

The image features two large, thick black L-shaped brackets. One is positioned on the left side, with its vertical bar extending downwards and its horizontal bar extending to the right. The other is on the right side, with its vertical bar extending upwards and its horizontal bar extending to the left. These brackets frame the central text.

PASSIVE VOICE

What is the difference?

- I ate the shark.
- I was eaten by the shark.

Passive Voice: Past Forms

~ **Be + past tense (+ aspect) + past participle**

Main verb: Interrupt

- Simple Past
 - Was/were + past participle
 - I **was** interrupted,
they **were** interrupted
- Past Progressive (Continuous)
 - Was/were + being
 - I **was being** interrupted,
they **were being** interrupted
- Past Perfect
 - Had + been + past participle
 - I **had been** interrupted,
she **had been** interrupted

Past Participle Examples:

apple, **eat** → The apple was **eaten**
students, **teach** → The students were **taught**

children, **punish** → The children were being **punished**
breakfast, **make** → Breakfast was being **made**

Emily, **give** → Emily had been **given** every chance
people, **see** → People had been **seen** at the club

Practice 1: Change to passive

■ Simple past (active)

- A stranger saw the dog.
- The cat startled us.

■ Past continuous (active)

- They were taking care of me.
- Someone was holding you back.

■ Past perfect (active)

- I had told them to wait outside.
- Doctors had advised him not to drink.

Answers

■ Simple past (passive)

- The dog **was seen** by a stranger.
- We **were startled** by the cat.

■ Past continuous (passive)

- I **was being taken** care of.
- You **were being held** back.

■ Past perfect (passive)

- They **had been told** to wait outside.
- He **had been advised** not to drink.

Practice 2: Make the passive

■ Simple past

- She _____ (see) by the doctor
- We _____ (startle) by the cat

■ Past continuous

- You _____ (hold) against your will
- I _____ (tell) what to do

■ Past perfect

- They _____ (ask) to bring food
- He _____ (warn) not to smoke

Answers

■ Simple past

- She **was seen** by the doctor.
- We **were startled** by the cat.

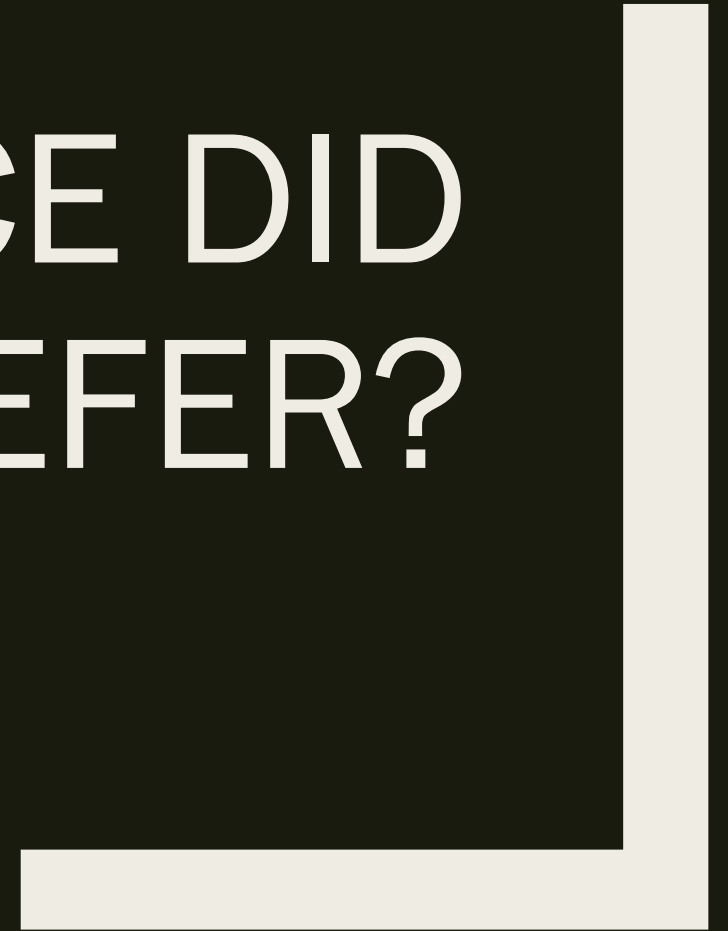
■ Past continuous

- You **were being held** against your will.
- I **was being told** what to do.

