

# PASSIVE VOICE

SUSI  
ARFA  
ARINI  
JATI



# Use of Passive

- ▶ Passive voice is used when the focus is on the action. It is not important or not known, however, who or what is performing the action. Example: My bike was stolen.

In the example above, the focus is on the fact that my bike was stolen. I do not know, however, who did it.

- ▶ Sometimes a statement in passive is more polite than active voice, as the following example shows:

Example: A mistake was made.

In this case, I focus on the fact that a mistake was made, but I do not blame anyone (e.g. You have made a mistake.).

# Form of Passive

- ▶ Subject + finite form of *to be* + Past Participle (3rd column of irregular verbs)

Example: A letter was written.

When rewriting active sentences in passive voice, note the following:

- ▶ the object of the active sentence becomes the subject of the passive sentence
- ▶ the finite form of the verb is changed (*to be* + past participle)
- ▶ the subject of the active sentence becomes the object of the passive sentence (or is dropped)

# Examples of Passive ..

Tense		Subject	Verb	Object
<b>Simple Present</b>	<i>Active:</i>	Rita	writes	a letter.
	<i>Passive:</i>	A letter	is written	by Rita.
<b>Simple Past</b>	<i>Active:</i>	Rita	wrote	a letter.
	<i>Passive:</i>	A letter	was written	by Rita.
<b>Present Perfect</b>	<i>Active:</i>	Rita	has written	a letter.
	<i>Passive:</i>	A letter	has been written	by Rita.
<b>Future I</b>	<i>Active:</i>	Rita	will write	a letter.
	<i>Passive:</i>	A letter	will be written	by Rita.
<b>Hilfsverben</b>	<i>Active:</i>	Rita	can write	a letter.
	<i>Passive:</i>	A letter	can be written	by Rita.

# Examples of Passive....

Tense		Subject	Verb	Object
<b>Present Progressive</b>	<i>Active:</i>	Rita	is writing	a letter.
	<i>Passive:</i>	A letter	is being written	by Rita.
<b>Past Progressive</b>	<i>Active:</i>	Rita	was writing	a letter.
	<i>Passive:</i>	A letter	was being written	by Rita.
<b>Past Perfect</b>	<i>Active:</i>	Rita	had written	a letter.
	<i>Passive:</i>	A letter	had been written	by Rita.
<b>Future II</b>	<i>Active:</i>	Rita	will have written	a letter.
	<i>Passive:</i>	A letter	will have been written	by Rita.
<b>Conditional I</b>	<i>Active:</i>	Rita	would write	a letter.
	<i>Passive:</i>	A letter	would be written	by Rita.
<b>Conditional II</b>	<i>Active:</i>	Rita	would have written	a letter.
	<i>Passive:</i>	A letter	would have been written	by Rita.

# Exercise

- ▶ Change the active to the passive if possible
  1. Hamida has suggested a new idea
  2. We will invite Anna to party

Thank you for your  
attention and we forgive  
what if there is an error

