

The Passive Voice

The passive voice is when the action in a sentence is received by the subject, instead of the subject doing it.

E.g. Scrooge hoarded vast amounts of wealth. (Active voice)

Vast amounts of wealth were hoarded by Scrooge. (Passive voice.)

Rule: (form of the verb 'to be') + (past tense verb)

Perfect tense

When an activity is completed (perfected) by the time we are talking about it.

E.g.

I have been to the park, but my brother has visited the park more often. He had gone to the park before I was even born!

Rule: (have/had/has) + (past tense verb)

Progressive (or continuous) tense

When an activity is ongoing, in the past, present or future.

Past progressive: I was **swimming**.

Present progressive: I am **swimming**.

Future progressive: I will be **swimming**.

Rule: (form of the verb 'to be') + (verb) + ing

Some of these can be mixed! E.g. I have been **swimming** at the pool.