

Expert Grammar 5.2

Tense	Active	Passive
Present simple	They drink water.	Water is drunk .
	They don't drink coffee.	Coffee isn't drunk .
	Do they drink tea?	Is tea drunk ?
	Where do they drink tea?	Where is tea drunk ?
Past simple	I finished the project.	The project was finished .
	I didn't finish the report.	The report wasn't finished .
	Did you finish the research?	Was the research finished ?
	Where did people do the research?	Where was the research done ?

- 2 With modal verbs, we use modal verb + *be* + past participle. *Be* doesn't change.

Active	Passive
We should forgive him.	He should be forgiven .
We mustn't encourage students to cheat.	Students mustn't be encouraged to cheat.
What problems could it cause?	What problems could be caused ?

- 3 We can add the 'doer' of the action to a passive sentence by adding *by* + the doer.
*Who is coffee drunk **by**? Coffee is drunk **by most Australians**.*
*Many learners will be motivated **by good test scores**.*
- 4 Adverbs can go between *be* and the past participle (as well as other places, such as the beginning and end of the sentence).
*Coffee **is often drunk** in order to improve concentration.* (Compare with *People often drink coffee to improve concentration.* The adverb, *often*, is immediately before the main verb, just like the passive version of the sentence.)
*This topic **is frequently researched**.*
- 5 The passive is also often used with impersonal *it* constructions (sometimes called 'introductory *it* constructions'), especially with verbs representing speech, thoughts and ideas (e.g. *explain*, *consider*, *write*).
***It is often said** that learning is best done with a teacher.*
***It was thought** that Latin was a useful language to learn.*

Discourse markers (page 13)

- 1 Discourse markers are words or groups of words that show the relationship between clauses, sentences and/or paragraphs.
*He could study anywhere **because** his phone had language learning software on it.*
In the sentence above, *because* shows that the reason he could study anywhere was that his phone had language learning software on it.

- 2 Discourse markers can make your writing and speaking in English clear. Make sure you use them!
- 3 Other examples of discourse markers and the relationships they show are as follows.

Linking similar ideas:

***In addition** to the courses already available, the university is now also offering Korean.*

Linking different ideas:

*The university is now offering Korean courses. **However**, they are only available to second and third year students.*

Introducing an example:

*The university has many courses available, **such as** French, German, Greek, Turkish and Korean.*

Note: Don't use *such as* or any other discourse marker of example if you are giving complete lists.

Indicating time or sequence:

***First**, the tasks were explained to the participants. **Then**, the participants carried out the tasks. **Finally**, they were interviewed about the experience.*

Introducing a consequence or a result:

*The students didn't prepare for the exam. **As a result**, they didn't pass.*

Introducing a reason:

*The students didn't prepare for the exam **due to** illness.*

Introducing a purpose:

*The students needed to pass the exam **in order to** go to university.*

Signalling a summary or conclusion:

***To sum up**, there are three reasons why the exam was important for these students.*

Emphasising/showing how important a point is:

***One thing to remember** is that these students have strong reasons to study hard for the exam.*

Present perfect and past simple (page 16)

A Finished v. unfinished periods of time

- 1 We use the present perfect for events in periods of time that haven't yet finished. If a finished time period is mentioned, we prefer to use the past simple.
***I've done** some study this morning.* (This morning is not yet over.)
***I did** some study this morning.* (It's now the afternoon.)
- 2 Sometimes the unfinished time period is understood but not stated. A common example is when talking about experiences; often *before* or *ever* (in questions) and *never* (instead of *not*) are used, and the unfinished time period is your lifetime.
***I've visited** seven countries.*
*'Have they **studied** linguistics before?' 'No, they **haven't**.'*
*'Have you **ever visited** the university?' 'No, I've **never** even seen it.'*