

Universidad de Los Andes
Facultad de Humanidades y Educación
Escuela de Idiomas Modernos

Practicing the Passive¹- Answers

I. Choose the correct answer. You don't always have to use the passive.

Example: Ms. Haugen D at the Ajax Company.

A. is employing B. employed C. employing D. is employed

1. I still can't believe it! My bicycle A last night.

A. was stolen B. was stealing C. stolen D. stole

2. The current constitutional problem is C by the top legal minds in the country.

A. studying C. being studied
B. being studying D. been studied

3. Something funny A in class yesterday.

A. happened B. was happened C. happens D. is happened

4. The child's arm was swollen because he C by a bee.

A. stung C. had been stung
B. had stung D. had being stung

5. Today, many serious childhood diseases D by early immunization.

A. are preventing C. prevent
B. can prevent D. can be prevented

6. I D with you on that subject.

A. am agree B. am agreed C. agreeing D. agree

7. Many U.S. automobiles C in Detroit, Michigan.

A. manufacture C. are manufactured
B. have manufactured D. are manufacturing

8. Let's go ahead and do it now. Nothing D by waiting.

A. accomplishes C. has accomplished
B. accomplished D. will be accomplished

¹ Adapted from: Azar, B. S. (2000). Understanding and using English grammar - Workbook (3rd ed.). White Plains, NY: Longman.

9. "When C?"
"In 1928."
A. penicillin was discovered C. was penicillin discovered
B. did penicillin discovered D. did penicillin discover
10. In recent years, the government has imposed pollution controls on automobile manufacturers. Both domestic and imported automobiles must B anti-pollution devices.
A. equip with C. equip by
B. be equipped with D. be equipped by
11. A shortage of water is a problem in many parts of the world. In some areas, water from the ground A faster than nature can replenish the supply.
A. is being taken B. has been taking C. is taking D. has taken
12. Vitamin C C by the human body. It gets into the blood stream quickly.
A. absorbs easily C. is easily absorbed
B. is easily absorbing D. absorbed easily
13. "When can I have my car back?"
"I think it'll B late this afternoon."
A. finish B. be finished C. have finished D. be finish
14. I didn't think my interview went very well, but I guess it must have. Despite all my anxiety, I D for the job I wanted. I'm really going to work hard to justify their confidence.
A. was hiring B. hired C. got hiring D. got hired
15. My country B the pursuit of world peace.
A. is dedicating to C. is dedicating by
B. is dedicated to D. is dedicated by
16. About 15,000 years ago, northern Wisconsin C under ice a mile deep.
A. buried B. was burying C. was buried D. had buried
17. Ed was new on the job, but he quickly fit himself into the A routine of the office.
A. established B. establishing C. establishes D. establish
18. The Mayan Indians B an accurate and sophisticated calendar more than seven centuries ago.
A. were developed B. developed C. are developed D. have been developed
19. George is B Lisa.
A. marry with B. marry to C. married with D. married to
20. The rescuers A for their bravery and fortitude in locating the lost mountain climbers.
A. were praised B. praised C. were praising D. praising

II. Change these sentences to the passive.

Example: A. Did Tom write that report? WAS THAT REPORT WRITTEN BY TOM?

