

PASSIVE
VOICE

EXERCISES

1. For every question, complete the second sentence so that it means the same as the first, using no more than three words.

- a) Archaeologists have discovered a new tomb in Egypt.
A new tomb *has been discovered* by archaeologists in Egypt.
- b) The President will open the new sports stadium on Saturday.
The new sports stadium by the President on Saturday.
- c) Picasso painted this portrait.
This portrait Picasso.
- d) They will announce the results of the competition tomorrow.
The results of the competition tomorrow.
- e) They're redecorating our school during the summer holidays.
Our school during the summer holidays.
- f) The police in New York have arrested three terrorists.
Three terrorists in New York.
- g) Our company sells more than 1,000 cars every week.
More than 1,000 cars our company every week.
- h) They're building a new museum in the city centre.
A new museum in the city centre.

2. Match a first part (1-10) with a second part (a-j). Use all the parts.

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| 1 A decision to strike was taken | a with a penknife. |
| 2 This church was designed | b by beautiful grounds. |
| 3 I was shocked | c by a hunter with a rifle. |
| 4 He was shot | d by some of the workers. |
| 5 He had been stabbed | e by Christopher Wren. |
| 6 His trousers were completely covered | f with a stick. |
| 7 The house was surrounded | g by her rude behaviour. |
| 8 Her bedroom wall was covered | h by a priest in a tiny little church. |
| 9 They were married | i with posters of her favourite singers. |
| 10 He used to be beaten | j in oil. |

3. Complete the second sentence so that it is as similar in meaning as possible to the first sentence, using the word given. This word must not be changed. You must use between two and five words, including the word given.

Example: There was bitter opposition to the proposal.

opposed
The proposal was *bitterly opposed*.

- 1 They say the country is on the verge of civil war.
said
The country on the verge of civil war.
- 2 People thought the President was ill.
be
The President ill.
- 3 People have suggested that you could be on the committee.
put
Your name for the committee.
- 4 People believe he escaped with the money.
run
He is off with the money.
- 5 They thought he was the best actor for the part.
considered
He the best actor for the part.
- 6 People always thought she was very good at maths, but she made some basic mistakes.
supposed
She very good at maths, but she made some basic mistakes.
- 7 The directors decided to discuss the matter at the next meeting.
agreed
It would discuss the matter at the next meeting.
- 8 Two of the men walking home accepted our offer of a lift.
up
Our offer of a lift two of the men walking home.
- 9 Everything I know about art I learnt from Mrs Robinson.
was
I about art by Mrs Robinson.
- 10 The court ordered him to pay a fine of £100.
was
He a fine of £100 by the court.

I am informed from many quarters that a rumour has been put about that I died this morning. This is quite untrue.
WINSTON CHURCHILL