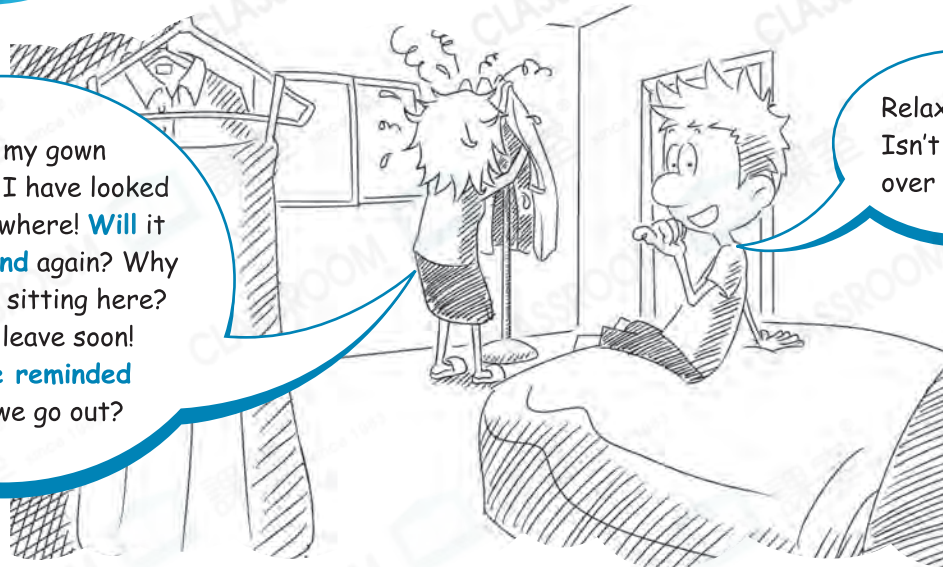


11

Passive voice (II): questions

Oh, no! **Has** my gown **been seen**? I have looked for it everywhere! **Will** it ever **be found** again? Why are you still sitting here? We have to leave soon! **Must** you **be reminded** every time we go out?



Relax, honey. Isn't your gown over there?



Usage

In unit 10, we learnt how to form passive statements. In this unit, we are going to learn how to form *yes / no*-questions and short answers in the passive voice. In an active question, the doer of the action is the subject. In a passive question, the receiver of the action is the subject and the form of the verb is changed.

Active voice	Did	Subject: doer <u>the maid</u>	break	Object: receiver <u>the dish</u> ?
Passive voice	Was	Subject: receiver <u>the dish</u>	Verb: p.p. broken	Object: doer (by <u>the maid</u>)?



Part 1 Revision

In *Grammar Revolution S.2*, we learnt to form passive *yes / no*-questions and short answers in the simple present, present continuous, simple past and past continuous tense in the following ways:

Tense	Receiver + Verb form	Example
Simple present	am / is / are + receiver + (not) + p.p.	Is <u>the man</u> cheated by the girl?
Present continuous	am / is / are + receiver + (not) + being + p.p.	Are <u>the streets</u> being cleaned by the workers at the moment?
Simple past	was / were + receiver + (not) + p.p.	Was <u>the pier</u> not demolished?
Past continuous	was / were + receiver + (not) + being + p.p.	Were <u>the students</u> being tested at 9 am yesterday?

Tense	Positive answer	Negative answer
Simple present	Yes, I <u>am</u> . Yes, he / she / it <u>is</u> .	No, I <u>am not</u> . No, he / she / it <u>is not</u> .
Present continuous	Yes, you / we / they <u>are</u> .	No, you / we / they <u>are not</u> .
Simple past	Yes, I / he / she / it <u>was</u> .	No, I / he / she / it <u>was not</u> .
Past continuous	Yes, you / we / they <u>were</u> .	No, you / we / they <u>were not</u> .

Exercise 1.1

Circle the correct words in brackets.

