

### Visiting an Old Castle

Our family visited an old castle.

It **was located** on the hill of an island.

I read about the history of the castle on the boat ride.

It **was built by** a Scottish family a hundred years ago.

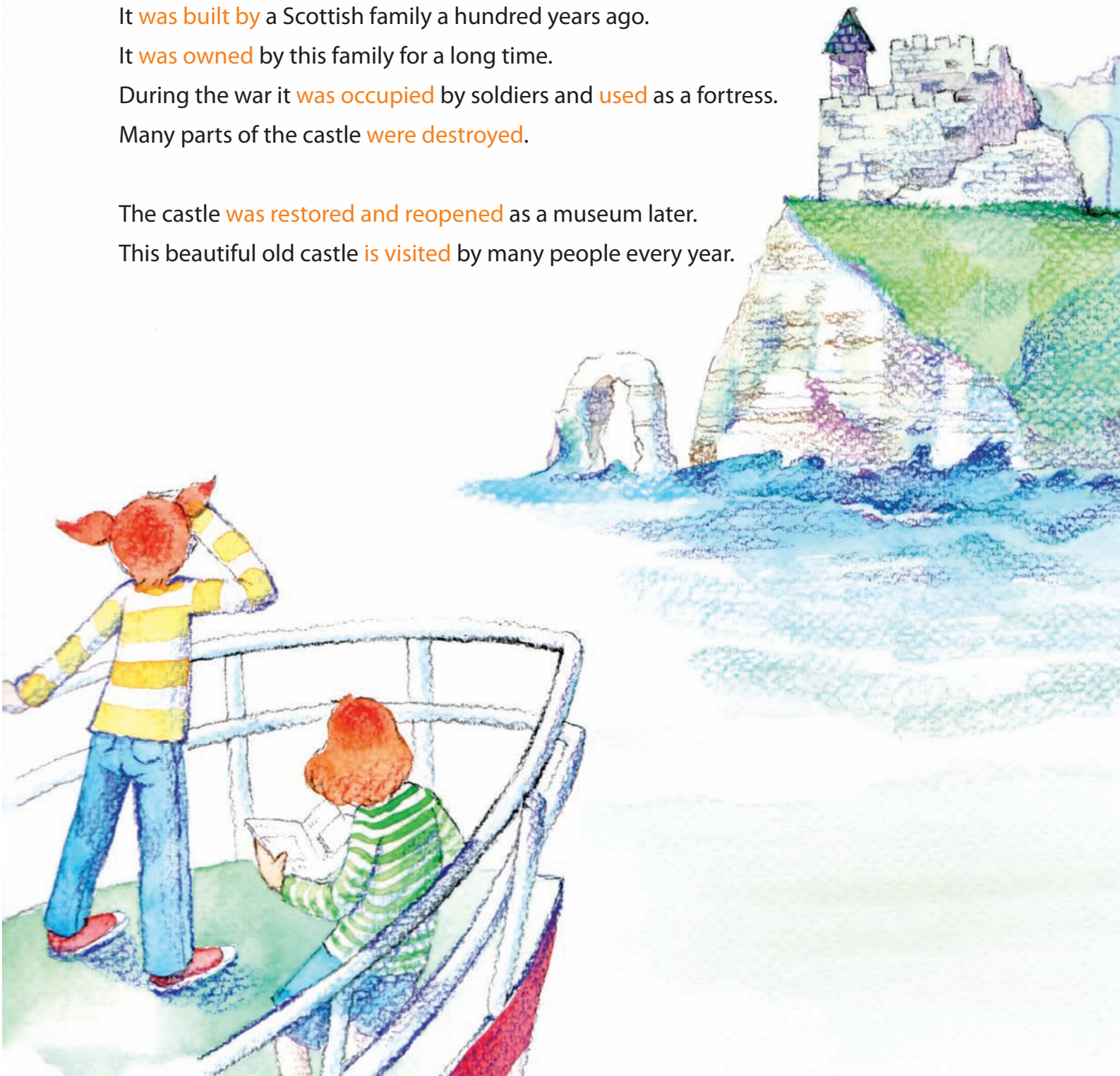
It **was owned** by this family for a long time.

