

Active voice - passive voice

Active voice

The man loves the woman.

Passive voice

The woman is loved by the man.

Passive voice

The passive voice

The passive voice is used when the element receiving the action is the subject of the sentence. The element doing the action may or may not be mentioned as the object (*by*) at the end of the sentence.

Element receiving the action + predicate (form of to be + past participle of the verb) + by + element doing the action.

In the passive voice, the subject of the sentence is the element receiving the action. As the subject it is always in the nominative case. That is different from the use of some German verbs in the passive voice.

German: **Mir** wurde gesagt, dass...

subject predicate

English: **I** was told that...

Examples

The sales team + is coached + by + an external expert.

Our products + were praised + by + our customers.

The office + will be cleaned + tomorrow.

Active voice - passive voice

Active - passive

To convert a sentence from the active voice to the passive voice -

1. The object becomes the subject
2. The tense is defined by the corresponding form of *to be*
3. The main verb of the predicate appears as past participle (Optional):
4. The subject becomes the object following the preposition **by**.

Example

My neighbour drove a red Audi.

1. The object becomes the subject
A red Audi...
2. The tense is defined by the corresponding form of *to be*
A red Audi was... (past tense)
3. The main verb of the predicate appears as past participle
A red Audi was driven...
4. The subject becomes the object following the preposition **by**.
A red Audi was driven by my neighbour.