

GRAMMAR A&B CLASS

PASSIVE VOICE

PASSIVE VOICE /USE

- When the person or people who do the action are unknown, unimportant or obvious from the context

My car **was stolen** last night

The house **is being painted**

The criminal **has been arrested**

PASSIVE VOICE /USE

- When the action itself is more important than the person/people who do it, as in news headlines, press articles, formal notices, ads, instructions, processes etc.

The wedding **will be held** on the 14th of July

The products **are sent** for quality control

PASSIVE VOICE /USE

- When we want to avoid taking responsibility for an action, or when we refer to sth unpleasant and we don't want to say who or what was to blame.

The house **was burnt** to the ground

The man **was beaten** to death

FROM ACTIVE TO PASSIVE

The secretary was typing an email

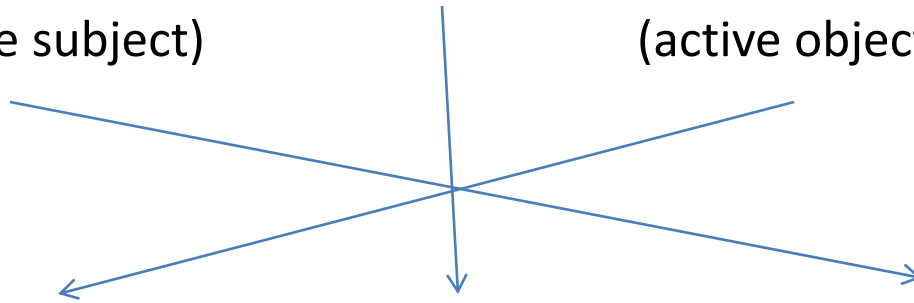
(Active subject)

(active object)

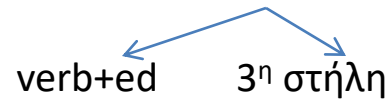
An email was being typed by the secretary

(Passive subject)

(agent)



TENSES: **to be** +past participle



	ACTIVE VOICE	PASSIVE VOICE
SIMPLE PRESENT	The graphic artist designs the poster layout	The poster layout is designed by the graphic artist
PRESENT CONTINUOUS	The graphic artist is designing the poster layout	The poster layout is being designed by the graphic artist
SIMPLE PAST	The graphic artist designed the poster layout	The poster layout was designed by the graphic artist
PAST CONTINUOUS	The graphic artist was designing the poster layout	The poster layout was being designed by the graphic artist
SIMPLE FUTURE	The graphic artist will design the poster layout	The poster layout will be designed by the graphic artist

TENSES

PRESENT PERFECT	The graphic artist <u>has designed</u> the poster layout	The poster layout <u>has been designed</u> by the graphic artist
PAST PERFECT	The graphic artist had designed the poster layout	The poster layout had been designed by the graphic artist
FUTURE PERFECT	The graphic artist will have designed the poster layout	The poster layout will have been designed by the graphic artist
GERUND	Designing	Being designed
INFINITIVE	To design	To be designed

RULES

(from: Mastering Use of English for FCE/ECCE, Georgia Graham with Polyxeni Bouki, Burlington Books, 2008)