B. No, he didn't write it. Alice wrote it. NO, IT WASN'T WRITTEN BY HIM. IT WAS WRITTEN BY ALICE.

1. A. Is Mr. Brown painting your house? IS YOUR HOUSE BEING PAINTED BY MR. BROWN?
B. No, he isn't painting it. My uncle is painting it. NO, IT ISN'T BEING PAINTED BY HIM. IT IS BEING PAINTED BY MY UNCLE.
2. A. Will Steve wash the dishes? WILL THE DISHES BE WASHED BY STEVE?
B. No, he won't wash them. The children will wash them. NO, THEY WON'T BE WASHED BY HIM. THEY WILL BE WASHED BY THE CHILDREN.
3. A. Has Sue planned the meeting? HAS THE MEETING BEEN PLANNED BY SUE?
B. No, she hasn't planned it. The committee has planned it. NO, IT HASN'T BEEN PLANNED BY HER. IT HAS BEEN PLANNED BY THE COMMITTEE.
4. A. Does Mr. Parr play that violin? IS THAT VIOLIN PLAYED BY MR. PARR?
B. No, he doesn't play it. His son plays it. NO, IT ISN'T BEING PLAYED BY HIM. IT IS PLAYED BY HIS SON.
5. A. Is Jack going to return the books to the library? ARE THE BOOKS GOING TO BE RETURNED TO THE LIBRARY BY JACK?
B. No, he isn't going to return them. His sister is going to return them. NO, THEY AREN'T GOING TO BE RETURNED BY HIM. THEY ARE GOING TO BE RETURNED BY HIS SISTER.
6. A. Did the archeologists discover the ancient skeleton? WAS THE ANCIENT SKELETON DISCOVERED BY THE ANTHROPOLOGISTS?
B. No, they didn't discover it. A farmer discovered it. NO, IT WASN'T DISCOVERED BY THEM. IT WAS DISCOVERED BY A FARMER.
7. A. Was Sally preparing the food? WAS THE FOOD BEING PREPARED BY SALLY?
B. No, she wasn't preparing it. Her mother was preparing it. NO, IT ISN'T BEING PREPARED BY HER. IT WAS BEING PREPARED BY HER MOTHER.
8. A. Will Ms. Anderson have typed the letters? WILL THE LETTERS HAVE BEEN TYPED BY MS. ANDERSON?
B. No, she won't have typed them. The secretary will have typed them. NO, THEY WON'T HAVE BEEN TYPED BY HER. THEY WILL HAVE BEEN TYPED BY THE SECRETARY.

II. Complete the sentences with the words in parentheses. Some sentences are active and some are passive. Use any appropriate tense. Follow the examples.

Example A: You (*notify*) will be notified by my secretary next week.

Example B: Last night I (*remember, not*) didn't remember to lock my front door.

1. At the present time, the oldest house in town (*restore*) IS BEING RESTORED by the Historical Society. When the restoration is finished, the house is sure to be a popular tourist attraction.
2. A: What a beautiful old wooden chest!
B: It (*build*) WAS BUILT by my grandfather over fifty years ago.

3. At one time, the entire world (*rule*) WAS RULED by dinosaurs. Some dinosaurs (*walk*) WALKED and (*stand*) STOOD as tall as palm trees.
4. Disneyland is a world famous amusement park in Southern California. It (*visit*) IS VISITED by more than ten million people every year.
5. Many of us take water for granted in our daily lives, but people who live in the desert (*use, not*) DO NOT USE water carelessly. To them, each drop is precious.
6. I (*agree, not*) DO NOT AGREE with people who say space exploration is a waste of money. What do you think?
7. Do you really think that we (*invade*) WILL BE INVADED by creatures from outer space in the near future?
8. Most insects (*live*) LIVE for less than a year. The common house fly (*live*) LIVES from 19 to 30 days.
9. (*you, accept, already*) HAD YOU ALREADY BEEN ACCEPTED by this university when you heard about the other scholarship?
10. I got into a taxi quickly because I (*follow*) WAS BEING FOLLOWED by two strange men. As soon as I got into the taxi, I (*feel*) FELT a little safer.

III. Complete the sentences with the given words. Some of the sentences are passive and some are active. Use any appropriate tense. Follow the examples.

Example A: The examination papers are scored by machine. The students (*tell*) will be told their results next week.

Example B: The project got finished early. The committee (*complete*) completed its work three weeks ahead of schedule.