During the war it **was occupied** by soldiers and **used** as a fortress.

Many parts of the castle **were destroyed**.

The castle **was restored and reopened** as a museum later.

This beautiful old castle **is visited** by many people every year.



# : Grammar for Writing

## 1 Active vs. Passive

- **Many people** visit **this castle**. (Active)
- **This castle** is visited **by many people**. (Passive)

See appendix <Irregular simple past & past participles> (p.107)

- ⇒ The **passive** is formed with <be + past participle + by>.
- ⇒ We usually use the passive when we focus on who receives the action rather than who performs the action.

## 2 Using the by Phrase

- The castle **was built by a Scottish family**. (\*)  
(= A Scottish family built the castle.)
- The castle **was restored later**. (\*\*)  
(= Somebody restored the castle.)
- The castle **was reopened later**. (\*\*)  
(= Somebody reopened the castle.)

- ⇒ The *by* phrase is left out when the performer of the action is not known or not important to mention.  
\*Who built the castle is known and important.  
\*\*Who restored or reopened the castle is not known or not important.

## 3 Negative & Questions

- The castle **was not restored**.
- **Was** the castle **restored**?

## 4 Forms of be in the Passive

- The window **is cleaned** every day.
- The window **was cleaned** yesterday.
- The window **will be cleaned** tomorrow.
- The window **must be cleaned** soon.

## 5 Stative Passive

- His room **is filled with** flowers.
- I **am satisfied with** the result.
- The children **are scared of** the tiger.
- I am **not worried about** the weather.

⇒ The **stative passive** expresses a state rather than an action. It is usually used with specific prepositions.

be scared of   be located in/on   be worried about  
be filled with   be satisfied with   be impressed with



## Tips for Better Sentences

### Using passive or active effectively

- Leonardo da Vinci painted the *Mona Lisa*. (“Who painted” is more the focus.)  
= The *Mona Lisa* was painted by Leonardo Da Vinci. (“What was painted” is more the focus.)
- ⇒ Good writing uses the passive or active appropriately, depending on the context or the writer’s purpose.



## Common Mistakes

### Be verb missing in passive

- This house **built** years ago. (x) → This house **was built** years ago. (✓)
- Penicillin **discovered** by accident. (x) → Penicillin (                          ) by accident.

### Misused passive

- The leaves **were turned** yellow. (x) → The leaves **turned** yellow. (✓)
- He **was grown up** in a small town. (x) → He (                          ) in a small town.
- It **was rained** yesterday. (x) → It (                          ) yesterday.
- The accident **was happened**. (x) → The accident (                          ).
- He **was become** a firefighter. (x) → He (                          ) a firefighter.
- This house **is consisted** of three floors. (x) → This house (                          ) three floors.

### Wrong preposition in stative passive

- She **was satisfied in** the result. (x) → She **was satisfied with** the result. (✓)
- He **was scared from** the snake. (x) → He (                          ) the snake.

# : Writing Basic Sentences

## 1 Put the words in order to make complete sentences.

The rooms (filled, beautiful, were, old furniture, with).

\_\_\_\_\_

The walls (decorated, old, with, paintings, were).

\_\_\_\_\_

The floors (covered, marble stone, with, were).

\_\_\_\_\_

The castle (gardens, surrounded, by, was).

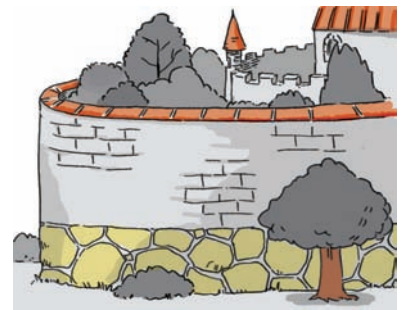
\_\_\_\_\_

The gardens (white walls, protected, by, were, long).

\_\_\_\_\_

The walls (made, were, brick and stone, of).

\_\_\_\_\_



## 2 Complete the sentences using the simple present passive.

Ex. The Olympic Games are held every four years.

