

## The passive voice

### A) Put each verb into the Simple Present, active or passive.

Gorillas are found in several countries in Central Africa. They are about 1.6 metres tall, and they (cover) ..... with black and brown hair.

Gorillas (live) ..... in groups. Each group (have) ..... five to ten gorillas in it.

Gorillas (walk) ..... about 0.5 to 1.0 km per day, looking for food. They (not eat) ..... all the leaves in one part of the forest before moving on; some leaves (leave) ..... on the trees and plants.

At night gorillas (sleep) ..... in nests; these nests (make) ..... of branches and leaves.

The number of gorillas living in Africa today (not know) ....., but it is certain that this number is getting smaller. Why? Because in the countries where the gorillas (live) ....., more and more trees (cut down) ..... every year.

### B) Complete the text with the passive form of the verbs in brackets.

Many years ago, houses ..... (build) with mud.

Clothes ..... (make) by hand, wood ..... (cut) for fires, vegetables ..... (grow) by each family and horses ..... (use) for transportation.

In the future, things will be different: Everything ..... (do) by robots, new treatments ..... (find) for diseases.

Food ..... (grow) under water. New kinds of music ..... (compose) and new stars ..... (discover).

Every morning before I go to school, my mother makes sure that these things are done: The dog ..... (feed), the plants ..... (water), a note ..... (leave) for my brother, the lights ..... (turn off) and the door ..... (lock).

### C) Write these sentences into the passive voice when possible.

1. They never study conditional sentences.
2. Someone has moved my chair!
3. Students must study English in this high school.
4. They grow tea in Sri Lanka.
5. Inspector Holt questioned Mr and Mrs Davidson.
6. Workers will mend the road soon.
7. Poor Tom! A bus ran him down.
8. The firm advertised three posts.
9. Has anyone asked you to tell the story?
10. Did he give you enough sugar?

### Answers to the exercises

#### A) Put each verb into the Simple Present, active or passive.

Gorillas are found in several countries in Central Africa. They are about 1.6 metres tall, and they (cover) **ARE COVERED** with black and brown hair.

Gorillas (live) **LIVE** in groups. Each group (have) **HAS** five to ten gorillas in it.

Gorillas (walk) **WALK** about 0.5 to 1.0 km per day, looking for food. They (not eat) **DON'T EAT** all the leaves in one part of the forest before moving on; some leaves (leave) **ARE LEFT** on the trees and plants.

At night gorillas (sleep) **SLEEP** in nests; these nests (make) **ARE MADE** of branches and leaves.

The number of gorillas living in Africa today (not know) **IS NOT KNOWN** but it is certain that this number is getting smaller. Why? Because in the countries where the gorillas (live) **LIVE** more and more trees (cut down) **ARE CUT DOWN** every year.

#### B) Complete the text with the passive form of the verbs in brackets.

Many years ago, houses **WERE BUILT** (build) with mud. Clothes **WERE MADE** (make) by hand, wood **WAS CUT** (cut) for fires, vegetables **WERE GROWN** (grow) by each family and horses **WERE USED** (use) for transportation.

In the future, things will be different: Everything **WILL BE DONE** (do) by robots, new treatments **WILL BE FOUND** (find) for diseases. Food **WILL BE GROWN** (grow) under water. New kinds of music **WILL BE COMPOSED** (compose) and new stars **WILL BE DISCOVERED** (discover).

Every morning before I go to school, my mother makes sure that these things are done: The dog **IS FED** (feed), the plants **ARE WATERED** (water), a note **IS LEFT** (leave) for my brother, the lights **ARE TURNED OFF** (turn off) and the door **IS LOCKED** (lock).

#### C) Write these sentences into the passive voice when possible.

1. Conditional sentences are never studied.
  2. My chair has been moved !
  3. English must be studied in this high school.
  4. Tea is grown in Sri Lanka.
  5. Mr and Mrs Davidson have been questioned by Inspector Holt.
  6. The road will be mended by workers soon.
  7. Poor Tom! He was run down by a bus.
  8. Three posts were advertised by the firm.
  9. Have you been asked to tell a story ?
  10. Were you given enough sugar ?
- OR : Was enough sugar given to you ?