

# Passive voice

**42.1** Complete the sentences using one of these verbs in the correct form, present or past:

cause damage hold invite make  
overtake show surround translate write

- 1 Many accidents are caused by dangerous driving.
- 2 Cheese is made from milk.
- 3 The roof of the building was damaged in a storm a few days ago.
- 4 You weren't invited to the wedding. Why didn't you go?
- 5 A cinema is a place where films are shown.
- 6 In the United States, elections for president are held every four years.
- 7 Originally the book was written in Spanish, and a few years ago it was translated into English.
- 8 Although we were driving fast, we were overtaken by a lot of other cars.
- 9 You can't see the house from the road. It is surrounded by trees.

**43.3** Rewrite these sentences. Instead of using **somebody** or **they** etc., write a passive sentence.

- 1 Somebody has cleaned the room.  
The room has been cleaned.
- 2 Somebody is using the computer right now.  
The computer is being used.
- 3 I didn't realise that somebody was recording our conversation.  
I didn't realise that I was being recorded.
- 4 When we got to the stadium, we found that they had cancelled the game.  
When we got to the stadium, we found that the game had been cancelled.
- 5 They are building a new ring road round the city.  
A new ring road is being built round the city.
- 6 They have built a new hospital near the airport.  
A new hospital has been built near the airport.

**44.1** Write these sentences in another way, beginning in the way shown.

- 1 They didn't give me the information I needed.  
I wasn't given the information I needed.
- 2 They asked me some difficult questions at the interview.  
I was asked some difficult questions at the interview.
- 3 Amy's colleagues gave her a present when she retired.  
Amy was given a present when she retired.
- 4 Nobody told me about the meeting.  
I wasn't told about the meeting.
- 5 How much will they pay you for your work?  
How much will you be paid for your work?
- 6 I think they should have offered Tom the job.  
I think Tom should have been offered the job.
- 7 Has anybody shown you what to do?  
Have you been shown what to do?