**Passive voice**

**Functions of the passive voice**

The passive voice is used to show interest in the person or object that experiences an action rather than the person or object that performs the action. In other words, the most important thing or person becomes the subject of the sentence.

##### Examples

* I noticed that a window **had been left** open.
* Every year thousands of people **are killed** on our roads.
* All the cookies **have been eaten**.
* My car **has been stolen**!

The passive voice is often used in formal texts. Switching to the active voice will make your writing clearer and easier to read.