■ Past perfect

- They **had been asked** to bring food.
- He **had been warned** not to smoke.

WHICH PRACTICE DID
YOU PREFER?



Passive Voice: Present Forms

~ **Be + present tense (+ aspect) + past participle**

- Simple Present
 - Am/are/is + past participle
 - I **am** interrupted,
she **is** interrupted
- Present Progressive (Continuous)
 - Am/are/is + being
 - I **am being** interrupted,
he **is being** interrupted
- Present Perfect
 - Have/has + been + past participle
 - I **have been** interrupted,
she **has been** interrupted

Practice 1: Change to passive

- Simple present (active)
 - My boss approves my timesheet.
 - This movie interests us.
- Present continuous (active)
 - They are helping me.
 - People are bullying you.
- Present perfect (active)
 - Someone has ruined my life.
 - Programmers have fixed his computer.

Answers

- Simple present (passive)
 - My timesheet **is approved** by my boss.
 - We **are interested** in* this movie.
- Present continuous (passive)
 - I **am being helped** (by them).
 - You **are being bullied**.
- Present perfect (passive)
 - My life **has been ruined**.
 - His computer **has been fixed**.

*Usually the passive is followed by **by**, but it is paired with other prepositions in certain expressions.

Practice 2: Make the passive

- Simple present
 - She _____ (visit) by a ghost
 - We _____ (shock) by the news
- Present continuous
 - You _____ (hold) against your will
 - I _____ (tell) what to do
- Present perfect
 - They _____ (ask) to bring food
 - He _____ (warn) not to smoke

Answers

- Simple present
 - She **is visited** by a ghost.
 - We **are shocked** by the news.
- Present continuous
 - You **are being held** against your will.
 - I **am being told** what to do.
- Present perfect
 - They **have been asked** to bring food.
 - He **has been warned** not to smoke.

Passive Voice: Future Forms

~ future + **Be (+ aspect) + past participle**

- Simple Future (*will*)
 - *Will* + be + past participle
 - I **will be** interviewed,
they **will be** interviewed
- Simple Future (*be going to*)
 - Present *be going to* + be + past participle
 - I **am going to be** interviewed,
they **are going to be** interviewed
- Future Progressive (Continuous)
 - Will + be + being (**extremely rare**)
 - I **will be** being interviewed,
they **will be** being interviewed
- Future Perfect
 - Will + have + been + past participle
 - I **will have been** interviewed,
she **will have been** interviewed

Note: The modal verbs *could, should, would, must, may, might* use the same grammar patterns as *will*. For usage, they function in the **Present** category. *Can* is only used in simple passive.

Practice 1: Change to passive

- Simple future (**will**) (active)
 - *The florist will make the bouquets.*
 - *The chef will bake the cake.*
- Simple future (**be going to**) (active)
 - *They are going to serve dinner.*
 - *People are going to inspire you.*
- Future perfect
 - *Millions will have seen this video.*
 - *The mechanics will have fixed my car.*

Answers

- Future present (passive)
 - *The bouquets **will be made** by the florist.*
 - *The cake **will be baked** by the chef.*
- Future continuous (passive)
 - *Dinner **is going to be served**.*
 - *You **are going to be inspired**.*
- Future perfect
 - *This video **will have been seen** by millions.*
 - *My car **will have been fixed**.*

Practice 2: Make the passive

- Simple future (will)
 - She _____ (visit) by a ghost
 - They _____ (shock) by the news
- Simple future (be going to)
 - The new baby _____ (adore) by all
 - The homework _____ (grade)
- Future perfect
 - They _____ (ask) to bring food
 - The meeting _____ (finish)

Answers

- Simple future (will)
 - She **will be visited** by a ghost.
 - They **will be shocked** by the news.
- Simple future (be going to)
 - The new baby **is going to be adored** by all.
 - The homework **is going to be graded**.
- Future perfect
 - They **will have been asked** to bring food.
 - The meeting **will have been finished**.

