

# Basic English Grammar



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# **The Passive in the Future**

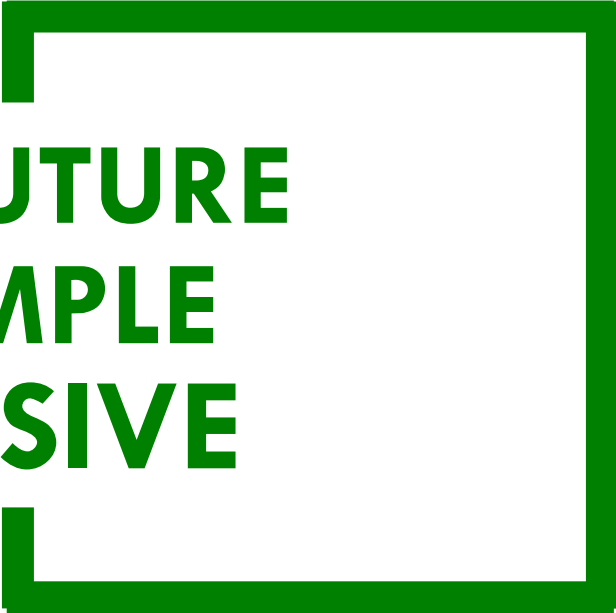
Week 8 – Lecture 8

# **The Passive in the Future**

English uses the passive voice in the future to stress the effect of an action that will happen in the future, rather than the cause of that action.

# **How to turn an active sentence into a passive sentence?**

1. Identify the subject, the verb, and the object.
2. Move the object to become the new subject of the sentence.
3. Check the verb tense in the active sentence.
4. Conjugate the verb “be”.
5. Add the past participle (verb 3) of the main verb after “be”.
6. Subject of the active sentence.



**THE FUTURE  
SIMPLE  
PASSIVE**

# The Future Simple Passive

FUTURE SIMPLE

Hopefully, the police **will catch** the thief very soon.

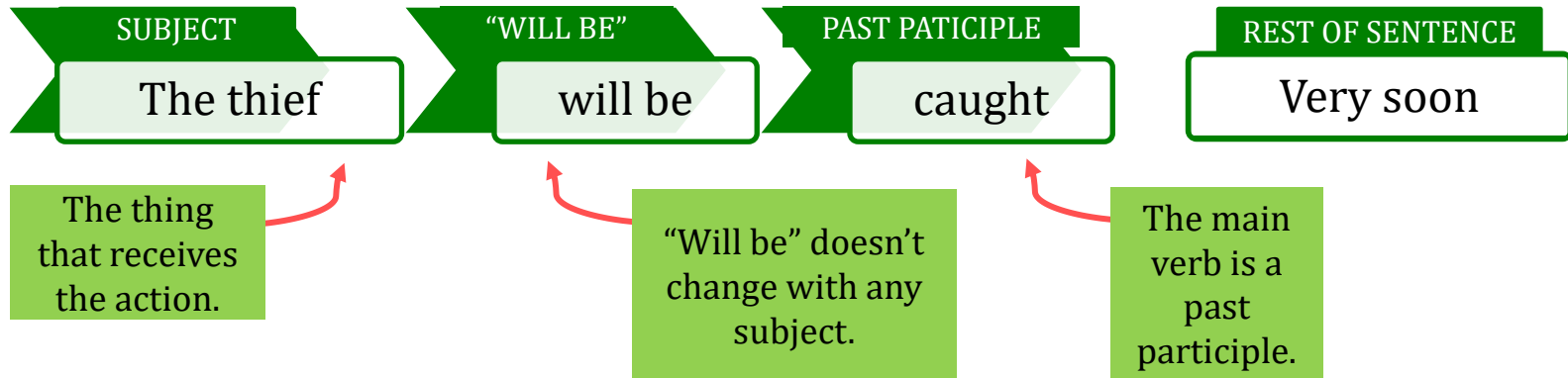
Hopefully, the thief **will be caught** very soon.

FUTURE SIMPLE PASSIVE

It is not important  
who will catch the  
thief.

