



Intercambioidiomas

Passive

We use the passive voice in 3 situations:

1. When the subject is not known
e.g. Someone killed the president
The president was killed (by someone)
2. When the subject is obvious
e.g. The cleaner has cleaned the office
The office has been cleaned (by the cleaner)
3. When the subject is not important
e.g. Alex Huckle eats all of the pies.
All of the pies are eaten by Alex Huckle

The best way to form the passive is with this simple 5 step rule:

Active = The man swept the floor last Friday.

Passive = The floor was swept by the man last Friday.

*you can omit by the man because it is irrelevant

1. **Object** – singular or plural
2. **Tense** – conjugate the verb to be in this tense
3. **Verb** – past participle
4. **Subject** – can it be omitted? (unknown, obvious, irrelevant)
5. **Complements** – extra information

An important part of the passive is knowing how to conjugate the verb **to be**.

Present simple = is/are	Past simple = was/were
Present continuous = is/are being	Present perfect = has/have been
Going to = is/are going to be	Will = will be



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Activity sheet

Convert the passive to the active:

1. Oliver Sum is going to do the course next month.
2. Ashley Guest played the piano yesterday.
3. Hugo Fisher will read the book.
4. Laura Halford will put on the make-up.
5. Alex Huckle has kissed the girl.
6. James Floyd sold the product.
7. Ines Panadero is making the meal at the moment.
8. Alison is driving the car now.
9. Carlos is going to do the paperwork later.
10. The postman delivered the post last night.



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Answer sheet

1. The course is going to be done by Oliver Sum next month.
2. The piano was played by Ashley Guest yesterday.
3. The book will be read by Hugo Fisher.
4. The make-up will be put on by Laura Halford.
5. The girl has been kissed by Alex Huckle.
6. The product was sold by James Floyd.
7. The meal is being made by Ines Panadero.
8. The car is being driven by Alison now.
9. The paperwork is going to be done by Carlos later.
10. The post was delivered (by the postman) last night.