

Changing a sentence into the passive when the active verb is in the simple past or past continuous tense

When the active verb is in the simple past tense

Sentences in the simple past tense are formed with the second form of the verb.

Active verb form: second form of the verb

Passive verb form: was/were + past participle form of the verb

Exercise

Change the following sentences into the passive voice.

1. She made a third attempt.
2. The boy asked a difficult question.
3. She wrote an award-winning novel.
4. The terrorists blew up the bridge.
5. The police caught the thief.

Answers

1. A third attempt was made by her.
2. A difficult question was asked by the boy.
3. An award-winning novel was written by her.
4. The bridge was blown up by the terrorists.
5. The thief was caught by the police.

Changing a sentence into the passive when the active verb is in the simple past or past continuous tense

When the active voice is in the past continuous tense

Active verb form: was/were + -ing form of the verb

Passive verb form: was/were + being + past participle form of the verb

Exercise

Change the following sentences into the passive.

1. Megha was writing a poem.
2. The woman was washing clothes.
3. The masons were building the house.
4. Mother was making a cake.
5. The girl was painting a picture.

Answers

1. A poem was being written by Megha.
2. Clothes were being washed by the woman.
3. The house was being built by the masons.
4. A cake was being made by mother.
5. A picture was being painted by the girl.