

1 Quiz: How much do you remember?

How much do you know about the passive? Test yourself with these questions.

1. What do active sentences tell you?

2. What do passive sentences stress?

3. How do you form the passive?

4. What do you need if you want to say who or what does something in a passive sentence?

Check your answers. The English summary box on page 148 in Green Line 3 can help you.

2 From active to passive

Change the active sentences into the passive wherever possible.

Susan came to England for the first time. She wanted to take part in an English language course.

1. The host family picked Susan up at the airport.

2. They gave her a warm greeting.

3. They took her to a little house in the suburbs of London.

4. The host mother had already prepared some delicious food.

5. "Susan, we'll give you a tour through London later," the host father said.

6. "But London is very crowded. Millions of tourists visit London each year."

7. "Normally, professional guides show tourists the famous sights like the Houses of Parliament and Big Ben. But we've got some special sights for you. You'll see!"

Lösungen

1

1. What do active sentences tell you?
→ They tell you who or what does something.
2. What do passive sentences stress?
→ They stress the action. / They stress what is done.
3. How do you form the passive?
→ You form it with a form of 'to be' and the past participle.
4. What do you need if you want to say who or what does something in a passive sentence?
→ You need the by-agent.

2

1. The host family picked Susan up at the airport.
→ Susan was picked up at the airport (by the host family).
2. They gave her a warm greeting.
→ She was given a warm greeting (by the host family).

3. They took her to a little house in the suburbs of London.
→ She was taken to a little house in the suburbs of London.
4. The host mother had already prepared some delicious food.
→ Some delicious food had already been prepared (by the host mother).
5. We'll give you a tour through London later
→ You'll be given a tour through London later.
6. Millions of tourists visit London each year.
→ London is visited by millions of tourists each year.
7. "Normally, professional guides show tourists the famous sights like the Houses of Parliament and Big Ben."
→ The famous sights of London are normally shown to tourists by professional guides.