

For Practice: Verb tenses passive

EXERCISE 1. *Change the active verbs to passive verbs. Write the subject of the passive sentence.*

1. Simple Present

- a. The teacher *helps* me. I am helped by the teacher.
- b. The teacher *helps* Jane. _____ by the teacher.
- c. The teacher *helps* us. _____ by the teacher.

2. Simple Past

- a. The teacher *helped* me. _____ by the teacher.
- b. The teacher *helped* them. _____ by the teacher.

3. Present Perfect

- a. The teacher *has helped* Joe. _____ by the teacher.
- b. The teacher *has helped* us. _____ by the teacher.

4. Future

- a. The teacher *will help* me. _____ by the teacher.
- b. The teacher *is going to help* me. _____ by the teacher.
- c. The teacher *will help* Tim. _____ by the teacher.
- d. The teacher *is going to help* Tim. _____ by the teacher.

EXERCISE 2: *Change the verbs to the passive. Do not change the tense.*

Bob *mailed* the package. The package was mailed by Bob.

1. Mr. Catt *delivers* our mail. Our mail _____ by Mr. Catt.
2. The children *have eaten* the cake. The cake _____ by the children.
3. Linda *wrote* that letter. That letter _____ by Linda.
4. The jeweler *is going to fix* my watch. My watch _____ by the jeweler.
5. Ms. Bond *will teach* our class. Our class _____ by Ms. Bond.

6. That company *employs* many people. Many people _____ by that company,
7. That company *has hired* Sue. Sue _____ by that company.
8. The secretary *is going to fax* the letters. The letters _____ by the secretary.
9. Mr. Adams *will do* the work. The work _____ by Mr. Adams.
10. Mr. Fox *washed* the windows. The windows _____ by Mr. Fox.

EXERCISE 3: *Change the sentences from active to passive.*

Ms. Hopkins invited me to dinner. *I was invited to dinner by Ms. Hopkins.*

1. Thomas Edison invented the phonograph.
2. Water surrounds an island.
3. A plumber is going to fix the leaky faucet.
4. A doctor has examined the sick child.
5. The police arrested James Swan.
6. A large number of people speak Spanish.
7. The secretary is going to answer the letter.
8. The teacher's explanation confused Carlos.
9. My mistake embarrassed me.
10. Helicopters fascinate children.
11. Shakespeare wrote *Hamlet*.
12. This news will amaze you.

EXERCISE 4: *Change the active sentences to passive sentences that have the same meaning and tense.*

- a. The news surprised John. **John was surprised** by the news.
 - b. The news didn't surprise me. **I wasn't surprised** by the news.
 - c. Did the news surprise you? **Were you surprised** by the news?
1. a. The news surprises Erin. _____ by the news.

- b. The news doesn't surprise us. _____ by the news.
- c. Does the news surprise you? _____ by the news?
2. a. The news will shock Steve. _____ by the news.
- b. The news won't shock Jean. _____ by the news.
- c. Will the news shock Pat? _____ by the news?
3. a. Liz wrote that essay. _____ by Liz.
- b. Don didn't write it. _____ by Don.
- c. Did Ryan write it? _____ by Ryan?

EXERCISE 5. *Change the sentence from active to passive. Include the "by-phrase" only if necessary.*

Bob Smith built that house. That house was built by Bob Smith.

Someone built this house in 1904. This house was built in 1904. (by someone = unnecessary)

1. People grow rice in India.
2. People speak Spanish in Venezuela.
3. Do people speak Spanish in Peru?
4. Alexander Graham Bell invented the telephone.
5. When did someone invent the wheel?
6. People sell hammers at a hardware store.
7. People use hammers to pound nails.
8. The president has canceled the meeting.
9. Someone has canceled the soccer game.
10. Someone will list my name in the new telephone directory.
11. Charles Darwin wrote The Origin of Species.
12. Someone published The Origin of Species in 1859.
13. Has anyone ever hypnotized you?

14. Something confused me in class yesterday.

15. Something embarrassed me yesterday.