

Passive Voice (present and past simple) – Test 1



Take this test online
and check your
answers instantly

Name: _____ Class: _____ Date: _____ Score: / 30

Choose the best option (A, B, C or D) for each question.

Part 1: Forming the passive

Choose the correct passive form to complete each sentence.

- English _____ in many countries around the world.
A speaks B is spoken C is speaking D spoken
- This bridge _____ in 1890.
A is built B was build C was built D built
- Our office is always very clean. The windows _____ every Friday.
A are cleaned B is cleaned C are cleaning D clean
- The thief _____ by the police last night.
A was caught B is caught C caught D was caught
- Paper _____ from wood.
A made B is made C is making D are made
- These photos _____ by my grandfather in the 1970s.
A were taken B was taken C are taken D were took
- Choose the correct sentence.
A The letters was sent yesterday. B The letters were send yesterday.
C The letters sent yesterday. D The letters were sent yesterday.
- The new hospital was _____ by the mayor last month. (open)
A open B opening C opened D opens
- Our homework _____ by the teacher every day.
A checks B is checked C is checking D are checked
- The first email _____ in 1971.
A is sent B sent C were sent D was sent

Part 2: Negatives and questions

Choose the correct negative or question form.

- Credit cards _____ in this small shop. Please pay in cash.
A don't accepted B aren't accepted C isn't accepted D aren't accept
- The missing paintings _____ until two years later.
A weren't found B didn't found C wasn't found D weren't find
- _____ this castle built in the 12th century?
A Did B Were C Is D Was

14. A: Where ——— your car made? B: In Japan, in 2019.
A did **B** was **C** is **D** were
15. Choose the correct question.
A When did the telephone invented? **B** When the telephone was invented?
C When was the telephone invented? **D** When was invented the telephone?
16. How often ——— the rubbish collected in your street?
A does **B** are **C** has **D** is
17. Find the error: The children (A) wasn't (B) told (C) about (D) the surprise party.
A The children **B** wasn't **C** told **D** about
18. A: ——— breakfast included in the price? B: Yes, it is.
A Is **B** Does **C** Was **D** Are
19. Don't worry, your money ———. I found it in your other bag.
A didn't steal **B** wasn't steal **C** didn't stolen **D** wasn't stolen
20. Choose the correct question.
A Do these rooms cleaned every day? **B** Are these rooms cleaned every day?
C Are cleaned these rooms every day? **D** Is these rooms cleaned every day?

Part 3: Active or passive?

Choose the best option about the meaning and use of the passive.

21. Choose the passive version: "Someone cleans the classrooms every evening."
A The classrooms were cleaned every evening.
B The classrooms clean every evening.
C The classrooms are cleaned every evening.
D The classrooms are cleaning every evening.
22. Choose the passive version: "Leonardo da Vinci painted the Mona Lisa."
A The Mona Lisa was painted by Leonardo da Vinci.
B The Mona Lisa is painted by Leonardo da Vinci.
C The Mona Lisa painted by Leonardo da Vinci.
D The Mona Lisa was painted from Leonardo da Vinci.
23. Why is the passive used in this sentence? "My phone was stolen on the bus."
A Because the phone did the action.
B Because we don't know who did the action.
C Because the action is happening now.
D Because it is a question.
24. The new students ——— a map of the school on their first day.
A gave **B** were giving **C** are gave **D** were given
25. The film was directed ——— a young woman from Kenya.
A from **B** with **C** by **D** of

Part 4: The passive in context

Read the text and choose the correct option for each numbered gap.

The Old Clock Tower

The clock tower in the centre of our town (1) ___ in 1865. In those days, the clock (2) ___ by hand every morning by a local man called Tomás.

Today, the clock is electric, so it (3) ___ by hand any more. The tower is very popular with visitors. It (4) ___ by thousands of tourists every year, and in summer, guided tours (5) ___ in four languages.

26. Gap (1)

A is built

B was built

C built

D was building

27. Gap (2)

A is set

B was setted

C was set

D set

28. Gap (3)

A doesn't set

B isn't setting

C wasn't set

D isn't set

29. Gap (4)

A is visited

B visits

C was visited

D is visiting

30. Gap (5)

A is offered

B offer

C were offered

D are offered

Answer key – Passive Voice (present and past simple) – Test 1

1 B	2 C	3 A	4 D	5 B	6 A	7 D	8 C	9 B	10 D
11 B	12 A	13 D	14 B	15 C	16 D	17 B	18 A	19 D	20 B
21 C	22 A	23 B	24 D	25 C	26 B	27 C	28 D	29 A	30 D

Explanations

- B** – A general fact about the present needs the present simple passive: is + past participle.
- C** – A finished action in the past (1890) needs was + past participle 'built'.
- A** – 'Windows' is plural and the action is a present routine, so we use 'are cleaned'.
- D** – 'Last night' needs the past passive, and the past participle of 'catch' is 'caught'.
- B** – 'Paper' is uncountable (singular) and this is a general fact, so we use 'is made'.
- A** – 'Photos' is plural and the time is past, so we need 'were' + past participle 'taken'.
- D** – The plural subject needs 'were', followed by the past participle 'sent'.
- C** – After 'was' in a passive sentence we need the past participle 'opened'.
- B** – 'Homework' is singular and this is a routine, so we use 'is checked'.
- D** – A singular subject and a past date need 'was sent'.
- B** – Passive negatives use 'be + not' + past participle; 'credit cards' is plural, so 'aren't accepted'.
- A** – Past passive negative with a plural subject: weren't + past participle 'found'.
- D** – Past passive questions put 'was/were' before the subject; 'castle' is singular.
- B** – The answer refers to the past (2019) and 'car' is singular, so we use 'was'.
- C** – Word order in passive questions is: question word + was + subject + past participle.
- D** – Present passive questions use 'is/are', not 'does'; 'rubbish' is uncountable, so 'is'.
- B** – 'Children' is plural, so it should be 'weren't told'.
- A** – The short answer 'Yes, it is' and the singular 'breakfast' show we need 'Is'.
- D** – The money did not receive the action, so we need the past passive negative 'wasn't stolen'.
- B** – Present passive question: Are + plural subject + past participle.
- C** – The active sentence is present simple, so the passive keeps the present: 'are cleaned'.
- A** – The past active becomes 'was painted', and the person who did the action follows 'by'.
- B** – We often use the passive when the person who did the action is unknown or not important.
- D** – The students received the map, so we need the past passive 'were given'.
- C** – In passive sentences, the person who does the action is introduced with 'by'.
- B** – The tower was built at a finished time in the past (1865), so we need 'was built'.
- C** – This was a past routine ('in those days'), and 'set' is irregular: set – set – set.
- D** – The text talks about today, so we need the present passive negative 'isn't set'.
- A** – Tourists visit the tower now, every year, so we use the present passive 'is visited'.
- D** – 'Guided tours' is plural and this happens now in summer, so we use 'are offered'.

Notes for teachers: Use this test after teaching the present and past simple passive, or as a diagnostic before revision. It targets typical B1 errors: missing 'be', wrong agreement (was/were, is/are), using 'do/did' in passive negatives and questions, regular endings on irregular participles (e.g. 'catched'), and 'from' instead of 'by'. As a follow-up, ask students to write five facts about their town or country using the passive.