

Passive Voice – B1–B2 Level

1■■■ What is the Passive Voice?

We use the Passive Voice when the focus is on the action or the receiver of the action, not on who or what performs it.

■ Active: The teacher explains the lesson.

■ Passive: The lesson is explained by the teacher.

2■■■ Structure

Tense	Active	Passive
Present Simple	They make cars.	Cars are made.
Past Simple	They built a bridge.	A bridge was built.
Present Continuous	They are painting the house.	The house is being painted.
Past Continuous	They were repairing the road.	The road was being repaired.
Present Perfect	They have finished the project.	The project has been finished.
Future Simple	They will open the school.	The school will be opened.

3■■■ When to Use Passive Voice

1. When we don't know who did the action: The window was broken.
2. When the person who did it is not important: The road is cleaned every day.
3. When we want to sound more formal or polite: Your application has been approved.

4■■■ Common Passive Verbs

- be made of → This chair is made of wood.
- be known as → He is known as a great singer.
- be born → I was born in 2003.
- be located → The hotel is located near the beach.

5■■■ By + Agent

We use 'by' to say who did the action. Example: The cake was made by my mother.

6■■■ Active → Passive Transformation

1. Identify the object.
2. Move it to the subject position.
3. Change the verb into the correct form of 'be + past participle'.
4. Add 'by + doer' (if needed).

Example:

Active: The chef cooks the meal.

Passive: The meal is cooked by the chef.

■ Mini Test

1. The room _____ every day. → is cleaned ■
2. The song _____ by Adele. → was sung ■
3. English _____ in many countries. → is spoken ■