

Passive Voice

			能動態		受動態		
			ACTIVE		PASSIVE		
1	單純現在形	Kate	helps	Jack	is	helped	by Kate
2	現在進行形	Kate	is helping	Jack	is being	helped	by Kate
3	現在完了	Kate	has helped	Jack	has been	helped	by Kate
4	單純過去形	Kate	helped	Jack	was	helped	by Kate
5	過去進行形	Kate	was helping	Jack	was being	helped	by Kate
6	過去完了形	Kate	had helped	Jack	had been	helped	by Kate
7	單純未來	Kate	will help	Jack	will be	helped	by Kate
8		Kate	is going to help	Jack	is going to be	helped	by Kate
9	未來完了	Kate	will have helped	Jack	will have been	helped	by Kate

1. simple present
2. present continuous
3. present perfect
4. simple past
5. past continuous
6. past perfect
7. simple future
8. future with *be going to...*
9. future perfect

Match the person with the achievement and make a statement about them. Remember that even though it is fun to play a game which tests your knowledge of trivial information, the purpose of this exercise is to speak English. You are not learning to speak English if you don't say full sentences out loud.

Put the correct verb in column A that matches the person's achievement:

write a book, compose music, win a game, direct a movie, invent (発明する) a machine, discover (発見する) something in nature, create something artistic, make a trip, achieve something difficult

After you get all the answers, practice asking and answering questions like this:

question: Who wrote Hamlet? (active voice)

answer: Hamlet was written by William Shakespeare. (passive voice)

A - VERBS	B	C - PEOPLE	D - CORRECT ANSWERS	E - CHOICES
	1	Soseki Natsume		<i>Destiny</i>
	2	Steven Spielberg		Edo unification
	3	Taki Rentaro		America
	4	Vivaldi		$E=mc^2$
	5	Wilhelm Roentgen		the first trip to the moon
	6	Walt Disney		the first solo trans-Atlantic flight
	7	Alexander Graham Bell		Mickey Mouse
	8	Ludwig Von Beethoven		the airplane
	9	Thomas Edison		<i>Crime and Punishment</i>
	10	Theodore Dostoevsky		the first trip to space
	11	Charles Lindbergh		the 1998 World Cup
	12	The Wright Brothers		the electric light bulb
	13	Yuri Gagarin		<i>Hana</i>
	14	Christopher Columbus		the sandwich
directed	15	James Cameron	<i>Titanic</i>	<i>Jurassic Park</i>
	16	Ieyasu		x-rays
	17	Albert Einstein		the telephone
	18	France		<i>Kokoro</i>
	19	Apollo 11		<i>The Four Seasons</i>
	20	John Sandwich		<i>Titanic</i>

Make questions and answers like these:

Q. Who **directed** the movie *Titanic*?

A. *Titanic* **was directed** by James Cameron.

Match the person with the achievement and make a statement about them. Remember that even though it is fun to play a game which tests your knowledge of trivial information, the purpose of this exercise is to speak English. You are not learning to speak English if you don't say full sentences out loud.

Put the correct verb in column A that matches the person's achievement:

write a book, compose music, win a game, direct a movie, invent (発明する) a machine, discover (発見する) something in nature, create something artistic, make a trip, achieve something difficult

After you get all the answers, practice asking and answering questions like this:

question: Who wrote Hamlet? (active voice)

answer: Hamlet was written by William Shakespeare. (passive voice)

A - VERBS	B	C - PEOPLE	D - CORRECT ANSWERS	E - CHOICES
write/wrote/written	1	Soseki Natsume	<i>Kokoro</i>	
direct	2	Steven Spielberg	Jurassic Park	
compose	3	Taki Rentaro	<i>Hana</i>	
compose	4	Vivaldi	<i>The 4 Seasons</i>	
discover	5	Wilhelm Roentgen	X-rays	
create	6	Walt Disney	Mickey Mouse	
invent	7	Alexander Graham Bell	telephone	
compose	8	Ludwig Von Beethoven	<i>Destiny</i>	
invent	9	Thomas Edison	light bulb	
write/wrote/written	10	Theodore Dostoevsky	Crime and...	
make/made/made	11	Charles Lindbergh	trans-Atlantic	
invent	12	The Wright Brothers	airplane	
make/made/made	13	Yuri Gagarin	trip to space	
discover	14	Christopher Columbus	America	
directed	15	James Cameron	<i>Titanic</i>	
achieve	16	Ieyasu	Edo unification	
discover	17	Albert Einstein	$E= mc^2$ (squared)	
win/won/won	18	France	1998 World Cup	
make/made/made	19	Apollo 11	moon	
create, invent	20	John Sandwich	sandwich	

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Q. Who **directed** the movie *Titanic*?

A. *Titanic* **was directed** by James Cameron.

Common mistakes with the English passive voice made by speakers of Japanese

1. The passive voice can be used only with verbs that have a direct object.

- a) ✓ *I came to the office by subway.*
↓
b) ✗ *I was come to the office by subway.*
- c) ✓ *She travels to France every summer.*
↓
d) ✗ *She is traveled to France every summer.*

2. Some sentences can be expressed as a more difficult type of passive sentence (g).

- e) ✓ *They gave a message to Jane.*
↓
f) ✓ *A message was given to Jane.*
↓
g) ✓ *Jane was given a message.*

However, the sentence below (h) cannot be expressed the same way.

- h) ✓ *Someone took Tim's pen.*
↓
i) ✓ *Tim's pen was taken.*
↓
j) ✗ *Tim was taken his pen.*
(Tim はペンを取られました。)

What is the difference between g) and j)? They seem to be similar, but the difference is that in g), Jane *benefits* from the action. In j), Tim does not benefit. He loses something. This pattern is used only with a few *benefactive* verbs such as *tell* and *give*.

3. Verbs which express emotions are expressed in the passive voice in English, but in Japanese they do not need to be expressed in the passive voice.

examples:

satisfy 満足する (まんぞく)
please 喜ぶ (よろこぶ)

surprise びっくりする
trouble 困る (こまる)

astonish 驚く (おどろく)

✓ *I was surprised.*

✗ *I surprised.*