# HOW TO FORM

All passives use a form of “be” with a past participle. The agent (the thing doing the action) can be introduced with “by”, but the sentence would still make sense without it.



# Further examples

1. Don't worry, the house **will be finished** very soon.
2. An email **will be sent** to you all next week with more details.
3. Sorry, but the power **will be turned off** between 2 PM and 5 PM.
4. My latest novel **will be published** in August.
5. The new stadium **will be opened** by the president.

# Match the active sentences to the equivalent passive sentences.

1. Jenny will buy a new phone next month.

Why will the bill be paid by Adam?

2. Why will she sign these papers?

The letter will not be posted by Jack.

3. Her mother will not iron her cloth.

A new phone will be bought by Jenny tomorrow.

4. Why will Adam pay the bill?

Her cloth will not be ironed by her mother.

5. Jack will not post the letter.

Why will these papers be signed by her?

# Answers:

- 
1. Jenny will buy a new phone next month.
2. Why will she sign these papers?
3. Her mother will not iron her cloth.
4. Why will Adam pay the bill?
5. Jack will not post the letter.
- Why will the bill be paid by Adam?
- The letter will not be posted by Jack.
- A new phone will be bought by Jenny next month.
- Her cloth will not be ironed by her mother.
- Why will these papers be signed by her?
- The diagram shows five numbered items on the left and five corresponding items on the right. Orange arrows connect the items as follows: 1 to 4, 2 to 5, 3 to 2, 4 to 1, and 5 to 3.

# Fill in the gaps by putting the verbs in the future simple passive.

1. The email \_\_\_\_\_ (send) to you this afternoon.
2. The prisoner \_\_\_\_\_ (release) after 30 years.
3. The water \_\_\_\_\_ (turn off) on Thursday morning.
4. The lecture \_\_\_\_\_ (give) by Professor O'Brien.
5. All the laundry \_\_\_\_\_ (do) by the time you get back.
6. Our house \_\_\_\_\_ (not finish) by the end of the year.
7. \_\_\_\_\_ the show \_\_\_\_\_ (present) by a new DJ?
8. All the food \_\_\_\_\_ (cook) by our new chef, Mario.
9. Dinner \_\_\_\_\_ (serve) in the dining room between 7 and 8 PM.
10. The rules \_\_\_\_\_ (explain) by the committee after the breaktime.

# Answers:

1. The email **will be sent** to you this afternoon.
2. The prisoner **will be released** after 30 years.
3. The water **will be turned** off on Thursday morning.
4. The lecture **will be given** by Professor O'Brien.
5. All the laundry **will be done** by the time you get back.
6. Our house **will not be finished** by the end of the year.
7. **Will** the show **be presented** by a new DJ?
8. All the food **will be cooked** by our new chef, Mario.
9. Dinner **will be served** in the dining room between 7 and 8 PM.
10. The rules **will be explained** by the committee after the breaktime.



**THE FUTURE  
CONTINUOUS  
PASSIVE**

# **The future continuous passive**

The future continuous in the passive voice  
is not common or is not widely used.