1. Spanish \_\_\_\_\_ in most countries in South America.
2. The newspaper \_\_\_\_\_ early in the morning.
3. My office \_\_\_\_\_ on the third floor.
4. Breakfast \_\_\_\_\_ from 6:00 to 10:00 in the hotel cafeteria.

hold

speak

serve

locate

deliver

## 3 Complete the sentences using the simple past passive.

Ex. Many people were injured in the accident.

1. This book \_\_\_\_\_ 100 years ago.
2. These pictures \_\_\_\_\_ by a famous photographer.
3. The broken bike \_\_\_\_\_ yesterday.
4. The black car \_\_\_\_\_ down the highway by a police car.

injure

repair

write

chase

take

#### 4 Complete the sentences using the past or future passive.

Ex. Our flight was canceled (cancel). We had to spend an extra day in Beijing.  
This huge stone will be moved (move) away tomorrow.

1. We were not able to get the tickets. They \_\_\_\_\_ (sell) out.
2. The meeting \_\_\_\_\_ (interrupt) by a loud noise from outside.  
The noise turned out to be a car accident.
3. There is a big parade tomorrow. This street \_\_\_\_\_ (block) for the parade.
4. The winning goal \_\_\_\_\_ (score) by Henry. He became a national hero.
5. The pizza \_\_\_\_\_ (deliver) to the wrong address. We have to deliver it again.
6. His bike \_\_\_\_\_ (steal) last night.
7. We have a special guest today. He \_\_\_\_\_ (introduce) in a minute.
8. He \_\_\_\_\_ (hit) by a car. Fortunately, he was not killed.
9. The bank robber \_\_\_\_\_ (arrest) on the spot. People were so glad.
10. Please wait in line. You \_\_\_\_\_ (help) soon.

#### 5 Complete the sentences by changing the active modals to passive modals. The by phrase can be left out.

Ex. You **can** find flowers everywhere in this town.  
Flowers can be found everywhere in this town.

1. We **cannot** control the weather.  
\_\_\_\_\_
2. You **must** keep this food in the refrigerator.  
\_\_\_\_\_
3. Someone **should** wash these dirty dishes soon.  
\_\_\_\_\_
4. You **can** order this item on the Internet.  
\_\_\_\_\_
5. You **should** reserve your seat.  
\_\_\_\_\_
6. We **should** reconfirm the flight.  
\_\_\_\_\_
7. Someone **must** take him to the hospital immediately.  
\_\_\_\_\_

## 6 Rewrite the sentences into the passive using the given prepositions.

Ex. The bear scared the children.

→ The children were scared of the bear. (of)

1. The result satisfied her.

→ \_\_\_\_\_ . (with)

2. His black mask scared them.

→ \_\_\_\_\_ . (of)

3. The white snow covered the mountain.

→ \_\_\_\_\_ . (with)

4. Teenagers filled the concert hall.

→ \_\_\_\_\_ . (with)

## 7 Correct the underlined mistakes.

Sam was grown up in a small fishing village. His house located near the harbor.

One day a strange man came to this village. He was stayed in Sam's house for a few days.

One night, this man was disappeared. A big bag left behind.

A very interesting map found in the bag. It was a treasure map.

Sam was become a pirate many years later.

## 8 Find the mistakes and correct them. (Focus on the passive or active form of the verb.)

a. A car accident was happened last night. Many people injured.

b. It was rained yesterday. The weather was become very cold.

# : Writing Better Sentences

## 1 Rewrite the sentences into the passive. The *by* phrase is needed.

Ex. Many people use this program.

*This program is used by many people.*

1. Millions of people visit the Sydney Opera House every year.

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2. Pablo Picasso painted *Guernica* in 1937.

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3. Victor Hugo wrote the novel *Les Misérables*.

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4. Columbus discovered America in 1492.

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5. Gutenberg invented the first printing press.

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6. Steven Spielberg directed *Jurassic Park* in 1993.

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## 2 Rewrite the sentences into the passive. The *by* phrase is not needed.

Ex. We should develop alternative energy.

