THE PASSIVE

Many verbs in English can occur in both *active* voice & *passive* voice. In passive sentences, the *receiver* of the action (direct object) becomes the subject of the passive verb. The *doer* of the action may be indicated with the expression BY____ or may not be indicated at all

I. USAGE - The passive voice is likely to be used in the following situations:

- To emphasize the *receiver* of the action rather than the *doer*, or when the *doer* is unknown.

    1. Mr. & Mrs. Wilson *were robbed* last week.
    2. Maria *was promoted* last week.
    3. My car *is being repaired*.

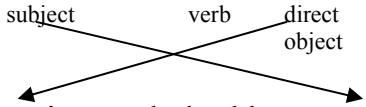
- To report facts in an impersonal or objective way as in news, science, & business reporting.

    1. Mrs. Miller *was taken* to the hospital by ambulance.
    2. This machine *was invented* by Thomas Edison.
    3. The letters *haven't been typed* yet.

II. STRUCTURE

SUBJECT + TO BE (tensed) + PAST PARTICIPLE

Active voice: Grandmother baked the pie.



Passive voice: The pie was baked by grandmother.

Passive forms of the verb *TO BE*

Past Perfect	⇒	had been
Past Progressive	⇒	*was* / *were* being
Simple Past	⇒	*was* / *were*
Present Perfect	⇒	*has* / *have* been
Simple Present	⇒	*am* / *is* / *are*
Present Progressive	⇒	*am* / *is* / *are* being
Simple Future	⇒	will be
Future Perfect	⇒	will have been