1. The teacher (*assist*) WAS ASSISTED by two graduate students during the exam yesterday.
2. Soon after I (*apply*) APPLIED for a job with the United Nations two years ago, I (*hire*) WAS HIRED.
3. The crocodiles at the zoo look like statues. They (*lie*) LIE perfectly still for hours at a time. They have no need to move because they don't have to hunt for their food. They (*feed*) ARE FED regularly by the zookeepers.
4. This lovely beach won't exist forever. Eventually, it (*erode, probably*) WILL PROBABLY BE ERODED by the sea, and there will be nothing left but bedrock. The geologic forces of nature never stop.
5. Bananas originated in Asia. They (*introduce*) WERE INTRODUCED to the Americas in 1516. Until the 1860s, bananas (*eat*) WERE EATEN by people of the tropics. Today, bananas (*export*) ARE EXPORTED to all parts of the world, and they (*enjoy*) ARE ENJOYED by people who live in all climates.
6. There's going to be a story in the local newspaper about my neighbor, Mrs. Morris. Tomorrow, she (*interview*) WILL BE INTERVIEWED by one of the local reporters about her doll collection. Over the years, she (*collect*) HAS COLLECTED more than 400 dolls from all over the world.
7. Ali and Mustafa (*complain*) HAVE COMPLAINED to the landlord many times since they moved into their apartment, but to date nothing (*do*) HAS BEEN DONE about the leak in the roof and the broken window in the bedroom.

8. Yesterday I told my teenage daughter to clean her room before she (go) WENT to school. After she had left the house, I poked in her room. She (pile) HAD PILED all her clothes on a chair. Everything else (shove) WAS SHOVED under the bed.
9. Sometimes people (intimidate) ARE INTIMIDATED by salespeople. As a result, sometimes they (buy) BUY things they don't really want.
10. Two days ago I (put) PUT an ad in the classified section of the newspaper so I could find a buyer for my old car. Yesterday I (sell) SOLD it. It (buy) WAS BOUGHT by a teenager who (look) WAS LOOKING for an old car to fix up himself. Today a friend of mine told me he wanted to buy my old car, but he was too late. By the time he talked to me, the car (sell, already) HAD ALREADY BEEN SOLD to the teenager.

IV. Complete the sentences with the appropriate forms of the verbs in the list. Use each verb only once. Some of the sentences are active and some are passive.

<i>consider</i>	<i>pollute</i>	<i>sew</i>	<i>whisper</i>	<i>cost</i>
<i>read</i>	<i>sign</i>	<i>wrap</i>	<i>discover</i>	<i>repeat</i>
<i>tell</i>	<i>forget</i>	<i>replace</i>	<i>wear</i>	

1. Jack has a right to know. He ought to BE TOLD the news immediately. If you don't, I will.
2. I have no patience with gossips. What I told Bill was a secret. He shouldn't have REPEATED it to you.
3. Use this brown paper and tape. A package has to BE WRAPPED carefully before it is mailed. Otherwise, the post office won't send it.
4. I don't know why Jessica wasn't at the meeting. She must have FORGOTTEN about it. Next time there's a meeting. I'll be sure to remind her about it.
5. The ancient ruins may have BEEN DISCOVERED as early as 1792. The historical record is difficult to interpret.
6. You should SEW this button back on right away before you lose it.
7. This burnt out light bulb should have BEEN REPLACED days ago. There are some new bulbs in the green cabinet. Could you get one for me?
8. Did you know that Sylvia bought a new sports car? I don't know how much she paid for it, and of course it's none of my business, but it must have COST her a lot of money.
9. Shhhh! Let's not talk so loudly. We don't want to awaken the baby. We'd better WHISPER.
10. You'd better not drink that river water. It could BE POLLUTED.

V. Complete the sentences with the appropriate form of the verbs in the list. Use the simple present tense. Use each verb only once.