- (Is the floor swept / Is the floor being swept) by your mum once a week?
- (Is the comic book read / Is the comic book being read) by Ken at the moment?
- (Are they being interviewed / Were they being interviewed) at 2pm last weekend?
- (Are they not taught / Are they not being taught) by the professor now?
- (Was Billy attracted / Is Billy attracted) by the pretty poodle last night?

Exercise 1.2

Form passive questions using the words given. You need to change the form of the verbs and add 'by' where necessary.

- the actress / not replace / a young model / at 11 pm last night

Was the actress not being replaced by a young model at 11 pm last night?

- pyramids / build / the Egyptians / thousands of years ago
-
-



- many computer games / play / professional gamers / every day
-

- the storeroom / not clean / very often
-

- chocolate puddings / bake / Mum / now
-



We can change *yes / no*-questions from the active voice to the passive voice by three steps:



Example

Did Mr Lee scold Tommy yesterday? (Active voice)



Did Tommy scold Mr Lee yesterday?



Did Tommy scold by Mr Lee yesterday?



Was Tommy scolded by Mr Lee yesterday?
(Passive voice)

STEP 1

Swap the position of the doer and receiver. For other expressions except the verb (e.g. time and place), we usually put them at the end.

STEP 2

Add *by* before the doer where necessary.

STEP 3

Change the verb to its passive form in the correct tense. The linking verb 'be' should agree with the tense and the receiver of the action (e.g. was).

Exercise 1.3

Change the following questions from the active voice to the passive voice.

1. Do cats eat bones? → Are bones eaten by cats ?
2. Is Noah not moving the sofa now? → Is _____ not being moved _____ ?
3. Was a policeman arresting Tim and Jerry at 3am?
→ _____ Tim and Jerry _____ by a policeman at 3am?
4. Was anyone serving Mr Quentin at 4pm last Wednesday?
→ _____
5. Does she not answer the phone calls?
→ _____
6. Did Grandma often watch black and white TV programmes 30 years ago?
→ _____





Part 2 The Present Perfect & The Past Perfect

We form passive *yes / no*-questions in the present perfect and past perfect tense in the following ways:

Tense		Receiver + Verb form			Doer	Short answer		
Present perfect	Have	I / you / we / they	(not) + been + taught	by	Mrs Li?	Yes,	I / you / we / they	have.
	Has	he / she / it	(not) + been + served			No,		have not.
Past perfect	Had	I / you / we / they	(not) + been + found	by	Mrs Li?	Yes,	I / you / we / they / he / she / it	had.
		he / she / it				No,		had not.

Exercise 2.1

Fill in the blanks with the correct passive forms of the verbs given. Underline the time expression in each question.

1. A: _____ the book _____
by your little sister lately? (tear up)

B: Yes, _____



2. A: _____ sushi _____ by Jenny
by the time she was fourteen? (like)

B: No, _____



3. A: _____ Nathan _____
by his girlfriend before she stopped talking? (please)

B: No, _____



4. A: _____ the wild boars _____
by the two boys yet? (frighten off)



B: Yes, _____

Exercise 2.2

Form passive questions using the words given. You need to change the form of the verbs and add 'by' where necessary.

1. the dishes / reheat / Karen / yet

Have the dishes been reheated by Karen yet?

2. Cindy / disturb / her brothers / since they came home
-

3. popcorn / make / by the time the movie started
-

4. fatty food / not consume / Zoe / before she lost ten pounds
-

5. the dangerous items / remove / already
-



Exercise 2.3

Change the following questions from the active voice to the passive voice.

1. Have the bees stung you twice? → Have _____ been stung by _____
_____?

2. Had someone not kicked the football by then?

→ _____ the football _____ by then?

