

is done was done (passive 1)

A

The office **is cleaned** every day.The office **was cleaned** yesterday.Compare *active* and *passive*:Somebody **cleans** the office every day. (active)The office **is cleaned** every day. (passive)Somebody **cleaned** the office yesterday. (active)The office **was cleaned** yesterday. (passive)

B

The passive is:

simple present
simple past

am/is/are	(not)
was/were	

+

past participle

cleaned	done
invented	built
injured	taken, etc.

The *past participle* of regular verbs is **-ed** (cleaned/invented, etc.).For a list of irregular *past participles* (**done/built/taken**, etc.), see Appendixes 2–3.

- Butter **is made** from milk.
- Oranges **are imported** into Canada.
- How often **are** these rooms **cleaned**?
- I **am** never **invited** to parties.
- This house **was built** 100 years ago.
- These houses **were built** 100 years ago.
- When **was** the telephone **invented**?
- We **weren't invited** to the party last week.
- “**Was** anybody **injured** in the accident?” “Yes, two people **were taken** to the hospital.”

C

was/were born

- I **was born** in Colombia in 1995. (not I am born)
- “Where **were you born**?” “In Cairo.”

D

passive + by ...

- The telephone **was invented by Alexander Graham Bell** in 1876.
(= Alexander Graham Bell invented it)
- I was bitten **by a dog** a few days ago.
- Do you like these paintings? They **were painted by a friend of mine**.

Exercises

20.1 Write sentences from these words. Some of the sentences are questions.

Sentences 1–7 are present.

- 1 (the office / clean / every day)
- 2 (how often / these rooms / clean?)
- 3 (glass / make / from sand)
- 4 (the windows / wash / every two weeks)
- 5 (this word / not / use / very often)
- 6 (we / allow / to park here?)
- 7 (how / this word / pronounce?)

The office is cleaned every day.

How often are these rooms cleaned?

Glass

Sentences 8–15 are past.

- 8 (the office / clean / yesterday)
- 9 (the house / paint / last month)
- 10 (my phone / steal / a few days ago)
- 11 (three people / injure / in the accident)
- 12 (when / this bridge / build?)
- 13 (I / not / wake up / by the noise)
- 14 (how / these windows / break?)
- 15 (you / invite / to Jon's party last week?)

The office was cleaned yesterday.

The house

20.2 These sentences are not correct. Correct them.

- 1 This house built 100 years ago.
- 2 Soccer plays in most countries of the world.
- 3 Why did the email send to the wrong address?
- 4 A movie studio is a place where movies make.
- 5 Where are you born?
- 6 How many languages are speaking in Switzerland?
- 7 Somebody broke into our house, but nothing stolen.
- 8 When was invented the bicycle?

This house was built

20.3 Complete the sentences. Use the passive (present or past) of these verbs:

clean **damage** **find** **give** **invite** **make** **make** **show** **steal** **take**

- 1 The room is cleaned every day.
- 2 I saw an accident yesterday. Two people were taken to the hospital.
- 3 Paper is made from wood.
- 4 There was a fire at the hotel last week. Two of the rooms were damaged.
- 5 "Where did you get this picture?" "It was given to me by a friend of mine."
- 6 Many British programs were made on American TV.
- 7 "Did Jim and Sue go to the wedding?" "No. They were invited, but they didn't go."
- 8 "How old is this movie?" "It was made in 1985."
- 9 My car was stolen last week, but the next day it was found by the police.

20.4 Where were they born?

- 1 (Haruka / Tokyo)
- 2 (Isabela / São Paulo)
- 3 (her parents / Rio de Janeiro)
- 4 (you / ???)
- 5 (your mother / ???)

Haruka was born in Tokyo.

Isabela

Her

I