



CLASS 7 ENGLISH · 2026-27

Active and passive voice

Grammar

34

QUESTIONS

25

MINUTES

3

EXERCISES

This belongs to _____ Date _____

WHAT YOU'LL GET GOOD AT

- Changes an active sentence to passive across the common tenses
- Changes a passive sentence back to active
- Drops the agent when it is unknown or unimportant
- Explains why the passive is the better choice in a given sentence

Take your time, and have a go at every one. If you get stuck, look at the orange box — Ollie has already done one for you.

Active and passive voice

Grammar · 34 questions · tick each box as you finish

Exercise 1 of 3 · 12 questions Change to the passive voice.



WRITE THE ANSWER

HERE'S ONE DONE FOR YOU

'The gardener waters the plants' -> 'The plants are watered by the gardener.' Three steps, in order. Move the object to the front: 'the plants'. Change the verb to the right form of 'be' plus the past participle, keeping the same tense: present simple, so 'are watered'. Put the old subject after 'by'. Keeping the tense is where nearly every mistake happens - 'were watered' would change when it happened.

1) The gardener waters the plants.

2) Ravi wrote a letter.

3) She is reading a book.

4) They have completed the project.

5) The teacher will announce the results.

6) Someone stole my bicycle.

7) The children are planting saplings.

8) The chef prepares the meals.

9) The dog chased the cat.

10) They are repairing the road.

11) The committee has approved the plan.

12) The workers will finish the wall by Friday.

Exercise 2 of 3 · 11 questions Change to the active voice.

WRITE THE ANSWER

HERE'S ONE DONE FOR YOU

'The cake was baked by my mother' -> 'My mother baked the cake.' Going backwards, the thing after 'by' becomes the subject and the tense stays put - 'was baked' is past simple, so the active verb is 'baked', not 'bakes' and not 'had baked'. Read your answer back and ask when it happened. If the timing has moved, the tense has slipped.

1) The cake was baked by my mother.

2) The letters are delivered by the postman.

3) The match will be won by our team.

4) The window has been broken by the boys.

5) A song was being sung by her.

6) The prize was given to her by the principal.

7) The rooms are cleaned every morning by the staff.

8) The tree had been planted by my grandfather.

9) The problem is being solved by the students.

10) The papers will be checked by the examiner.

11) The village was flooded by the river.

Exercise 3 of 3 · 11 questions Why is the passive the better choice here? One sentence each.

WRITE THE ANSWER

HERE'S ONE DONE FOR YOU

'My purse was stolen yesterday' - the passive is right because nobody knows who took it, so there is no subject available for an active sentence. This exercise matters more than it looks. Children are taught to change voice mechanically and come away thinking the passive is a worse version of the active. It is not; it is the correct choice whenever the doer is unknown, obvious, or beside the point.

1) Rice is grown in many parts of India.

2) The bridge was built in 1892.

3) My purse was stolen yesterday.

4) English is spoken all over the world.

5) The patient was operated on this morning.

6) The road has been closed for repairs.

7) Cotton is grown mainly in Gujarat and Maharashtra.

8) The letter was posted last Monday.

9) Mistakes were made in the earlier report.

10) The Taj Mahal was completed in 1653.

11) This medicine should be taken after meals.

**All done? How did that feel?**

Colour in a star. Three stars means you could teach it to someone else.



Tricky · Getting there · Easy now



Answer key

For grown-ups

Active and passive voice · keep this page back until your child has finished.

1. Change to the passive voice.

- 1) The plants are watered by the gardener.
- 2) A letter was written by Ravi.
- 3) A book is being read by her.
- 4) The project has been completed by them.
- 5) The results will be announced by the teacher.
- 6) My bicycle was stolen. (The agent is dropped, because 'by someone' adds nothing.)
- 7) Saplings are being planted by the children.
- 8) The meals are prepared by the chef.
- 9) The cat was chased by the dog.
- 10) The road is being repaired by them.
- 11) The plan has been approved by the committee.
- 12) The wall will be finished by the workers by Friday.

2. Change to the active voice.

- 1) My mother baked the cake.
- 2) The postman delivers the letters.
- 3) Our team will win the match.
- 4) The boys have broken the window.
- 5) She was singing a song.
- 6) The principal gave her the prize.
- 7) The staff clean the rooms every morning.
- 8) My grandfather had planted the tree.
- 9) The students are solving the problem.
- 10) The examiner will check the papers.
- 11) The river flooded the village.

3. Why is the passive the better choice here? One sentence each.

- 1) Because the people who grow it are too many to name, and the sentence is about the rice rather than about them.
- 2) Because who built it is either unknown or not the point - the bridge and the date are what matter.
- 3) Because the thief is unknown, so there is no subject to put in an active sentence.
- 4) Because the speakers are far too many to name, and the sentence is about the language.
- 5) Because the patient is the focus of the sentence, not the surgeon.
- 6) Because who closed the road does not matter - the fact that it is closed does.
- 7) Because the sentence is about where cotton grows, not about any particular farmer.
- 8) Because the letter matters, and the writer either does not know or need not say who posted it.
- 9) Because it reports what happened without naming who was at fault, which is often why the passive is chosen.
- 10) Because the building is the subject of interest, and its builders are not known to most readers.
- 11) Because the instruction applies to anyone taking the medicine, so no particular person needs naming.

WHILE YOUR CHILD WORKS

- Check the tense first, every time. The word order is rarely wrong; the tense inside the verb usually is.
- Read the answer back and ask 'when did it happen?' If the timing has changed, the tense has slipped.
- The last exercise is the one that stops the passive being treated as a bad habit. Do not skip it if the sheet runs long.

**Spotted a gap while marking?**

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