<i>acquaint</i>	<i>equip</i>	<i>locate</i>	<i>schedule</i>	<i>cancel</i>	<i>forbid</i>
<i>make</i>	<i>summarize</i>	<i>clog</i>	<i>list, not</i>	<i>overdraw</i>	<i>wrinkle</i>

1. Maria's family lives in New York City, and her husband's family lives in Philadelphia. They would like to live in the city which IS LOCATED between the two so that they can visit their relatives frequently.

2. Robert wrote a very good, well-organized composition. The introduction tells the reader what the composition is about, and the last paragraph reviews all of his main points. His conclusions ARE SUMMARIZED in the last paragraph.
3. I don't know how, but I've lost my brother's new telephone number. Unfortunately, it IS NOT LISTED so I can't look it up in the directory. I'll have to call my mother and get it from her.
4. We can't climb over the fence to walk in that field. The sign says, "Trespassing IS FORBIDDEN Violators will be prosecuted."
5. I AM not ACQUAINTED with our new neighbors. They just moved in last week, and I haven't had the opportunity to introduce myself.
6. Your dental appointment IS SCHEDULED for 10:00 on Saturday. Please give us 24-hours notice if you need to cancel it.
7. I have to deposit some money in the bank immediately, or I'm in big trouble. I've written too many checks, and there's not enough money to cover them. My bank account IS OVERDRAWN.
8. Good news! Our meeting WAS CANCELED. Now we can go to the beach after work instead of spending the evening at a meeting.
9. I can't wear this blouse because it IS WRINKLED. I'd have to iron it, and I don't have time.
10. Some new automobiles ARE EQUIPPED with air bags as well as seat belts. The air bags provide additional protection in case of an accident.

VI. Complete the sentences with the appropriate prepositions.

1. This apartment comes furnished WITH only a stove and a refrigerator.
2. My uncle is known BY his generosity.
3. Alice is dressed IN her warmest clothes today.
4. For the holiday meal, the bowls on the table were filled WITH specially prepared foods.
5. People who have been exposed TO heavy doses of radiation may be more susceptible to certain diseases.
6. By the end of the long trip, the floor of the car was cluttered WITH junk.
7. Mr. Bellamy is discriminated AGAINST because of his age. When he applies for a job, he gets turned down as soon as they learn he is 61 years old.
8. The boss is so convinced OF Jean's ability that he's paying her more money than he paid the previous employee.
9. Victor is blessed WITH a good sense of humor, which has helped him get out of some difficult situations.
10. A: Are you disappointed WITH the color of this room? We could repaint it.
B: I think I'm satisfied WITH it the way it is. What do you think?
11. George Washington, the first president of the United States, is remembered BY his strong leadership during the Revolutionary War.
12. Zoology is more closely related TO biology than it is to botany.
13. I'm annoyed WITH my boss. He scheduled a meeting for an hour beginning at ten o'clock, the same time I was planning to see a client.
14. As soon as you're done WITH the dictionary, I'd like to use it.
15. Last month, little Billy was bitten by a dog. Now he's scared BY every dog he sees.
16. Carol is engaged TO Larry. Their marriage is planned for May 3.
17. A: Why are you so upset WITH the children?

B: They didn't call me when they missed their school bus, and I got very worried ABOUT them.

18. Each speaker was limited TO three minutes.
19. Olga is exhausted. She's tired OF working 19 straight hours at her computer, but she can't go home until the crisis is over.
20. I'm tired OF living in a small apartment. I'd like to live in a house, or at least a larger apartment.

