

Passive 2 (be done / been done / being done)

Study the following active and passive forms:

A

Infinitive
 active: (to) do/clean/sec etc.
 passive: (to) be + don/cleaned/seen etc.
 Somebody will clean the room later.
 The room will be cleaned later.

43.2

- The situation is serious. Something must be done before it's too late.
- A mystery is something that can't be explained.
- The music was very loud and could be heard from a long way away.
- A new supermarket is going to be built next year.
- Please go away. I want to be left alone.

Perfect infinitive
 active: (to) have + don/cleaned/seen etc.
 passive: (to) have been + don/cleaned/seen etc.
 Somebody should have cleaned the room.
 The room should have been cleaned.

43.3

- I haven't received the letter yet. It might have been sent to the wrong address.
- If you hadn't left the car unlocked, it wouldn't have been stolen.
- There were some problems at first, but they seem to have been solved.

B

Present perfect
 active: have/has + done etc.
 passive: have/has been + done etc.
 The room looks nice. Somebody has cleaned it.
 The room looks nice. It has been cleaned.
 Have you heard? The concert has been cancelled.
 Have you ever been bitten by a dog?
 Are you going to the party? No, I haven't been invited.

C

Past perfect
 active: had + done etc.
 passive: had been + done etc.
 The room looked nice. Somebody had cleaned it.
 The room looked nice. It had been cleaned.
 The vegetables didn't taste very good. They had been cooked too long.
 The car was three years old but hadn't been used very much.

43.4

Present continuous
 active: am/is/are + (do)ing
 passive: am/is/are + being (done)
 Somebody is cleaning the room at the moment.
 The room is being cleaned at the moment.
 There's somebody walking behind us. I think we are being followed.
 (in a shop) 'Can I help you?' 'No, thank you. I'm being served.'

D

Past continuous
 active: was/were + (do)ing
 passive: was/were + being (done)
 Somebody was cleaning the room when I arrived.
 The room was being cleaned when I arrived.
 There was somebody walking behind us. We were being followed.