

Uses of passive voice

• Passive voice is used frequently in technical (and academic) writing

• Use passive voice for a specific purpose, not simply out of habit.

Emphasizes the Action



Pronoun Chart

	Subject Pronouns	Object Pronouns	Possessive Adjectives	Possessive Pronouns	Reflexive Pronouns
1st person	1	me	my	mine	myself
2 nd person	you	you	your	yours	yourself
3 rd person (male)	he	him	his	his	himself
3 rd person (female)	she	her	her	hers	herself
3 rd person	it	it	its	(not used)	itself
1 st person (plural)	we	us	our	ours	ourselves
2 nd person (plural)	you	you	your	yours	yourselves
3 rd person (plural)	they	them	their	theirs	themselves

Forming Simple Past Progressive Passive

Affirmative Form

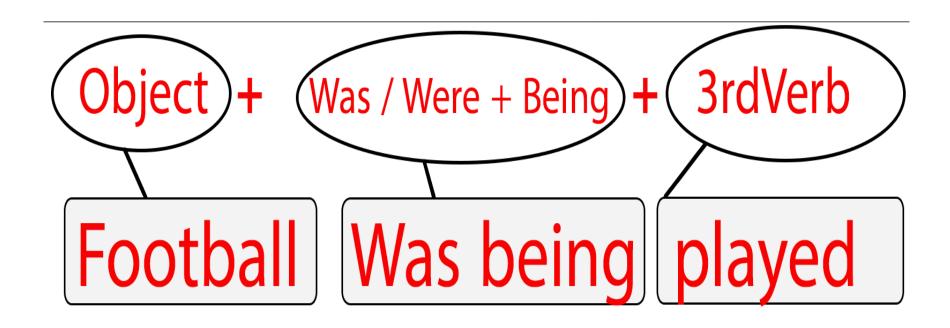
Object + was / were + being + verb3 (past participle)

Question Form

Was / Were + Object + being + verb3 (past participle)?

Structure





EXAMPLES:

Active: I was watching TV.

Passive: TV was being watched by me.

Active: She was writing a letter.

Passive: A letter was being written by her.

Active : We were having a picnic.

Passive: A picnic was being had by us.

- Active: The boy was throwing the stone.
- Passive: The stone was being thrown by the boy.
- Active: What was he writing on the desk?
- Passive: What was being written by him on the desk?
- Active: Was the suspect dragging you?
- Passive: Were you being dragged by the suspect?
- Active: Nobody was watching TV.
- Passive: The TV wasn't being watched (by anybody).

The passive forms of these sentences will begin with be (was/were).

Example:

Active: Were the masons building a house?

Passive: Was a house being built by the masons?

When the active sentence begins with a question word such as when, why, which and how, the passive sentence will also begin with a question word.

Active: Why was he not learning his lessons?

Passive: Why were his lessons not being learnt by

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Active : Who was waiting for you?

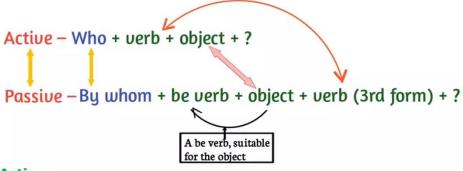
Passive: By whom were you being waite

d for?

Active : Whom were you waiting for?

Passive: Who was being waited for by yo

u?



Active -

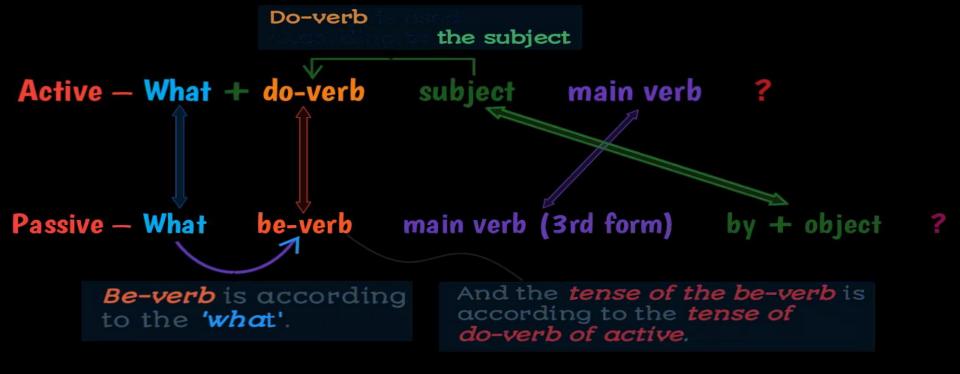
Structure -	Who	Verb	Object	?
E.g. –	Who	Plays	Cricket	?

Passive -

Structure -	By whom	Be verb	Object	Verb ³	?
E.g. –	By whom	Is	Cricket	Played	?

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for the object cricket.



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Active - What do-verb subject main verb?
What did you eat?
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Passive — What be-verb main verb (3rd form) by object ?
What was eaten by you ?
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- 1 I was writing a letter.
 A letter was being written by me.
- 2 He was cooking Food.
 Food was being cooked by me.
- 3 They were Playing football. Football was being played by them.
- 4 She was making cake
 Cake was being made by her.
- 5 He was learning English.
 English was being learnt by him.

- 7 She was making changes.
 Changes were being made by her.
- 8 I was repairing L.C.D
 L.C.D was being repaired by me.
- 9 I was making Tutorials . Tutorials were being made by me.
- 10 They were implementing rules.
 Rules were being implemented by them.
- 11 We were taking medicine.
 Medicine was being taken by us.

- 12 She was understanding World.
 World was being understood by her.
- 13 We were building buildings. Buildings were being built by us.
- 14 He was cooking french fries. French fries were being cooked by him.
- 15 We were helping poor.
 Poor was being helped by us.
- 16 We were painting homes.
 Homes were being painted by us.

Put the following sentences into passive voice. (past continuous)

- 1. They were expecting a guest.
- 2. The chef wasn't cooking the meat.
- 3. The women were cleaning all the blinds.
- 4. They were watching the newest videos.
- 5. Who was taking care of the baby?
- 6. Why were they picking the flowers?
- 7. Were they painting the room when the accid ent happened?

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- 1. We were talking about Francis.
- 2. He was playing the guitar.
- 3. She was watching a film.
- 4. I was repairing their bikes.
- 5. They were not eating dinner.

- 1. We were not painting the gate.
- 2. You were not driving him home.
- 3. He was not feeding the dogs.
- 4. Was she reading these lines?
- 5. Were they carrying bags?





