

Passive 2 (be done / been done / being done)

A

Infinitive

active: (to) **do/clean/see** etc.

Somebody **will clean** this room later.

passive: (to) **be + done/cleaned/seen** etc.

This room **will be cleaned** later.

- ☐ The situation is serious. Something must **be done** before it's too late.
- ☐ A mystery is something that can't **be explained**.
- ☐ The music was very loud and could **be heard** from a long way away.
- ☐ A new supermarket is going **to be built** next year.
- ☐ Please go away. I want **to be left** alone.

B

Perfect infinitive

active: (to) **have + done/cleaned/seen** etc.

Somebody **should have cleaned** the room.

passive: (to) **have been + done/cleaned/seen** etc.

The room **should have been cleaned**.

- ☐ I haven't received the letter yet. It might **have been sent** to the wrong address.
- ☐ If you had locked the car, it wouldn't **have been stolen**.
- ☐ There were some problems at first, but they seem **to have been solved**.

C

Present perfect

active: **have/has + done** etc.

The room looks nice. Somebody **has cleaned** it.

passive: **have/has been + done** etc.

The room looks nice. It **has been cleaned**.

- ☐ Have you heard? The trip **has been cancelled**.
- ☐ **Have** you ever **been bitten** by a dog?
- ☐ 'Are you going to the party?' 'No, I **haven't been invited**.'

Past perfect

active: **had + done** etc.

The room looked nice. Somebody **had cleaned** it.

passive: **had been + done** etc.

The room looked nice. It **had been cleaned**.

- ☐ The vegetables didn't taste good. They **had been cooked** too long.
- ☐ The car was three years old, but **hadn't been used** very much.

D

Present continuous

active: **am/is/are + (do)ing**

Somebody **is cleaning** the room at the moment.

passive: **am/is/are + being (done)**

The room **is being cleaned** at the moment.

- ☐ There's somebody walking behind us. I think we **are being followed**.
- ☐ A new bridge **is being built** across the river. It will be finished next year.

Past continuous

active: **was/were + (do)ing**

Somebody **was cleaning** the room when I arrived.

passive: **was/were + being (done)**

The room **was being cleaned** when I arrived.

- ☐ There was somebody walking behind us. I think we **were being followed**.

Exercises

43.1 Complete these sentences. Use the following verbs in the passive:

arrest carry cause delay ~~do~~ forget keep knock know make repair sendSometimes you need **have** (might have, would have etc.).

- The situation is serious. Something must be done before it's too late.
- I haven't received the letter yet. It might have been sent to the wrong address.
- A decision will not until the next meeting.
- These documents are important. They should always in a safe place.
- This road is in bad condition. It should a long time ago.
- The injured man couldn't walk and had to
- If you hadn't shouted at the policeman, you wouldn't
- I'm not sure what time I'll arrive tomorrow. I may
- It's not certain how the fire started. It might by an electrical fault.
- A new school is being built. The old one is going to down.
- The election is next Sunday. The full results will on Tuesday.
- Last week they weren't speaking to one another. Now they're happy again. The problem seems to

43.2 Make sentences from the words in brackets. Sometimes the verb is active, sometimes passive.

- There's somebody behind us. (We / follow) We're being followed.
- This door is a different colour, isn't it? (you / paint?) Have you painted it?
- My bike has disappeared. (It / steal!) It
- My umbrella has disappeared. (Somebody / take) Somebody
- A neighbour of mine disappeared six months ago.
(He / not / see / since then) He
- I wonder how Jessica is these days.
(I / not / see / for ages) I
- A friend of mine was stung by a bee recently.
(you / ever / sting / bee?) you
- The bridge was damaged recently.
(It / repair / at the moment) It
- Tom's car was stolen recently.
(It / not / find / yet)
- I went into the room and saw that the table and chairs were not in the same place.
(The furniture / move) The

43.3 Instead of using 'somebody', 'they' etc., write a passive sentence.

- Somebody has cleaned the room. The room has been cleaned.
- They are building a new road around the city.
A around the city.
- They have built two new hotels near the airport.
Two near the airport.
- When I last visited, they were building some new houses here.
When I last visited, some
- The meeting is now on 15 April. They have changed the date.
The date of
- I didn't know that somebody was recording our conversation.
I didn't know that our
- Is anyone doing anything about the problem?
..... anything the problem?
- The windows were very dirty. Nobody had cleaned them for ages.
The windows were very dirty. They