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GRAMMAR (UNIT 7)

PASSIVE VOICE (affirmative)

The passive voice is used to show interest in the person or object that experiences an action rather than the person or object that performs the action. In other words, the most important thing or person becomes the subject of the sentence.

Sometimes we use the passive voice because we don't know or do not want to express who performed the action.

We make the passive by putting the verb 'to be' into whatever tense we need and then adding the past participle. For regular verbs, we make the past participle by adding 'ed' to the infinitive. The object becomes the subject in the passive sentence, and the subject becomes the agent with "by". When the subject is a personal pronoun, "people", "someone" or the information is not needed, we omit the agent.

Present Simple active Present simple passive

Peter eats fish on Fridays Fish is eaten on Fridays by Peter

We read interesting books in the library

Interesting books <u>are read</u> in the library

I make cakes at weekends Cakes are made at weekends

Past simple active Past simple passive

She drank two cups of coffee yesterday

Two cups of coffee were drunk yesterday

Sally received a letter A letter was received by Sally

Someone phoned him last night He <u>was phoned</u> last night

PASSIVE VOICE (negative)

Present Simple active Present simple passive

Peter doesn't fish on Fridays Fish isn't eaten on Fridays by Peter

We don't read interesting books Interesting books aren't read

I don't make cakes at weekends Cakes aren't made at weekends

Past simple active Past simple passive

She didn't drink two cups of coffee Two cups of coffee weren't drunk

Sally didn't receive a letter A letter <u>wasn't received</u> by Sally

I didn't phone him last night He <u>wasn't phoned</u> last night

PASSIVE VOICE (interrogative)

Present Simple active

Does Peter eat fish on Fridays?

Do they read interesting books?

Do you make cakes at weekends?

Past simple active

Did she drink two cups of coffee?

Sally received a letter

Someone phoned him last night

Present simple passive

Is fish eaten on Fridays by Peter?

Are interesting books read?

Are cakes made at weekends?

Past simple passive

Were two cups of coffee drunk?

Was a letter received by Sally?

Was he phoned last night?