

# PASSIVE VOICE

## *Simple Present Tense*



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- **Active voice** is used when we say what the subject does.

My grandfather built this house in 1935.



- **Passive voice** is used when we say what happens to the subject.

This house was built in 1935 by my grandfather.



- Passive voice is used when **the focus is on the action**. It is not important or not known, however, who or what is performing the action.  
My bike was stolen.
- Sometimes a statement in passive is **more polite** than active voice.  
A mistake was made. (You made a mistake)

# Pronoun Chart

	Subject Pronouns	Object Pronouns	Possessive Adjectives	Possessive Pronouns	Reflexive Pronouns
1 <sup>st</sup> person	I	me	my	mine	myself
2 <sup>nd</sup> person	you	you	your	yours	yourself
3 <sup>rd</sup> person (male)	he	him	his	his	himself
3 <sup>rd</sup> person (female)	she	her	her	hers	herself
3 <sup>rd</sup> person	it	it	its	(not used)	itself
1 <sup>st</sup> person (plural)	we	us	our	ours	ourselves
2 <sup>nd</sup> person (plural)	you	you	your	yours	yourselves
3 <sup>rd</sup> person (plural)	they	them	their	theirs	themselves

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## FORM:

When rewriting active sentences in passive voice, note the following:

The **object of the active sentence** becomes **the subject of the passive sentence**

We write **a letter**

**A letter** is written by us.

# PRESENT SIMPLE PASSIVE VOICE

**Subject + Verb + Object**

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graph TD; A[Subject + Verb + Object] --> B[Subject (ob)]; A --> C[am/ is / are + 3rd verb + by +]; A --> D[Object (sub)];
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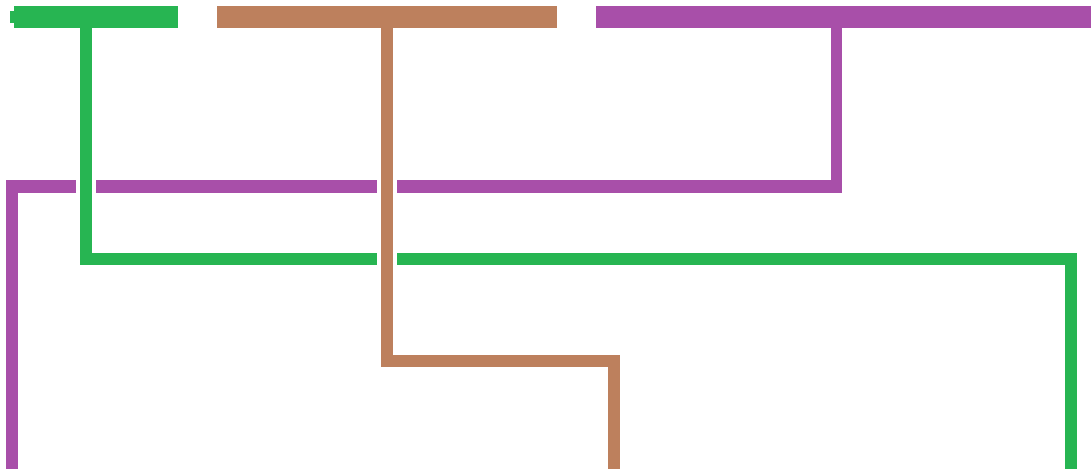
**Subject (ob) am/ is / are + 3<sup>rd</sup> verb + by +  
Object (sub)**

subject

verb

object

He opens the door.