PASSIVE: PAST MEANING



Simple.

Action by someone else, focus on effects (e.g., *I was annoyed by you.*)

Action by unknown agent, description (e.g., *The candles were lit.*)

Event, agent unnecessary (e.g., *300 babies were born that year.*)



Progressive.

Actions in progress (e.g., *Our hotel room was being prepared.*)

Projects (e.g., *Some classes were being transferred online.*)

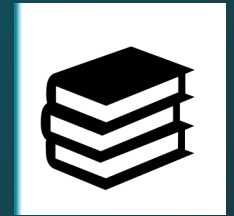
Relative future (e.g., *The trash was being collected later*) – informal



Perfect.

Status that started before the main past time (e.g., *That art had been owned by the museum since March.*)

Action in the past, before the main time (e.g., *All of the money had already been spent.*)



Perfect Progressive.

RARE. Past situation in progress that started in the earlier past. Specific start (e.g., *I had been being bullied since 9th grade*) or duration (e.g., *I had been being lied to for years!*) **Note: Usually, the perfect is better.**

PASSIVE: PRESENT MEANING

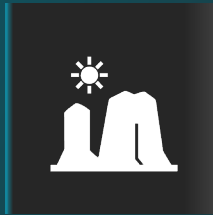


Simple.

Action by someone else, focus on effects (e.g., *I am annoyed by you.*)

Action by unknown agent, description (e.g., *The candles are lit.*)

Event, agent unnecessary (e.g., *300 babies are born each day.*)

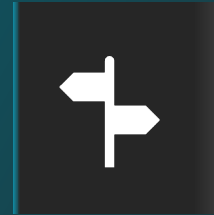


Progressive.

Actions in progress (e.g., *Your room is being prepared for you.*)

Current projects (e.g., *Some classes are being transferred online.*)

Near future (e.g., *The garbage is being collected later.*)



Perfect.

Status that started in the past and continues (e.g., *That art has been owned by the museum since March.*)

Action in the past, focus on current completion (e.g., *All of the money has been spent.*)



Perfect Progressive.

RARE. Situation in progress that started in the past. Has a specific start (e.g., *I have been being bullied since 9th grade*) or duration (e.g., *I have been being lied to for years!*) **Note: Usually, the perfect is better.**

PASSIVE: FUTURE MEANING



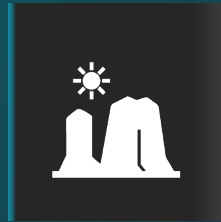
Simple.

Prediction (e.g., *Meat will be sold at a higher price next year*)

Decision/Offer (e.g., *You will be given assistance.*)

Commands (e.g., *I will be obeyed.*)

Assign roles (e.g., *Tom, you'll be helped by Ari.*)



Progressive.

Actions in progress (e.g., *I'll be being interviewed at 12:30*)

Prediction of project (e.g., *The road will be being completed that week*)



Perfect.

Action or status that will be completed before the main future moment (e.g., *In 2022, 8 shrines will have been restored.*

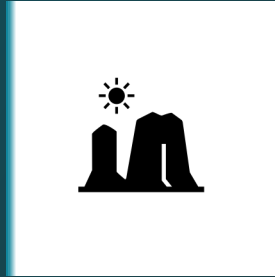
In 2023, I will have been employed in Japan for 3 years.)



Perfect Progressive.

Action in progress in the future that started before then. Has a specific duration (e.g., *When he arrives, the work will have been progressing for 5 months.*)

PASSIVE: FUTURE MEANING (2)



Passive (be going to).

Only the simple aspect of *be going to* is used in passive.

Plan: *He's going to be put in jail.*

Warning: *You're going to be hurt!*

Assign roles: *You're going to be assigned to Tokyo.*