



Passive voice

Form of Passive

Subject + finite form of *to be* + Past Participle (3rd column of irregular verbs)

Example: A letter was written.

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

- a) the object of the active sentence becomes the subject of the passive sentence
- b) the finite form of the verb is changed (*to be* + past participle)
- c) the subject of the active sentence becomes the object of the passive sentence

Examples of Passive

Tense		Subject	Verb	Object
Simple Present	<i>Active:</i>	Rita	writes	a letter.
	<i>Passive:</i>	A letter	is written	by Rita.
Simple Past	<i>Active:</i>	Rita	wrote	a letter.
	<i>Passive:</i>	A letter	was written	by Rita.
	<i>Passive:</i>	A letter	can be written	by Rita.

Rewrite these exercises in passive voice in simple present.

1. He opens the door. _____
2. We set the table. _____
3. She pays a lot of money. _____
4. I draw a picture. _____
5. They wear blue shoes. _____

Write passive sentences in Simple Present. (Add an object)

1. the test / write _____
2. the table / set _____
3. the cat / feed _____
4. the lights / switch on _____
5. the house / build _____

Write passive sentences in Simple Past. . (Add an object)

1. the postcard / send _____
2. the pencils / count _____
3. the door / close _____
4. the beds / make _____
5. the mail / write _____

Write passive sentences in Simple Past. (Add an object)

1. the exhibition / visit _____
2. the windows / clean _____
3. the message / read _____

4. the thief / arrest _____

5. the photo / take _____