

The **karmāṇi prayoga** (कर्मणि प्रयोगः) is a mode of **PASSIVE CONSTRUCTION**, in contrast to **ACTIVE CONSTRUCTION** (**kartari prayoga** - कर्तरि प्रयोगः) whereby the verb agrees with the **object** of action (placed in first case), and the **agent** is placed in the instrumental (third case).

general rule:

ROOT +
य- (ya-) +
ĀTMANEPADA
endings

important exceptions:

1. root-final **-i (-इ)** or **-u (-उ)** gets lengthened:
ex: जि - ji ("win") -> जीयते - jīyate "it is won"
स्तु - stu ("praise") -> स्तूयते - stūyate "it is praised"
2. root-final **-ā (-आ)** often becomes **-ī (-ई)**:
ex: दा - dā ("give") -> दीयते - dīyate "it is given"
पा - pā ("drink") -> पीयते - pīyate "it is drunk"
BUT: ज्ञा - jñā ("know") -> ज्ञायते - jñāyate "it is known"
3. root-final **-ṛ (-ऋ)** becomes **-ri (-रि)**
ex: कृ - kṛ ("do, make") -> क्रियते - kriyate "it is done"
स्मृ - smṛ ("remember") -> स्म्रियते - smriyate "it is remembered"

SAMPRASĀRAṆA (संप्रसारणम्): some roots beginning with **ya- (य-)** or **va- (व-)** undergo "semivowel reduction": **[ya- -> i-, va- -> u-]**
ex: वच् - vac ("say") -> उच्यते - ucyate "it is said"
वस् - vas ("dwell") -> उष्यते - uṣyate "it is lived in"
यज् - yaj ("sacrifice") -> इज्यते - ijyate "it is sacrificed"

ACTIVE construction
(कर्तरि प्रयोगः - kartari prayoga)



अश्वः गजान् पश्यति ।
aśvaḥ gajān paśyati.

"The **horse sees** the
(3+) elephants."

PASSIVE construction
(कर्मणि प्रयोगः - karmāṇi prayoga)



दृश्
dṛś / see
verb root
(धातुः - dhātu)

गजाः अश्वेन दृश्यन्ते ।
gajāḥ aśvena dṛśyante.

"The (3+) **elephants are seen** by the horse."

BHĀVE PRAYOGA (भावे प्रयोगः): "INTRANSITIVE PASSIVE" - applied to (intransitive) verbs that take no direct object; **nothing** is placed in nominative case, and a generic "it" [**tat (तत्)**] is considered the subject.

FORMATION:

दृश्
dṛś / see
verb root

+

य • ya
passive marker

+

-ते -एते -अन्ते
-से -एथे -ध्वे
-ए -आवहे -आमहे
ātmanepada endings

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दृश्यते दृश्येते दृश्यन्ते
दृश्यसे दृश्येथे दृश्यध्वे
दृश्ये दृश्यावहे दृश्यामहे
passive construction