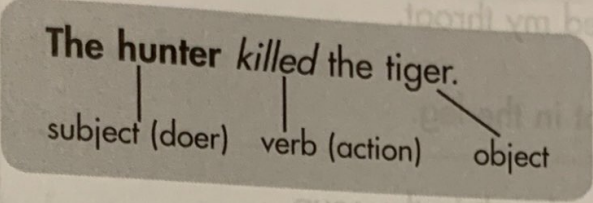


PASSIVE VOICE (SIMPLE PRESENT TENSE AND SIMPLE PAST TENSE)

Teaching Points

A sentence in the **active voice** has the **doer** at the beginning of the sentence. The **doer is the subject of the sentence.**

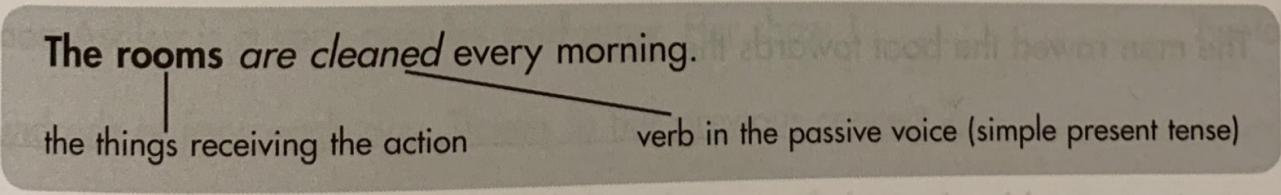


A sentence in the **passive voice** has **the things or people receiving the action at the beginning of the sentence.**

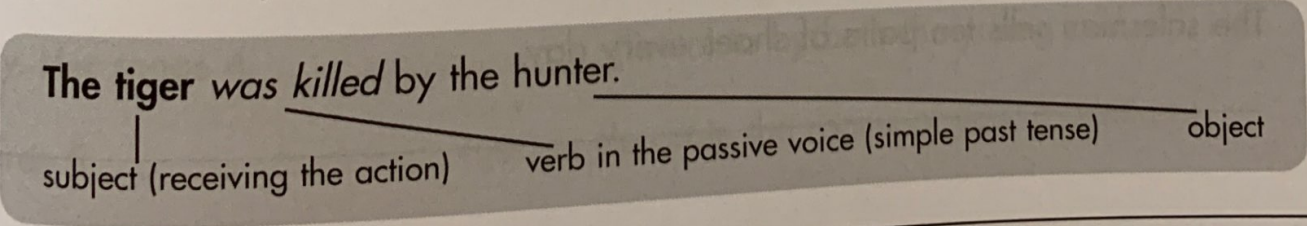
It is used when the **things or people receiving the action are more important than the doers of the action.**

Often, the doers of the action are not mentioned as they are less important or not known.

A sentence in the **passive voice using the simple present tense** expresses a **habitual action or timeless truth.**



A sentence in the passive voice using the simple past tense expresses an action that happened in the past.



Exercise LEVEL 1

Tick (✓) the sentences that are in the passive voice.

1. Mrs Ong hugs her children every night.
2. The sailors rowed the boat up the stream.
3. Different types of bread are made every morning.
4. The car was stolen last night.
5. The doctor examined my throat.
6. The soldier was shot in the leg.
7. The cook put too much salt in the soup.
8. The doors were shut.
9. The snake was caught last night.
10. The security guard checked my ticket.

Exercise LEVEL 2

Rewrite the following sentences in the passive voice.

1. The man rowed the boat towards the shore.
The boat was rowed towards the shore by the man.
2. Mrs Lee served lunch at one o'clock.
The lunch was served by Mrs. Lee at one o'clock.
3. The salesman sells ten pairs of shoes every day.
Ten pairs of shoes are sold by the salesman every day.

4. The patients asked many questions.

Many questions were asked by the patients.

5. The gardener waters the plants every evening.

The plants are watered by the gardener every evening.

6. The people here eat a lot of vegetables.

A lot of vegetables are eaten by the people here.

7. The scientists launched the spaceship.

The spaceship was launched by the scientists.

8. The children keep the toys in these boxes.

The toys are kept in these boxes by the children.

9. We organised a party for Jane.

A party was organized for Jane by us.

10. The drivers reported the car accident.

The car accident was reported by the drivers.

Exercise LEVEL 3

Fill in each blank with the passive voice form of the verb in the brackets.

Joan Ashley is a very popular performer. Her show 1. is watched (watch) by hundreds of fans each day. Tickets to her previous concert 2. were snapped (snap) up by those who loved to watch her dance and sing.

Her dance steps 3. are imitated (imitate) by young fans all over the world today. Her songs 4. are listened (listen) to by both the young and old. Her pictures 5. are used (use) to decorate the rooms of young admirers.