**THE FUTURE  
PERFECT  
PASSIVE**

# The future perfect passive

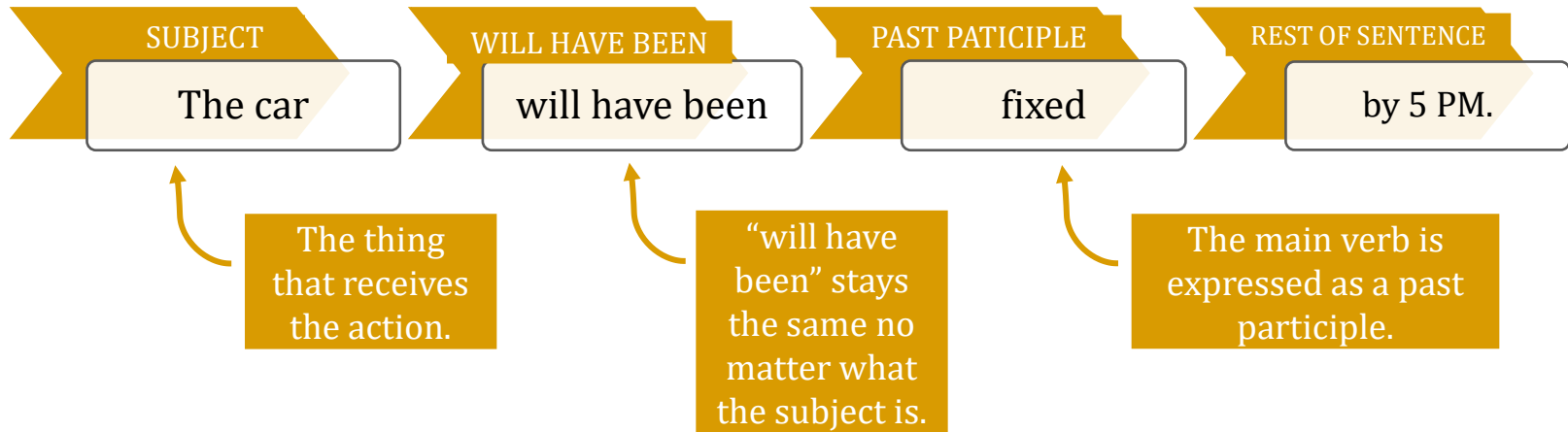
FUTURE PERFECT

The mechanic **will have fixed** the car by 5 PM.

The car **will have been fixed** by 5 PM.

FUTURE PERFECT PASSIVE

# HOW TO FORM



# Further examples

1. We think every ticket **will have been bought** before the end of the day.
2. Come back tomorrow. The park **will have been cleaned** by then.
3. All guests **will have been brought** to the event before it starts.
4. You should call early, otherwise all the tables **will have been booked**.
5. **Will** those letters **have been sent** before lunchtime tomorrow?
6. The project **will have been finished** by next month.

## Rewrite the sentences using the future perfect passive!

1. They will have played football by the time we arrive.
2. Don't worry, I will have done all work by 5 p.m.
3. Our school will have given the certificates to us.
4. We will have renovated the buildings by 2023.
5. The mechanic will have fixed our car by Friday.
6. Hurry up or people will have taken all the good seats already.
7. They won't have attempted this initiative before 2025.

## Answers:

1. Football **will have been played** by them by the time we arrive.
2. Don't worry, all work **will have been done** by 5 p.m.
3. We **will have been given** the certificates by our school.
4. The buildings **will have been renovated** by 2023.
5. Our car **will have been fixed** by Friday.
6. Hurry up or all the good seats **will have been taken** already.
7. This initiative **won't have been attempted** by them before 2025.

## Fill in the gaps by putting the verbs in the future perfect passive.

1. By tomorrow evening, everyone \_\_\_\_\_ (notify) by the changes.
2. By 2030, intelligent robots \_\_\_\_\_ (develop).
3. I'm sure our car \_\_\_\_\_ (not repair) by the beginning of next week.
4. \_\_\_\_\_ the project \_\_\_\_\_ (complete) by the time we return?
5. All the staff \_\_\_\_\_ (train) by the end of the week.
6. I hope the kitchen \_\_\_\_\_ (paint) by the time we move in.
7. The decision \_\_\_\_\_ (make) by Friday evening.

## Answers:

1. By tomorrow evening, everyone **will have been notified** by the changes.
2. By 2030, intelligent robots **will have been developed**.
3. I'm sure our car **will have not been repaired** by the beginning of next week.
4. **Will** the project **have been completed** by the time we return?
5. All the staff **will have been trained** by the end of the week.
6. I hope the kitchen **will have been painted** by the time we move in.
7. The decision **will have been made** by Friday evening.

Thank you!

## REFERENCES

Murphy, Raymond & Smalzer, William. *Grammar in use, Intermediate*. Cambridge U. Press, 2019.

DK. *English for Everyone – English Grammar Guide*. Dorling Kindersley Limited, 2016.