

Passive Voice Examples

We use passive voice to focus on the action. We can use passive voice in different tenses and aspects. For more information see my lesson document on passive voice. See below for a comparison of active and passive voice in all tenses and aspects.

Tense	Active	Passive
Present simple	People speak English.	English is spoken.
Present continuous	People are speaking English.	English is being spoken.
Past simple	People spoke English.	English was spoken.
Past continuous	People were speaking English.	English was being spoken.
Present perfect	People have spoken English.	English has been spoken.
Present perfect continuous	People have been speaking English.	English has been being spoken.
Past perfect	People had spoken English.	English had been spoken.
Past perfect continuous	People had been speaking English.	English had been being spoken.
future	People will (not) speak English.	English will (not) be spoken.
Modals	People must (not) speak English. People could speak English.	English must (not) be spoken. English could (not) be spoken.