THE PASSIVE

It is very often used in English, especially when the doer is not important or unknown. When we want to know the doer we use “by”.

Who made the tea?

It was made by Lukas.

THE MOST IMPORTANT TENSES IN THE PASSIVE

Present tense      The tea is made by the boy.
Past tense         The tea was made by the boy.
Present perfect tense The tea has been made by the boy.
Future tense       The tea will be made by the boy.

VERBS WITH PREPOSITIONS, SUCH AS “LOOK AFTER, WAIT FOR, GIVE UP,...” MUST STAY TOGETHER!

Active               Passive
A nurse looked after the baby. The baby was looked after by a nurse.
The crew gave up the ship.   The ship was given up by the crew.

Authors: Maria Felberbauer – Margarete Lazar  Illustrations: Otto Handl  Layout: Julia Schmidleitner
THE TEA STORY

ACTIVE
People in many countries grow tea.
The same but in
PASSIVE would be:
Tea is grown in many countries.

ACTIVE
But the first people who started to grow and drink tea were the Chinese.
PASSIVE
Tea was first grown and drunk by the Chinese.

ACTIVE
Now India grows a lot of tea in large tea gardens close to the Himalayan mountains.
PASSIVE
Now a lot of tea is grown in large tea gardens in India, close to the Himalayan mountains.

ACTIVE
The British brought the tea to Europe.
PASSIVE
The tea was brought to Europe by the British.

ACTIVE
They still drink a lot of tea, together with some milk.
PASSIVE
A lot of tea with milk is still drunk by the British.

ACTIVE
The Japanese mostly drink green tea.
PASSIVE
Green tea is mostly drunk by the Japanese.
NOW YOU TRY!

THE BREAD STORY

ACTIVE
People in many countries eat bread.
PASSEIVE

ACTIVE
They make bread from flour, water and salt.
PASSEIVE

ACTIVE
In Europe people use yeast (Hefe) for bread.
PASSEIVE

ACTIVE
In Asia people often make bread without yeast.
PASSEIVE

THE CANTERVILLE GHOST by Oscar Wilde

The Story can be told in two ways! Let’s start with the present tense.

**ACTIVE**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>The American Hiram B. Otis</th>
<th>buys</th>
<th>Canterville Chase.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The housekeeper, Ms Umney,</td>
<td>tells</td>
<td>the family about a ghost in the castle.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The three Otis sons</td>
<td>play</td>
<td>some tricks on the ghost.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>But the girl Virginia Otis</td>
<td>likes</td>
<td>the ghost.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr Otis</td>
<td>asks</td>
<td>the ghost if he needs medicine for his headache.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>For a while no one</td>
<td>sees</td>
<td>the ghost.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>But one day Virginia</td>
<td>sees</td>
<td>him in the library.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The ghost</td>
<td>tells</td>
<td>Virginia that he wants to go to the Garden of Sleep.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Virginia</td>
<td>shows</td>
<td>the ghost the way to the garden and then he is at peace.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**PASSIVE**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Canterville Chase</th>
<th>is bought</th>
<th>by the American Hiram B. Otis.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The family</td>
<td>is told</td>
<td>about a ghost by the housekeeper, Ms Umney.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Some tricks</td>
<td>are played</td>
<td>on the ghost by the three sons.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>But the ghost</td>
<td>is liked</td>
<td>by Virginia Otis.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The ghost</td>
<td>is asked</td>
<td>by Mr Otis if he needs medicine.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>For a while the ghost</td>
<td>is seen</td>
<td>by no one.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>But one day he</td>
<td>is seen</td>
<td>by Virginia in the library.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Virginia</td>
<td>is told</td>
<td>by the ghost that he wants to go to the Garden of Sleep.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The ghost</td>
<td>is shown</td>
<td>the way by Virginia and then he is at peace.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
THE CANTERVILLE GHOST by Oscar Wilde

And that’s what it looks like in the past.

ACTIVE

The American Hiram B. Otis bought Canterville Chase.
The housekeeper, Ms Umney, told the family about a ghost in the castle.
The three Otis sons played some tricks on the ghost.
But the girl Virginia Otis liked the ghost.
Mr Otis asked the ghost if he needed medicine for his headache.
For a while no one saw the ghost.
But one day Virginia saw him in the library.
The ghost told Virginia that he wanted to go to the Garden of Sleep.
Virginia liked the ghost.
Mr Otis asked the ghost if he needed medicine.
For a while no one saw the ghost.
But one day Virginia saw him in the library.
The ghost told Virginia that he wanted to go to the Garden of Sleep.
Virginia showed the ghost the way to the garden and then he was at peace.

PASSIVE

Canterville Chase was bought by the American Hiram B. Otis.
The family was told about a ghost by the housekeeper, Ms Umney.
Some tricks were played on the ghost by the three sons.
But the ghost was liked by Virginia Otis.
The ghost was asked by Mr Otis if he needed medicine.
For a while the ghost was seen by no one.
But one day he was seen by Virginia in the library.
Virginia was told by the ghost that he wanted to go to the Garden of Sleep.
The ghost was shown the way by Virginia and then he was at peace.