*Alternative energy should be developed.*

1. They clean the street every day.

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2. They will introduce a new model soon.

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3. They will restore the old building.

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4. They chose the best eleven last week.

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5. People tore down the Berlin Wall in 1990.

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6. They will announce a new plan next week.

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# : Writing Sentences with a Subject

Complete the sentences, changing the words into passive or active in the simple past tense.

*"Are you familiar with the history of invention?"*

## ⊙ Electric Lightbulb



The first electric lightbulb \_\_\_\_\_ (invent) by Thomas Edison. Thomas Edison was a curious boy and was always asking questions. But he was not very successful at school. He \_\_\_\_\_ (go) to school for only three months in his whole life. After that, he \_\_\_\_\_ (teach) at home by his mother.

Many great inventions \_\_\_\_\_ (make) by Edison. The lightbulb was just one of them. Over 1,500 materials \_\_\_\_\_ (test) by Edison until he made a long-lasting lightbulb.

In 1882, eighty-five houses in New York City had electric lights for the first time! This historic invention \_\_\_\_\_ (change) people's way of life dramatically.



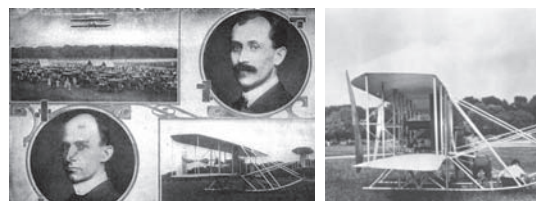
## ⊙ Aircraft

The world's first successful aircraft \_\_\_\_\_ (build) by the Wright brothers. One day, when they were eleven and seven, their father gave them a toy helicopter. This toy sparked their interest in flying, and this interest \_\_\_\_\_ (last) throughout their lives.

Many glides \_\_\_\_\_ (make) and tested by the two brothers. The completed glides \_\_\_\_\_ (move) to a place with strong, steady wind and tested there.

In 1903 their first successful flight \_\_\_\_\_ (make) in a place called Kitty Hawk. Their glide \_\_\_\_\_ (last) for fifty-nine seconds in the air, and it \_\_\_\_\_ (cover) 300 to 400 feet.

This great invention \_\_\_\_\_ (change) the world into a much smaller place.





# : Building Paragraphs

## 1 Circle the right words.

Oftentimes in history, the same kind of research, development, or discovery (makes, is made) at the same time by different people. For example, the electric lightbulb (developed, was developed) by two different people at the same time. But the first practical lightbulb (made, was made) by Edison, and the credit (gave, was given) to him. The invention of aircraft had a similar history. Many people (tried, was tried) to reach the same goal of building an aircraft. But the task (completed, was completed) by the Wright brothers first, so they (recorded, were recorded) as the inventors of the first aircraft.



## 2 Read the following paragraph and write one of your own.

### *Dolls in my Room*

There is something interesting in my room.  
 It is a set of dolls with five different sizes.  
 The smaller one can be placed into the bigger one.  
 They are made of wood and painted in bright colors.  
 They are called Matryoshka, a female Russian name.  
 They were purchased in Russia by my father.



**Look around your room and choose something interesting in it.  
 Then try to describe it using different passive forms.**

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# : Building Vocabulary

Fill in the blanks with the right words. Change the forms if necessary.

scary (a)

scared (a)

- a. The boy is ( ) of spiders.
- b. I don't like ( ) movies. They make me nervous.
- c. Are you really ( ) of the roller coaster?

impressive (a)

impressed (a)

- a. I am very ( ) with your work.
- b. She made a very ( ) presentation at the meeting.
- c. They must be ( ) with your skill.

invent (v)

invention (n)

inventor (n)

- a. The Internet was ( ) in the late 1960s.
- b. Who ( ) television first?
- c. Did you see his latest ( )?
- d. He is one of the greatest ( ) in history.

deliver (v)

delivery (n)

- a. Their ( ) service is fast and convenient.
- b. Your tickets will be ( ) to your address within 48 hours.
- c. His parcel was ( ) to the wrong house. He was upset.