The door is opened by him.

subject

verb

agent

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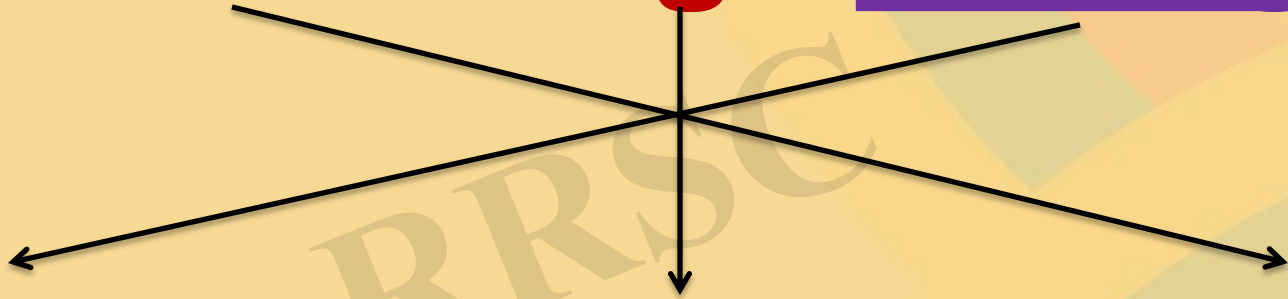
**They** buy **a house.**

The diagram consists of three black arrows. One arrow starts at the word 'They' in the first sentence and points to 'by them' in the second sentence. A second arrow starts at the word 'buy' in the first sentence and points to 'is bought' in the second sentence. A third arrow starts at the underlined phrase 'a house' in the first sentence and points to 'A house' in the second sentence.

A house **is bought** by them.

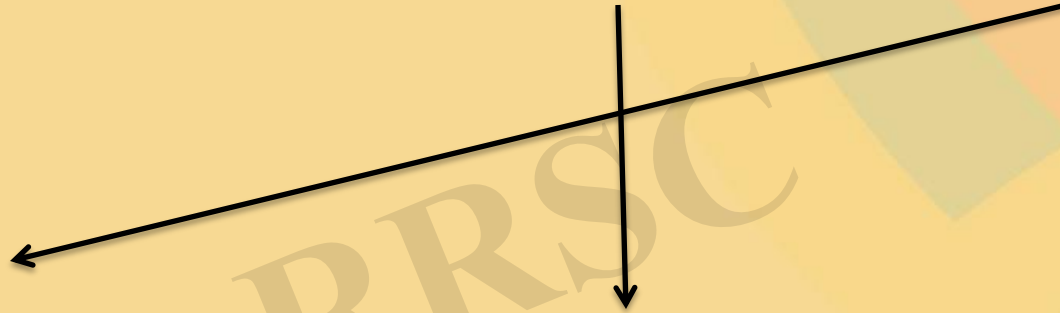


**Nilu sings a song.**



**A song is sung by Nilu.**

**Someone creates a bag.**



**A bag is created.**

**I write a composition every week.**



**A composition is written by me every week..**

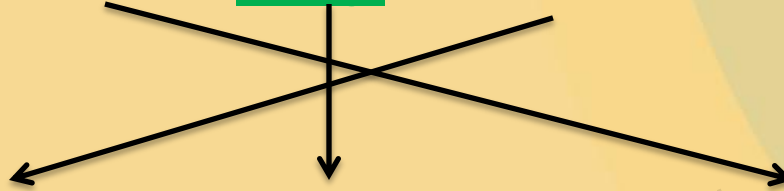
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**Does she sing a song?**



**Is a song sung by her?**

Do children play foot ball in the play ground?



Is foot ball played by children in the playground?

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# Exercise

- **He opens the door.**  
**The door is opened by him.**
- **We set the table.**  
**The table is set by us.**
- **She pays a lot of money.**  
**A lot of money is paid by her.**
- **I draw a picture.**  
**A picture is drawn by me**
- **They wear blue shoes.**  
**Blue shoes are worn by them.**

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- **They don't help you.**  
**You are not helped by them.**
- **He doesn't open the book.**  
**The book is not opened by him.**
- **You do not write the letter.**  
**The letter is not written by you.**
- **Does your mum pick you up?**  
**Are you picked up by your mum?**
- **Does the police officer catch the thief?**  
**Is the thief caught by the police officer?**

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