

1 -ed adjectives. In Unit 59 we looked at adjectives in *-ed*. These adjectives are formed from verbs:

annoyed	bored	closed	delighted	excited
finished	frightened	interested	pleased	surprised
tired	worried	broken	disappointed	shut

These adjectives are *passive* in meaning:

We always lock the door:

The door is always locked.

We'll finish the job before next week:

The job will be finished before next week.



When I was young spiders frightened me:
I was frightened of spiders.

2 Passive verbs are formed from the verb to be and the past participle of the verb:

They were serving lunch when we arrived:

Lunch was being served when we arrived.

They are going to build a lot of new roads:

A lot of new roads are going to be built.



People learn English all over the world:
English is learned all over the world.

3 The question and negative forms of the passive are formed by making the verb *be* into a question or negative:

Nobody has sent the letters yet:

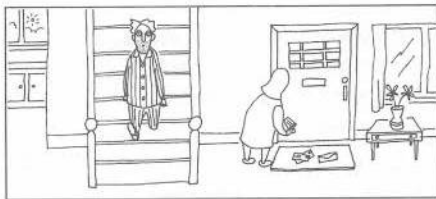
The letters haven't been sent yet.

They didn't invite Sandra to the party:

Sandra wasn't invited to the party.

Will they show that film on tv soon?:

Will that film be shown on tv soon?



'Have they delivered the mail yet?'
'Has the mail been delivered yet?'

4 If you want to talk about the person or thing which causes the action, you use *by*:



A lot of damage has been caused by the recent storms.

A Complete the sentences with *is/are/was/were*:

- We _____ told to be ready at ten o'clock.
- The police are looking for a man who _____ thought to be dangerous.
- Guernica _____ painted by Picasso.
- The 1948 Olympic Games _____ held in London.
- Rice _____ grown all over Asia.
- Most people _____ paid at the end of the month.
- Thousands of gadgets _____ invented every year.
- The Live Aid concerts in England and America _____ watched by millions of fans.

B Complete the sentences with *be/being/been*:

- A new museum has _____ opened in the city centre.
- Can you drive me to town? My car is _____ repaired.
- Many changes will have to _____ made to improve our image.
- Most sportsmen and women hate _____ beaten.
- Have you ever _____ invited to dinner by a stranger?
- Our staff have _____ trained to use computers.

C Complete the sentences by putting the verbs in brackets into the passive:

- The prices of all our products _____ in the sale this year. (reduce)
- Three people _____ in a road accident yesterday. (kill)
- I _____ by my grandparents. (bring up)
- Dogs _____ in the shop. (not allow)
- E.T. _____ by Steven Spielberg. (direct)
- Cigarettes _____ in newsagents and supermarkets in Britain. (sell)
- Today's match _____ because of the weather. (cancel)
- Tickets for the concerts can _____ from the box office. (buy)

D Look at the two pictures, then use the verbs below to complete the sentences describing what has or hasn't been done:

put away do wash turn off change clean empty

- The washing-up
- The radio
- The dustbin
- The windows
- The pots and pans
- The floor
- The clock
- The table

