UNIT 4

**Structure of**

**Passive voice**

**Subtopic** : 1. Passive Voice

**Objectives** : After finishing the 10th meeting, you are able to:

1. identify passive forms;
2. produce them correctly and appropriately.

**INTRODUCTION**

Passive voice is formed with the verb *to be* (*is, am, are, was, were, be,* and *been*) and past participle forms of verb (V3);

 to be + V3

 (*is, am, are, was, were, be,* or *been*)

For example: *The President was photographed by the cameraman*.

 to be V3

It is most often used; when the focus is on the person or thing that undergoes the action.

There is no need even to mention the person or thing that performs the action.

 *The President was photographed.*

Rules:

1. The transitive verbs may be involved. It means there is object.

*The mechanic discovered the problem.* (It may be changed into passive)

 S V O

*She seems tired*.

 S V C

1. Reflexive pronoun (*himself*, *herself*, *yourself*, etc.) cannot be subject of passive sentence.

*She picked herself up*.

(cannot be changed into *Herself was picked up by her* since the meaning is awkward.)

**FURTHER EXPLANATION**

|  |  |
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| **ACTIVE VOICE** | **PASSIVE VOICE** |
| 1. Someone steals the money.2. Someone stole the money.3. Someone is stealing the money.4. Someone will steal the money.5. Someone has stolen the money.6. Someone had already stolen the money before we came in.7. Someone will have stolen the money by the end of the week.8. Someone has to steal the money | 1. The money is stolen.
2. The money was stolen.
3. The money is being stolen.
4. The money will be stolen.
5. The money has been stolen.
6. The money had already been stolen before we came in.
7. The money will have been stolen by the end of the week.
8. The money has to be stolen.
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**Change the active into passive.**

1. Shakespeare wrote that play.
2. Bill will invite Ann to the party.
3. Alex is preparing that report.
4. Waitress and waiters serve customers.
5. Shirley has suggested a new idea.
6. Kathy had returned the book to the library.
7. The teacher is going to explain the lesson.
8. By the time tomorrow, the president will have made the announcement.
9. I didn’t write that note. Jim wrote it.
10. Alice didn’t make that pie. Did Mrs. French make it?
11. Does Prof. Jackson teach that course? I know that Prof. Adam doesn’t teach it.
12. Mrs. Andrews hasn’t signed those papers yet. Has Mr. Andrews signed them yet?
13. Is Mr. Brown painting your house?
14. His tricks won’t fool me

**Change the active to passive if possible.**

1. People grow corn in Iowa.
2. Peter came here two months ago.
3. Someone made this antique table in 1734.
4. An accident happened at the corner of the fifth and Main.
5. Someone stole my purse.
6. Someone was making the coffee when I walked into the kitchen.
7. Translators have translated that book into many languages.
8. Jim’s daughter drew that picture. My son drew this picture.
9. The judges will judge the applicants on the basis of their originality.
10. My sister’s plane will arrive at 10.35.
11. Is Prof. Rivers teaching that course this semester?
12. When is someone going to announce the results of the contest?
13. The mail carrier had already delivered the mail by the time I left for school this morning.
14. When did someone invent the radio?
15. After the concert was over, hundreds of fans mobbed the rock music star outside the theater.
16. Ever since I arrived here, I have been living in the dormitory because someone told me that it was cheaper to live there than in apartment.
17. They are going to build the hospital next year. They have already built the new elementary school.
18. If you expose a film to light while you are developing it, you will ruin the negatives.
19. The botanist defines a fruit as a repined ovary.
20. The tiny root hairs absorb water and minerals.
21. Wind and insects transfer pollen from one flower to another.
22. People usually make bridges of reinforced concrete.
23. We use a barometer for measuring atmospheric pressure.
24. Finally, they discovered a method of producing synthetic rubber.
25. The colonial rulers divided the inhabitants of the Indonesia archipelago into population group.

**Complete the sentences with the given words (modal + verb), active or passive.**

1. James *should be told* the news as soon as possible (should + tell)
2. Someone …………. James the news immediately (should + tell)
3. James ………….. the news long time ago (should + tell)
4. Meat ………….in refrigerator or it will spoil (must + keep)
5. You …………. Meat in a refrigerator or it will spoil (must + keep)
6. We tried, but the window …………… It was painted shut (couldn’t + open)
7. I tried, but I ………….. the window (couldn’t + open)
8. Good news! I ……….. a job soon. I had an interview at an engineering firm yesterday (may + offer).
9. Chris has good news. The engineering firm where she had an interview yesterday …….. her a job soon (may + offer)
10. I hope Chris accepts our job offer, but I know she’s been having interviews with several companies. She ……………. A job by a competing form before we made our offer (may + already + offer)

**Change the passive to active.**

1. My sweater was made in England.
2. The new highway will be completed sometime next month.
3. Language skills are taught in every school in the country.
4. Beethoven’s Seventh Symphony was performed at the concert last night.
5. The World Cup soccer games are being televised all over the world.
6. The composition was written by Ali. That one was written by Yoko.
7. The Washington Monument is visited by hundreds of people every day.
8. The chief writing material of ancient times was papyrus. It was used in Egypt, Greece, and other Mediterranean lands.
9. Parchment, another writing material that was widely used in ancient times, was made from the skins of animal such as sheep and goats. After the hair had been removed, the skins were stretched and rubbed smooth.
10. Paper, the main writing materials today, was invented by the Chinese.