

# THE PASSIVE VOICE

**Complex Structures**

KEY ANSWERS.

1)

People said there were ghosts in the house, but I never heard anything.

-There were said to be ghosts in the house, but I never heard anything.

They think that there is oil under Windsor Castle.

- There is said to be oild under Windsor Castle.

2)

1- Someone ordered the prisoners to stand up.

The prisoners were ordered to stand up.

2- We ask tenants no to play their radios loudly after midnight.

Tenants are asked not to play their radios loudly after mignight.

3- They told the children not to tell lies.

The children were told not to tell lies.

4-

He hates people feeding him.

He hates being fed.

He remembers people treating him like this.

He remembers being treated like this.

5)

1- He proposed postponing the trip.

He proposed that the trip should be postponed

2- They advised employing part-time workers.

They advised that part-time workers should be employed.

3- They recommended opening new factories in the depressed area.

They recommended that new factories should be opened in the depressed area

6)

1- Someone brought back the stolen library book.

The stolen library book was brought back

2- He threw away the old clothes.

The old clothes were thrown away

3- Doctors had to operate on his spine.

His spine had to be operated on.

## SOME MORE PRACTICE. KEY.

- 1- Food is being sent to the starving refugees by the UN.
- 2- The climber will be buried at the foot of Mount Everest.
- 3- Computers have been sold all over the world by IBM.
- 4- A baby's bottle must be sterilized to kill germs.
- 5- The VCR was first developed in the early 1980s
- 6- Joint water projects are being considered by Several Middle Eastern countries.
- 7- The first television pictures were produced by John Logie Baird in 1926.

- 8- To make tea, water must be boiled and poured into the tea-leaves.
- 9- My car was being fixed when I phoned
- 10- Sugar-cane is crushed in order to release the sugary juice.
- 11- Articles which were bought during the sales cannot be exchanged.
- 12- Umbrellas and sticks must be left in the cloakroom.
- 13- When this street has been widened, residents will be kept awake all night by the roar of traffic.
- 14- Masie is being shown how to bath the baby.

15- x

16- The offer of a promotion was turned down by him.

17- The students were picked up from school by bus.

18- We were shown around the new complex by an architect.

19- A child was run over by a drunk driver.

20- He will be offered a new job in the library.

I new job will be offered **to** him in the library.

21- Children should be brought up with a sense of duty

22- I wasn't paid for my work. I was expected to do it for nothing.

23- What was asked in the exam?

24- There are said to be wolves in the mountains

25- Harris was seen **to** leave the plane in Ontario.

26- She was thought to have died in a plane crash

27- She was called a witch (by the villagers)

28- He was called stupid (by the others)

29- Fresh air was believed to be bad for sick  
people.

30- I was made **to** give details of my bank account.

# Passive to Active:

- 1- You should put your money to good use.
- 2- People are saying that the government is spending too little money on roads.
- 3- People will wear evening dress.
- 4- The police are watching the house where they found the dead man to prevent anyone from entering it and interfering with the evidence.
- 5- People say that Lord Byron lived on vinegar and potatoes.
- 6- A strong police guard was escorting the referee from the football field.



# HAVE SOMETHING DONE.

2. Gabriella broke her leg six weeks ago but she's much better now. In fact the doctors will take the plaster off tomorrow.

**She will have the plaster taken off tomorrow.**

3. Since Rowland made a lot of money, he's not content with his little cottage, so an architect's designed him a fine new house .

**He has had a fine new house by an architect.**

4. I hear that Mrs Green didn't trust her husband so she hired a detective to follow him!

She had him followed by a detective.

5. We don't really know what Shakespeare looked like. I wish he had asked someone to paint his portrait before he died.

**He had had his portrait painted.**

6. My sister had always been self-conscious about her nose so she decided to go to a clinic for an operation which will straighten it.

**To have it straightened.**

# WANT / LIKE/ LOVE ..... + OBJECT+ INF. or GERUND

2. I don't like people telling me what to do.

I don't like being told what to do.

3. We can't stand people staring at us.

We can't stand being stared at.

4. He doesn't like people interrupting him.

He doesn't like being interrupted.

5. I dislike people making jokes about me.

I dislike jokes being made about me.

6. They enjoy people praising them

They enjoy being praised.

7. I want someone to wake me up at 8.00

I want to be woken up at 8.00

8. I'd like someone to read to me.

I'd like to be read to.

9. We would love someone to take us out to dinner.

We would love to be taken out to dinner.

## IT'S SAID/ BELIEVED/ THOUGHT .....

1. People generally assume that money brings happiness.

Money is generally assumed to bring happiness.

2. It's well known that the house has been empty for years.

The house is well known to have been empty for year.

3. People said that he was jealous of her.

He was said to be jealous of her.

4. People believe that he is living abroad.

He was believed to be living abroad.

5. People believe that she was waiting for the message.

She is believed to have been waiting for the message.

6. We consider that she was the best singer that Australia has ever produced. (one passive)

She is consider to have been the best singer that Australia has ever produced.

7. At that time, it was believed that illnesses were caused by evil spirits.

At that time, illnesses were believed to be caused by evil spirits.

8. It's expected that some rain will come soon.

Some rain is expected to come soon.