Passive Voice

Let's study

The difference betwen the active and the passive voice

When we use the passive voice

How we make sentences in the passive voice

When we use an active verb, we say what the subject does.

She cleaned the room yesterday.

When we use a passive verb, we say what happens to the subejct.

The room was cleaned yesterday.

How to change the active to the passive voice

They invited one hundred people to the wedding.

One hundred people were invited to the wedding.

active: invited

passive: were invited

When we use the passive voice

when we want to focus on the action and not who/what did it

I've been offered a job.

when we don't know who/what did the action, or when it's very obvious

My car was stolen!

When we use the passive voice

When we use the passive who or what causes the action is often unknown or unimportant.

The thieves were arrested. (by the police that's obvious)

Are the rooms cleaned every day? (it's not important who cleans them, but what matters is if they are clean.

When we use the passive voice

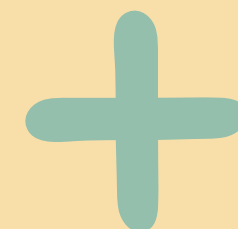**If we want to mention the agent (the doer of the action), we just add *by* at the end of the sentence.**

This house was built by my grandfather.

How we make sentences in the passive voice

be + past participle

Examples in various tenses

Tense	be	past participle	Example
Present Simple	is, are	built	Houses are built every day.
Past Simple	was. were	built	Our house was built in 1990.
Present Perfect	have been, has been	built	His house has been built for two years.
Present Continuous	is being. are being	built	Our house is being built right now.
Past Continuous	was being, were being	built	When the house was being built, a nasty accident happened.

Instead of using somebody, they, people etc., write a passive sentence.

They employ thousands of people.

Thousands of people ...

Instead of using somebody, they, people etc., write a passive sentence.

Somebody stole my bike while I was doing the shopping.

While I was doing the shopping, my bike ...

Thank you!