# The Passive

The passive voice is used to focus on the action or the recipient of the action rather than the doer. It is formed with the appropriate tense of the verb "**to be**" and **the past participle of the main verb**. The passive voice can be used across all tenses, and it's essential to understand how it works in different contexts.

### Present Simple Passive
**Form:** am/is/are + past participle
**Example:** The letters are written by him.
**Use:** Routine actions or general truths.

### Present Continuous Passive
**Form:** am/is/are being + past participle
**Example:** The house is being painted.
**Use:** Actions happening at the moment of speaking.

### Present Perfect Passive
**Form:** have/has been + past participle
**Example:** The work has been completed.
**Use:** Actions completed at an unspecified time before now.

### Past Simple Passive
**Form:** was/were + past participle
**Example:** The book was published last year.
**Use:** Completed actions in the past.

### Past Continuous Passive
**Form:** was/were being + past participle
**Example:** The song was being sung by her.
**Use:** Actions that were happening at a specific time in the past.

### Past Perfect Passive
**Form:** had been + past participle
**Example:** The project had been finished before the deadline.
**Use:** Actions completed before another action or time in the past.

### Future Simple Passive
**Form:** will be + past participle
**Example:** The new model will be released next month.
**Use:** Actions that will happen in the future.

### Future Perfect Passive
**Form:** will have been + past participle
**Example:** By next week, the book will have been written.
**Use:** Actions that will be completed before a specified time in the future.

### Infinitive Passive
**Form:** to be + past participle
**Example:** The next step is to be decided.
**Use:** To describe actions that need to be done, often after modal verbs or adjectives.

### Gerund Passive
**Form:** being + past participle
**Example:** Being interviewed can be stressful.
**Use:** Referring to actions as subjects or objects in a sentence.

**"it's important to consider the agent (the doer of the action), typically introduced by "by." However, in many cases, especially in formal or written English, the agent is omitted when it is unknown, obvious, or irrelevant to the context."**



# The Passive Exercise 1:

## Choose the correct answer.

**1.** Which is a correct example of the present continuous passive?
**a)** The cake is baking.
**b)** The cake is being baked.
**c)** The cake bakes.

**2.** What is the passive form of "They have completed the work"?
**a)** The work is being completed.
**b)** The work has been completed.
**c)** The work was completed.

**3.** Which tense is used in "The letter was written by her"?
**a)** Past continuous passive
**b)** Present perfect passive
**c)** Past simple passive

**4.** In which passive form do we use "was/were being"?
**a)** Past continuous passive
**b)** Present continuous passive
**c)** Future continuous passive

**5.** What is the passive form of "The committee will announce the results"?
**a)** The results were announced by the committee.
**b)** The results have been announced by the committee.
**c)** The results will be announced by the committee.

**6.**How is the future perfect passive constructed?
**a)** will being + past participle
**b)** will have been + past participle
**c)** will be + past participle

**7.** Which sentence uses the infinitive passive?
**a)** The document was signed.
**b)** The document is signing.
**c)** The document needs to be signed.

**8.** "The meeting is being held tomorrow" is an example of which tense?
**a)** Future perfect passive
**b)** Present continuous passive
**c)** Future simple passive

**9.** How is the gerund passive formed?
**a)** been + past participle
**b)** being + past participle
**c)** be + past participle

**10.** Which sentence is a correct use of the past continuous passive?
**a)** The song had been sung by her.
**b)** The song is being sung by her.
**c)** The song was being sung by her.

# The Passive Exercise 2:

## Complete the sentences with the correct passive form of the verbs in brackets.

**1.** The package _____ **(deliver)** tomorrow.

**2.** This book _____ **(write)** by a famous author.

**3.** The project _____ **(complete)** by the team before the deadline.

**4.** A new supermarket _____ **(build)** in our neighborhood soon.

**5.** The secret _____ **(keep)** from everyone until now.

**6.** The message _____ **(send)** as we speak.

**7.** By next year, the new bridge _____ **(construct)**.

**8.** The law _____ **(pass)** by the government last week.

**9.** I predict the concert tickets _____ **(sell out)** within an hour.

**10.** The stolen painting _____ **(recover)** by the police.



# The passive: answer key

**Grammar practice · B2 Upper-intermediate**

Where two or more answers are given, any of them is correct.

## Exercise 1

1. b) The cake is being baked.
2. b) The work has been completed.
3. c) Past simple passive
4. a) Past continuous passive
5. c) The results will be announced by the committee.
6. b) will have been + past participle
7. c) The document needs to be signed.
8. b) Present continuous passive
9. b) being + past participle
10. c) The song was being sung by her.

## Exercise 2

1. will be delivered
2. was written
3. had been completed / was completed / will be completed / will have been completed
4. is being built / will be built / is going to be built
5. has been kept
6. is being sent
7. will have been constructed
8. was passed
9. will be sold out / are going to be sold out
10. has been recovered / was recovered