VII. Complete the sentences by using an appropriate form of **get** and the past participle of the verbs in the list.

<i>accept</i>	<i>dress</i>	<i>embarrass</i>	<i>invite</i>	<i>catch</i>	<i>elect</i>
<i>fire</i>	<i>mug</i>	<i>cheat</i>	<i>electrocute</i>	<i>hit</i>	<i>ruin</i>

1. I shouldn't have parked my car near the construction site. It GOT RUINED by falling rocks. Now it's covered with dents and scratches.
2. Tom has applied to three top universities. Since he's an excellent student, I'm sure he'll GET ACCEPTED by at least one of them. If he doesn't, there are other good schools he can attend.
3. Alex thought he had gotten a good deal when he bought a diamond ring from some guy on the street, but the "stone" turned out to be glass and was practically worthless. Alex GOT CHEATED.
4. A: I can't believe Paul GOT FIRED from his job. I thought he was doing well.
B: He was, but then he had a major disagreement with his boss, and tempers were flying. I hope he gets his job back
5. A: Let's take the subway.
B: Not me! The last time I was on the subway, I GOT MUGGED. A man knocked me down and stole my wallet.
6. A Did you GET INVITED to the Saunder's dinner party tonight?
B: Yes, but I can't go.
7. A: You're all out of breath!
B: I was late getting home and had to GET DRESSED quickly. Then I ran all the way over here.
A: Well, that explains why your collar is up and your tie is crooked
8. The animal was running through the woods when it suddenly GOT CAUGHT in the hunter's trap.

VIII. Rewrite the following passage. Change to the passive only those sentences that can be so changed.

Rolling Thunder motorcyclists visit the White House

Sunday, May 30, 2004 Posted: 9:26 PM EDT (0126 GMT)

WASHINGTON (AP) -- Members of the Rolling Thunder motorcycling group revved their engines on the White House driveway Sunday during a visit with President Bush, who took about 10 bikers in jeans and leather jackets for an Oval Office tour.

People could hear the roar from bikers on the Mall nearby on the South Lawn, as eight

motorcycles, headlights illuminated and American flags jutting off the rear seats, rolled up the driveway to the South Portico where Bush was waiting to greet them.

Bush shook hands with Artie Muller, president of the veterans' advocacy group, and kissed Muller's rider, singer Nancy Sinatra, a veterans' supporter, who was dressed in a skirt, cowboy boots and a pair of dark shades.

Later, Bush addressed, via a telephone hookup, a Rolling Thunder rally at Robert F. Kennedy Stadium in the capital.

The president noted the letter of endorsement he received from the group last week. "Artie, I thought you were going to offer me riding lessons," Bush joked, thanking Rolling Thunder for backing his re-election campaign.

"Ride safe," he told them.

Other bikers who rode up the driveway included White House budget director Josh Bolton, Health and Human Services Secretary Tommy Thompson and Veterans Affairs Secretary Anthony Principi, and various Rolling Thunder leaders.

The group endorsed Bush in 2000 over Democrat Al Gore, a Vietnam veteran. This year, they chose Bush, who served stateside in the Texas Air National Guard during Vietnam, over John Kerry, a decorated veteran of the same war who is also a motorcycle enthusiast.

In November 2003, the Democratic presidential hopeful borrowed a Harley-Davidson cycle and rode onto the stage of "The Tonight Show with Jay Leno."

For the past 15 years, the group has announced its arrival with the roar of motorcycles -- not unlike the sound of the 1965 bombing campaign against North Vietnam that was called Operation Rolling Thunder.

Rolling Thunder is an organization dedicated to creating awareness of POW/MIA issues, promoting legislation to increase veterans' benefits, and volunteering time, food, and clothing to veterans and local communities. Rolling Thunder has 70 chapters and over 7,000 members throughout the United States and abroad.

"In the Oval Office, I looked you in the eye as you told me of your relentless pursuit of finding out the plight of many of our POW/MIAs, and I appreciated so much your concern, your care and your persistence," Bush told the rally. "I also want to thank you and your organization, Artie, for honoring the men and women of our military who fight today in Afghanistan and Iraq."

Gary Scheffmeyer, vice president of Rolling Thunder, said the president showed the group around his office, pointing out busts of presidents and paintings. Scheffmeyer said they chatted for about a half hour with Bush about the war in Iraq and terrorism. The bikers talked about veterans' health benefits and soldiers still missing from Vietnam.

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