been building** the church for eight years.
 PASSIVE: The church **has been built** for eight years.
- ✓ (Future Perf. Cont.) ACTIVE: They **will have been building** the church for eight years when...
 PASSIVE: The church **will have been built** for eight years when....

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SENTENCE STRUCTURE IN ENGLISH

- Most basic sentence structure in English: *Subject + Verb + Object. (S+V+O.)*

In more detail...

- *S + V + Object + Place + Time.*
e.g. My sister bought a plane ticket from her travel agent yesterday.
- **Object:** Object is the person or thing that is influenced directly from the action/job done.

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SENTENCE STRUCTURE IN ENGLISH

- Examples:
 - ✓ My friend **knows** all the capital cities *in the world*.
 - ✓ Mr. Bates **met** me *in front his office yesterday*.
 - ✓ Gabbie **tells** lies *without blinking an eye*.
 - ✓ Our driver **drives** the bus *carefully*.
 - ✓ France **won** the World Cup *in 2018 in Russia*.

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SENTENCE STRUCTURE IN ENGLISH

- !!! But, a sentence might sometimes have TWO objects.
 - ✓ The teacher **gave** me *a difficult assignment* for next week.
OR
The teacher **gave** *a difficult assignment* to me for next week. (less common)
 - ✓ Sam will **teach** Ross *his best moves* in football.
OR
Sam will **teach** *his best moves* to Ross in football. (less common)

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SENTENCE STRUCTURE IN ENGLISH

- More examples...
 - ✓ Mr. Costanza **left** his children *a big fortune* after his death.
OR
Mr. Costanza **left** *a big fortune* to his children after his death.
 - ✓ The boss **asked** the employees *a difficult question* during the meeting.
OR
The boss **asked** *a difficult question* to the employees during the meeting.

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SENTENCE STRUCTURE IN ENGLISH

- In this case, the sentence structure becomes:
 - S + V + Object 1 (person) + Object 2 (Thing) + Place + Time.
 - S + V + Object 1 (thing) + Preposition «TO» + Object 2 (person) + Place + Time.
- !!!!!! VERY IMPORTANT !!!!!!!

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ACTIVE SENTENCES WITH TWO OBJECTS

- When there are two objects in an active sentence, both objects can be used to form the passive.
- ✓ The conference organizers will give the presenter *really beautiful flowers*.
 (Pas. 1) *Really beautiful flowers* will be given to the presenter.
 (Pas. 2) The presenter will be given really beautiful flowers.
- ✓ The charity served the guests *an exotic drink*.
 (Pas. 1) *An exotic drink* was served to the guests.
 (Pas. 2) The guests were served an exotic drink.

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MORE EXAMPLES...

- ✓ The store sold me *a fake leather bag*.
 (Pas. 1) *A fake leather bag* was sold to me.
 (Pas. 2) I was sold a fake leather bag (in that store).
- ✓ The businessman told the reporter *so many lies*.
 (Pas. 1) *So many lies* were told to the reporter.
 (Pas. 2) The reporter was told so many lies.

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USING «V3» AS AN ADJECTIVE

- «V3» alone can sometimes be used *as an adjective*.
 - ✓ We need to fix the **broken** window. (adjective)
 - ✓ The **stolen** items were recovered by the police. (adjective)
 - ✓ **Written** literature developed long after **spoken** literature. (adjective)
 - ✓ This hotel is for **married** couples without children only. (adjective)
- This structure (V3) can sometimes look like a passive structure, but it is actually not passive.
 - ✓ The window **was broken** by a burglar last night. (passive)
 - VERSUS
 - ✓ Look! The window is **broken**! Something must have happened last night. (adjective)

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USING «V3» AS AN ADJECTIVE

- Verbs that express opinions, feelings and emotions can become adjectives in both «**Ving**» and «**V3**» forms. But meaning is completely different.
- While «**Ving**» implies an active meaning, «**V3**» implies a passive meaning.

Verb	Ving	V3
bore	boring	bored
excite	exciting	excited
frighten	frightening	frightened
interest	interesting	interested
surprise	surprising	surprised
exhaust	exhausting	exhausted
confuse	confusing	confused

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USING «V3» AS AN ADJECTIVE

Verb	Ving	V3
worry	worrying	worried
disappoint	disappointing	disappointed
tire	tiring	tired
scare	---- (NONE) (Scary)	scared
terrify	terrifying	terrified
please	pleasing	pleased
satisfy	satisfying	satisfied
annoy	annoying	annoyed

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GET + V3

- «Get V3» structure is also very commonly used to express a passive meaning.
- It is especially common with verbs that express emotions given above.
 - ✓ My roommate **gets annoyed** easily. (=... is annoyed)
 - ✓ I **got frightened** when I saw her face. (=...was frightened)
 - ✓ My article **got published** in the journal. (=...was published)
 - ✓ Jesse will **get promoted** once he finishes this project. (=...will be promoted)
 - ✓ Yasmine might **get chosen** for the show. (=...might be chosen)

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THANK YOU...

& EXERCISE TIME!

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