3. Has somebody bought a lunchbox for Amy already?

→ _____

4. Has Nina ever looked after the cats and dogs?

→ _____

5. Had Mario taught his class before he quitted?

→ _____





Part 3 The Simple Future, Be going to & Modal Verbs

We form passive *yes / no*-questions in the simple future tense, with *be going to* and with modal verbs in the following ways:

Tense		Receiver + Verb form			Doer
Simple future	Will	I / he / she / it / you / we / they	(not) + be tested		
'Be going to'	Am	I	(not) + going to be saved	by	the men?
	Are	you / we / they			
	Is	he / she / it			

Short answer		
Yes,	I / he / she / it / you / we / they	<u>will</u> .
No,		<u>will not</u> .
Yes,	I <u>am</u> . you / we / they <u>are</u> . he / she / it <u>is</u> .	
No,	I <u>am not</u> . you / we / they <u>are not</u> . he / she / it <u>is not</u> .	

Modal verb	Receiver + Verb form			Doer
Can / Could / Should / Must	I / you / we / they / he / she / it	(not) + be praised	by	her?

Short answer		
Yes,	I / you / we / they / he / she / it	<u>can / could / should / must</u> .
No,		<u>cannot / could / should / must not</u> .

Exercise 3.1

There is a mistake about the verb in each passive question below. Underline the mistakes or mark the position of the missing word with a '^' and write the correct words in the spaces provided.

- Will the DVDs returned to the rental shop before this Friday? 1. _____ *be*
- Should heavy shopping bags be carry by housewives? 2. _____
- Is every student going to interviewed by the principal? 3. _____
- Must food and drinks banned in the study room? 4. _____
- Are the birds go to be released before sunset? 5. _____
- Will this chapter of the book not be test in the exam? 6. _____
- Am I going be hugged by a koala at the zoo later today? 7. _____
- Can all the hot dogs be finish by the diner? 8. _____

Exercise 3.2

Change the following questions from the active voice to the passive voice.

1. Will Martin compose a new song today?

→ Will a new song be composed by Martin today ?

2. Is the chef not going to reduce the amount of chilli in the soup?

→ Is the amount of chilli in the soup not going to be reduced _____
_____ ?

3. Must the users follow the rules? → _____ the rules _____ by the
users?

4. Are the visitors going to collect the ticket stubs?

→ _____

5. Could Emily not disappoint her parents?

→ _____

6. Can people not pollute the rivers in the countryside?

→ _____



Exercise 3.3

Complete the following interview by circling the correct words in brackets.

An Interview with the Chairperson of Student Union

R: Reporter C: Chairperson of Student Union

R: (1) (Will the new scheme be / Has the new scheme been) launched next month?

C: Yes. Many meetings (2) (have been / were) held since half a year ago. Now, all the preparations for the scheme (3) (have been / are going to be) done already.

R: (4) (Must the meetings ever be / Have the meetings ever been) attended by the principal?

C: Yes. The principal attended a few meetings. She gave us a lot of ideas about the detailed arrangements. They (5) (had been / may be) discussed many times before we finalised the details of the scheme.

Unit Recap

Sam is reading a government promotional leaflet about the redevelopment of Kwun Tong. Rewrite the underlined sentences in the passive voice.

Kwun Tong Town Centre Project

(1) The Land Development Corporation announced the Kwun Tong Town Centre Project in 1998. (2) The Urban Renewal Authority (URA) is undertaking the project now.

- (3) Has the URA followed the redevelopment directions?

Yes. The area is being developed into a modern town centre with commercial and residential developments. The URA has planned a car-free pedestrian environment in the town centre. (4) It will enlarge the public open space by more than three times. To make Kwun Tong become one of the greenest urban districts in Hong Kong, (5) it will cover 30% of the total area with green plants.

- (6) Is the project going to eliminate the street culture of old Kwun Tong?

Most public opinions pointed out that (7) the URA should preserve the street culture of old Kwun Tong. As such, it will preserve the traditional shopping environment in the redeveloped area.

- (8) Can we maintain the energy of the town centre throughout the transition?

Yes. The URA will pay close attention to the implementation the whole time so that Kwun Tong will not become a 'dead city' during the redevelopment period.

1. The Kwun Tong Town Centre Project was announced by the Land Development Corporation in 1998.

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____ by more than three times.

5. _____ with green plants.

6. _____

7. _____

8. _____



Vocabulary:

undertake (v.): to be in charge of something

preserve (v.): to protect something from damage