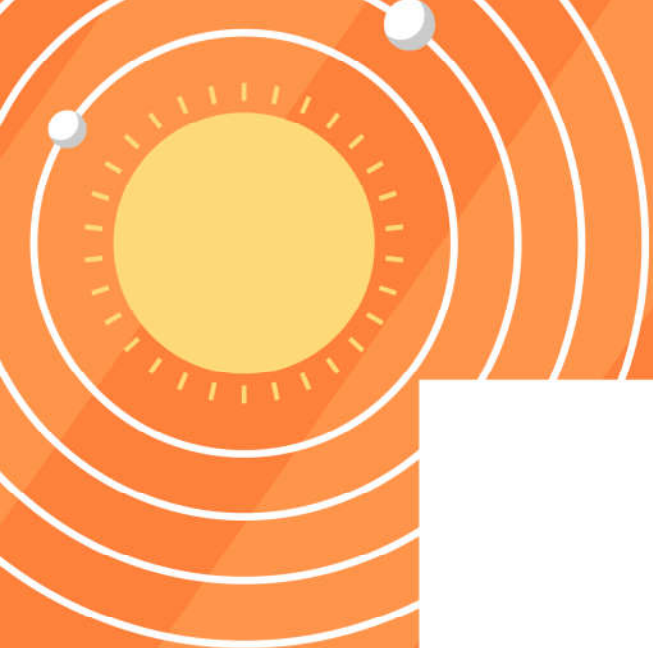


# Passive voice





## VOICES in Writing

### Active Voice

The subject is **performing** the action.



**The lion attacked the zebra.**

The lion (subject) is performing the action of attacking.

The zebra (subject) is receiving the action of attacking.

### Passive Voice

The subject is **receiving** the action.

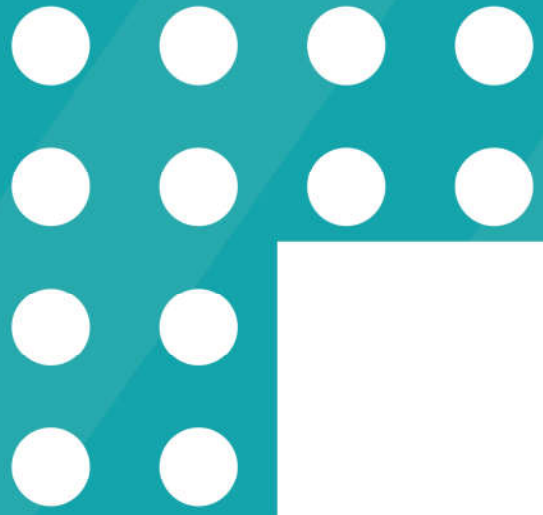


**The zebra was attacked by the lion.**

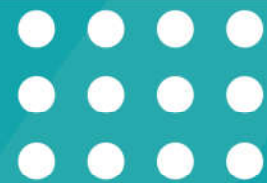
The preposition **by** indicates the performer of the action.

The zebra is now the subject, but it is still receiving the action.

The lion is still performing the action but it is now the object.



# Exercise



## Passive voice

### Exercise

1. In the year 122 AD, the Roman Emperor Hadrian (visit) \_\_\_\_\_ his provinces in Britain.

## Passive voice

### Exercise

2. On his visit, the Roman soldiers (tell) \_\_\_\_\_ him that Pictish tribes from Britain's north had attacked them.

## Passive voice

### Exercise

3. So Hadrian (give) \_\_\_\_\_ the order to build a protective wall across one of the narrowest parts of the country.

## Passive voice

### Exercise

4. After 6 years of hard work, the Wall (finish) \_\_\_\_\_  
in 128.

## Passive voice

### Exercise

5. It (be) \_\_\_\_\_ 117 kilometres long and about 4 metres high.



## Passive voice

### Exercise

6. The Wall (guard) \_\_\_\_\_ by 15,000 Roman soldiers.

## Passive voice

### Exercise

7. Every 8 kilometres there (be) \_\_\_\_\_ a large fort  
in which up to 1,000 soldiers (find) \_\_\_\_\_ shelter.

## Passive voice

### Exercise

8. The soldiers (watch) \_\_\_\_\_ over the frontier to the north and (check) \_\_\_\_\_ the people who (want) \_\_\_\_\_ to enter or leave Roman Britain.

## Passive voice

### Exercise

9. In order to pass through the Wall, people  
(must go) \_\_\_\_\_ to one of the small forts  
that (serve) \_\_\_\_\_ as gateways.

## Passive voice

### Exercise

10. Those forts (call) \_\_\_\_\_ milecastles because the distance from one fort to another (be) \_\_\_\_\_ one Roman mile (about 1,500 metres).

## Passive voice

### Exercise

11. Between the milecastles there (be) \_\_\_\_\_  
two turrets from which the soldiers (guard)  
\_\_\_\_\_ the Wall.

## Passive voice

### Exercise

**12. If the Wall (attack) \_\_\_\_\_ by enemies, the soldiers at the turrets(run) \_\_\_\_\_ to the nearest milecastle for help or (light) \_\_\_\_\_ a fire that (can / see) \_\_\_\_\_ by the soldiers in the milecastle.**

## Passive voice

### Exercise

13. In 383 Hadrian's Wall (abandon) \_\_\_\_\_.



## Passive voice

### Exercise

**14. Today Hadrian's Wall (be) \_\_\_\_\_ the most popular tourist attraction in northern England.**

## Passive voice

### Exercise

15. In 1987, it (become) \_\_\_\_\_ a UNESCO  
World Heritage Site.