

PASSIVE VOICE

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Grammar in 30 Seconds

Active focuses on who did it: Someone stole my bike. Passive focuses on what happened: My bike was stolen. Form: be + past participle (is/are/was/were + done, made, built).

Activity 1: News Flash - Rewrite as headlines

Turn these facts into passive news headlines.

1. Someone opened a new cafe in Cape Town.
   -> A new cafe _____.
2. They make this phone in Korea.
   -> This phone _____ in Korea.
3. Someone will build a bridge here.
   -> A bridge will _____ here.

Activity 2: How It's Made - Put the steps in order

Coffee: Put in order, use is/are + past participle.

a) The beans / dry / in the sun

b) The beans / pick / by hand

c) The coffee / pack / into bags

Write: First, the beans are _____

_____

Activity 3: Mystery Room - Who cares who did it?

Describe the room using passive only. No 'someone'.

Example: The window is broken. Papers are scattered.

Your clues: chair / knock over, safe / open, lights / leave on

Write 3 sentences: The chair was _____

_____

Activity 4: Active vs Passive Battle - Choose focus

Choose active or passive. Why?

1. I know who made this cake! (My mom made / was made)
2. You don't know who invented this. (It / Someone...)
3. Write one sentence about your city in passive.

_____

Share: Is it better active or passive? Why?

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Answer Key

A1: 1. was opened / has been opened 2. is made 3. will be built

A2: b) are picked by hand, a) are dried in the sun, c) is packed into bags

A3: Open - The chair was knocked over. The safe was opened. The lights were left on.

A4: 1. My mom made (focus on who) 2. It was invented (focus unknown) 3. Open e.g. Rice is grown here.

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