Université Badji Mokhtar, Annaba.

Module T.C.E Anglais 1ère année LMD (TCSNV)

**The Active And The Passive Voice**

The passive voice is used when the focus is on the action or the result. It is not important to know who is doing that action. It is mostly used in scientific texts where the result is more important that the doer.

**The form:**

**Active form:**

Subject + verb + object

Eg: She writes a letter.

**Passive form:**

Object + the verb “to be” conjugated in the same tense + past participle+ by+ subject

Eg: A letter is written by her.

When re-writing active sentences in the passive form:

-The object of the active sentence becomes the subject of the passive sentence.

-The verb in the active sentence changes to (to be + past participle)

-The subject of the active sentence becomes the object the passive sentence (or sometimes dropped)

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| **Present: is/ are + pp**  **Past: was/ were + pp**  **Future: will be + pp** |

**Examples:**

Active: My mother cooks delicious food every day.

Passive: Delicious food is cooked by my mother every day.

A: My brother uses my computer.

P: My computer is used by my brother.

A: Living things transfer energy among themselves.

P: Energy is transferred by living things among themselves.

A: Marry will clean the room.

P: The room will be cleaned by Marry.

**Activity 1:** Change these sentences into the passive form.

I finished my job 🡪 The job was finished by me.

He sent a report yesterday 🡪 A report was sent by him yesterday.

John opens the door 🡪 The door is opened by john.

The man painted the house 🡪 The house was painted by the man

People speak Portuguese in Brazil 🡪 Portuguese is spoken in brazil

A friend gave me this umbrella 🡪 This umbrella was given to me by a friend

The teacher chose her to receive the award 🡪 She was chosen by the teacher to receive the award.

They will change our president 🡪 Our president will be changed ( by them)

**Activity 2:** Change these sentences into the active form.

The company website is updated frequently 🡪They update the company website frequently.

These books were written by a famous author 🡪A famous author wrote these books.

The car was bought by this man 🡪 This man bought the car

A gift was offered to me 🡪They offered me a gift