

Active and Passive Voice Exercise

1. Ms Sullivan **teaches** us grammar.
2. The teacher **praised** him.
3. The firemen **took** the injured to the hospital.
4. An earthquake **destroyed** the town.
5. The boy's work **pleased** the teacher.
6. The fire **damaged** the building.
7. Who **taught** you French?
8. The manager **will give** you a ticket.
9. Spectators **thronged** the streets.
10. Everyone **will blame** us.
11. The wind **blew down** the trees.
12. The police **caught** the thieves.
13. Alice **posted** the letter.
14. The hostess **received** us.
15. They/somebody **killed** the snake with a stick.
16. The people **welcomed** the minister.
17. They **found** him guilty of murder.
18. John Mathews **built** this house in 1991.

Answers

1. We are taught grammar by Ms Sullivan.
2. He was praised by the teacher.
3. The injured were taken to the hospital by the firemen.
4. The town was destroyed by an earthquake.
5. The teacher was pleased with the boy's work.
6. The building was damaged by the fire.
7. By whom were you taught French?
8. You will be given a ticket by the manager.
9. The streets were thronged with spectators.
10. We will be blamed by everyone.
11. The trees were blown down by the wind.
12. The thieves were caught by the police.
13. The letter was posted by Alice.
14. We were received by the hostess.
15. The snake was killed with a stick.
16. The minister was welcomed by the people.
17. He was found guilty of murder.
18. This house was built by John Mathews in 1991

Active and passive voice exercise

Complete the following sentences using appropriate active or passive verb forms. Choose your answers from the given options.

1. The problem to the children. (explained / was explained)
2. Those pyramids around 400 AD. (built / were built)
3. All the trouble by your mother. (has caused / was caused)
4. The visitors (were shown / have shown) a collection of old manuscripts.
5. I him ten thousand pounds last year. (lend / lent / was lent)
6. She of spiders. (frightened / is frightened)
7. That picture by my grandmother. (painted / was painted)
8. I by his attitude. (shocked / have shocked / was shocked)
9. Excuse the mess. The house (is painting / is being painted / has painted)
10. I knew why I (had chosen / had been chosen)

Answers

1. The problem **was explained** to the children.
2. Those pyramids **were built** around 400 AD.
3. All the trouble **was caused** by your mother.
4. The visitors **were shown** a collection of old manuscripts.
5. I **lent** him ten thousand pounds last year.
6. She **is frightened** of spiders.
7. That picture **was painted** by my grandmother.
8. I **was shocked** by his attitude.
9. Excuse the mess. The house **is being painted**.
10. I knew why I **had been chosen**.

Active and passive voice exercise

Verbs like **allow**, **advise**, **permit** and **forbid** can be followed by either an **-ing form** or an **infinitive**. These sentences can be changed into the passive, but the structures are different.

Change the following sentences into passive voice.

1. The principal has forbidden smoking on the campus.
2. The principal has forbidden students to smoke on the campus.
3. I advise consulting a good doctor.
4. I advise you to consult a good doctor.
5. They don't allow parking in front of their gate.
6. They don't allow people to park in front of their gate.
7. We advise early booking.
8. We advise passengers to book their tickets early.
9. They made her repeat the whole story.
10. We don't advise pregnant women to go on a diet.

Answers

1. Smoking has been forbidden on the campus.
2. Students have been forbidden to smoke on the campus.
3. Consulting a good doctor is advised.
4. You are advised to consult a good doctor.
5. Parking in front of their gate is not allowed.
6. People are not allowed to park in front of their gate.
7. Early booking is advised.
8. Passengers are advised to book their tickets early.
9. She was made to repeat the whole story.
10. Pregnant women are not advised to go on a diet.

Active and passive voice exercise

Change the following active sentences into passive voice.

1. I did not beat her.
2. I will never forget this experience.
3. Mother made a cake yesterday.
4. The boy teased the girl.
5. Did she do her duty?
6. The tiger was chasing the deer.
7. She has written a novel.
8. She has learned her lessons.
9. Have you finished the report?
10. The police have caught the thief.
11. My brother has completed the work.
12. Somebody stole my pen yesterday.
13. Our team may win the match.
14. Nurses look after patients.

Answers

1. She was not beaten by me.
2. This experience will never be forgotten by me.
3. A cake was made by mother yesterday.
4. The girl was teased by the boy.
5. Was her duty done by her?
6. The deer was being chased by the tiger.
7. A novel has been written by her.
8. Her lessons have been learned by her.

9. Has the report been finished by you?
10. The thief has been caught by the police.
11. The work has been completed by my brother.
12. My pen was stolen by somebody yesterday.
13. The match may be won by our team.
14. Patients are looked after by nurses.

Active and passive voice exercise

Change the following sentences so that the verbs will be in the passive voice.

1. The boy killed the spider.
2. The police caught the thief.
3. The boy made a kite.
4. The sudden noise frightened the dog.
5. Edison invented the light bulb.
6. He made a very remarkable discovery.
7. His own brother betrayed him.
8. I have sold my old car.
9. They opened the store only last month.
10. We do not permit smoking in the kitchen.
11. The cat chased the mouse.
12. Your behavior disgusts me.
13. The cat drank all the milk.
14. A stone struck me on the head.

Answers

1. The spider was killed by the boy.
2. The thief was caught by the police.
3. A kite was made by the boy.
4. The dog was frightened by the sudden noise.
5. The light bulb was invented by Edison.
6. A very remarkable discovery was made by him.
7. He was betrayed by his own brother.
8. My old car has been sold.

9. The store was opened only last month.
10. Smoking in the kitchen isn't permitted.
11. The mouse was chased by the cat.
12. I am disgusted by your behavior.
13. All the milk was drunk by the cat.
14. I was struck by a stone on the forehead

Active and passive voice worksheet

Test your knowledge of active and passive voice with this grammar exercise. Each sentence given below is in the active voice. Change it into passive voice.

1. He sings a song.

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2. The boy killed the spider.

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3. Help him.

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4. Farmers sow maize in the rainy season.

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5. Are you writing a letter?

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6. The workers were digging a canal.

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7. I will finish the job by the end of this week.

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8. Have you finished your job?

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9. They have informed him of his mother's death.

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10. They took all the necessary precautions.

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Answers

1. A song **is sung** by him. (Active verb – sings; passive verb – is sung)
2. The spider **was killed** by the boy. (Active verb – killed; passive verb – was killed)
3. Let him be helped. (Imperative sentences in the passive voice begin with **let**.)
4. Maize **is sown** in the rainy season. (Active verb – sow; passive verb – is/are sown)
5. Is a letter **being written** by you? (Active verb – is/are writing; passive verb – is/are being written)
6. A canal **was being dug** by the workers. (Active verb – was/were digging; passive verb – was/were being dug)
7. The job **will be finished** (by me) by the end of this week. (Active verb – will finish; passive verb – will be finished)
8. **Has** your job **been finished** by you? (Active verb – has/have finished; passive verb – has/have been finished)
9. He **has been informed** of his mother's death. (Active verb – has/have informed; passive verb – has/have been informed)
10. All the necessary precautions **were taken** by them. (Active verb – took; passive verb – was/were taken)