Graphic Grammar: The Passive Voice

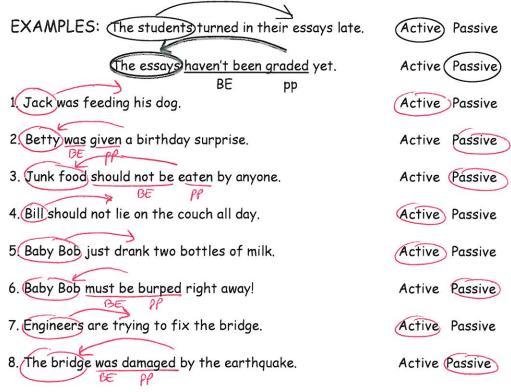
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Watch the video. Then complete these exercises and check your answers.

Part 1: Active or Passive?

In an active sentence, the <u>subject</u> of the sentence is doing the action of the verb. In a <u>passive</u> sentence, someone else is doing the action of the verb to the <u>subject</u>.

A. Circle the subject in each sentence below. Then draw an arrow showing the direction of the action. Is the sentence active or passive?



B. To check your answers above, underline the verbs. If there is a form of BE and a past participle, then it is a passive sentence. Write "BE" and "pp" under the verb.

Part 2: Forms of BE Complete the chart below.

Simple present	This car 15	stolen.
Present continuous	This car is being	stolen.
Present perfect	This car has been	stolen.
Modal (might)	This car might be	stolen.
Modal (could)	This car could be	stolen.
Future (will)	This car will be.	stolen.

Simple past	This car was	_ stolen.
Past continuous	This car was being	_stolen.
Past perfect	This car had been	_stolen.
Past (might)	This car mush have be	<u>e</u> ystolen.
Past (could)	This car could have be	enstolen.
Future (going to)	This car is going to be	<u>_</u> stolen.

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Part 3: Changing a Sentence from Active to Passive

We often use passive sentences when the subject is unknown, obvious, or unimportant. We also use passive to sound more polite or formal or to avoid blaming someone.

To change a sentence from active to passive, first find the object. The object becomes the subject. It could be the direct or indirect object, but if there is NO object, then the sentence **cannot** be changed to passive.

A. Circle the object in the sentences below. Then rewrite the sentence in passive

English and French are spoken by people in Canada.

1. Somebody knocked over the trash can again.

The trash can was knocked over again (by somebody).

2. A blind person took these photos.

These photos were taken by a blind Person.

3. A translator translated this book from Russian to English in 1895.

This book was translated from Russian to English in 1895 (by attanslator).

4. Nobody has cleaned the bathroom for a week.

The bathroom has not been cleaned (by amplosty) for a week.

X No passive form

6. Alexander Graham Bell invented the telephone.

5. An accident happened on the freeway last night.

The telephone was invented by Alexander Graham Bell.

7. We do not allow smoking on this campus.

form if possible.

Smoking is not allowed throst on this campis.

8. They will collect the trash one day late this week.

the tash will be collected one day bet this week (by thom).

B. In the sentences that you wrote above, cross out the "by" phrases that are unknown, obvious, or not important.