

---

# Verbs: active/passive

---

Change the sentences below from active to passive tense. For example:

**Active:**        *The GP referred the patient to a consultant.*

**Passive:**      *The patient was referred to a consultant by the GP.*

Remember that it is not always necessary to mention the subject in a passive sentence. For example:

**Active:**        *We have identified the cause of this outbreak of dysentery.*

**Passive:**      *The cause of this outbreak of dysentery has been identified.*

1.        The nurse noticed a rise in the patient's pulse rate.  
      *Passive:*.....
2.        The consultant is allowing him to watch the operation.  
      *Passive:*.....
3.        All chemists sell the tablets.  
      *Passive:*.....
4.        The doctor diagnosed appendicitis.  
      *Passive:*.....
5.        The paramedics comforted the injured person until the ambulance arrived.  
      *Passive:*.....
6.        The midwife delivered the twins.  
      *Passive:*.....
7.        The gland was producing an excess of hormones.  
      *Passive:*.....
8.        They looked after him very well in hospital.  
      *Passive:*.....
9.        We examined the tissue under the microscope.  
      *Passive:*.....
10.       The doctor gave me an unpleasant mixture to drink.  
      *Passive:*.....
11.       You cannot take the lotion orally.  
      *Passive:*.....
12.       Toxic fumes poisoned the workers.  
      *Passive:*.....
13.       Doctors are predicting a rise in cases of whooping cough.  
      *Passive:*.....
14.       The drug suppresses the body's natural instinct to reject the transplanted tissue.  
      *Passive:*.....

**Complete:**

Verb	Noun	Noun	Adjective
contain		capillary	
consume		alveolus	
discharge		prevent	
diffuse		proximity	

**What words/terms are defined?**

- 1) the indentation in the anterior border of the superior lobe of the left lung that accommodates the pericardium
- 2) 1. a rounded projection, especially a rounded, projecting anatomical part (an ear \_\_\_\_\_);  
2. a subdivision of a bodily organ or part bounded by fissures, connective tissue, or other structural boundaries
- 3) an indentation appearing on an organ or other internal structure, such as a lymph node, at the point where nerves and vessels enter
- 4) the musculomembranous partition separating the thoracic and abdominal cavities
- 5) minute hairlike processes that extend from a cell surface, beating rhythmically to move the cell or to move fluid or mucus over the surface
- 6) delicate membranes that enclose the lungs divided by a thin layer of fluid
- 7) added sound you may hear while auscultating sounding like hair being rubbed together; suggests the presence of fluid in the lungs
- 8) 1. musical added sound you may hear while auscultation sounding somewhat like whistling; indicates narrowing of the airways; 2. the sound of an asthma patient's breathing

**Fill in the words regarding the symptoms and causes of...**

*Coryza*: r \_\_\_\_\_ nose; s \_\_\_\_\_ nose; c \_\_\_\_\_; s \_\_\_\_\_ t \_\_\_\_\_; w \_\_\_\_\_ e \_\_\_\_\_; s \_\_\_\_\_; c \_\_\_\_\_; l \_\_\_\_\_ fever; mild f \_\_\_\_\_

*Pneumonia*: d \_\_\_\_\_ breathing; c \_\_\_\_\_; f \_\_\_\_\_

Common causes are b \_\_\_\_\_, v \_\_\_\_\_, or f \_\_\_\_\_. V \_\_\_\_\_ pneumonia may get better with r \_\_\_\_\_ and drinking liquids.

*Asthma*: w \_\_\_\_\_; c \_\_\_\_\_; chest t \_\_\_\_\_;

*Bronchitis*: s \_\_\_\_\_ t \_\_\_\_\_; r \_\_\_\_\_ nose; s \_\_\_\_\_ infection; l \_\_\_\_\_ dry c \_\_\_\_\_

*Emphysema*: Treatments include i \_\_\_\_\_; o \_\_\_\_\_; m \_\_\_\_\_ and sometimes s \_\_\_\_\_ to relieve symptoms and p \_\_\_\_\_ complications.

*Lung Cancer*: c \_\_\_\_\_ up blood; s \_\_\_\_\_ of breath; w \_\_\_\_\_ or h \_\_\_\_\_; s \_\_\_\_\_ of the neck and face; l \_\_\_\_\_ of appetite; f \_\_\_\_\_

**Complete the gaps always with one word.**

Cough

Cough is a common \_\_\_\_\_ of upper respiratory tract infection (URTI) and lung \_\_\_\_\_. A cough may be productive, where the patient coughs \_\_\_\_\_ sputum, or \_\_\_\_\_, where there is no sputum. A productive cough is often described as \_\_\_\_\_ and a \_\_\_\_\_ cough as dry. Sputum (or \_\_\_\_\_) may be clear or white (mucoïd), yellow due \_\_\_\_\_ the presence of \_\_\_\_\_ (purulent), or blood-stained (as in haemoptysis).

1 Work in pairs. Decide what the most likely diagnosis is of a patient who presents with recurrent episodes of bronchitis several years prior to presentation with these signs and symptoms:

**Signs**

- 1 coarse inspiratory and expiratory crackles on auscultation
- 2 airflow obstruction with wheeze

**Symptoms**

- 1 cough
- 2 chronic sputum production (typically tenacious, purulent, and daily)
- 3 intermittent haemoptyses
- 4 breathlessness
- 5 intermittent pleuritic pain (usually in association with infections)
- 6 lethargy / malaise

2 Work in pairs. Listen to the conversation between Dr Zoltan and Mrs Fitzgerald, who is not asthmatic and is a non-smoker. Student A, listen to the questions the doctor asks and write them down in note form. Student B, write down what the patient says.

3 Using the doctor's questions as a guide, explain what the patient says and decide on a possible diagnosis. Is it the same as in 1 above? If not, why not?

**Explaining a device**

1 Listen to a nurse explaining to a patient how to use a breath-activated pressurized MDI (Metered Dose Inhaler). Write down the verbs the nurse uses to explain how to use the device after she says: *First of all, you remove the cap...*

2 Work in pairs. Compare lists and check with other students to complete your list.

3 The nurse asks the patient to explain the procedure to her. The following illustrations show what the patient explained to the nurse. Listen again to the nurse's explanation. Which three steps are not illustrated?

4 Work in pairs. Compare answers.



1 Choose the adjective that best fits the diagnosis in italics in each case.

- 1 Laryngitis: I've got this really bad cough and my voice is *high-pitched* / hoarse / smooth.
- 2 Tracheitis: I've got a dry cough and it's *slightly painful* / painless / really painful.
- 3 Pleurisy: my chest really hurts when I cough. I get this *stabbing* / dull / sharp pain right here in the chest when I cough.
- 4 Post-nasal drip: I've not got any pain or anything; just a dry, *barking* / tickly / painful cough. I'm always trying to clear my throat at night.
- 5 Asthma: I've been getting this wheezy / tickly / painful cough after doing exercise and sometimes in the morning.
- 6 Oesophageal reflux: first thing in the morning I get this *dry* / tickly / hollow cough and it often makes me feel sick.
- 7 Epiglottitis: she's really poorly with this terrible tickly / barking / dry cough.
- 8 Laryngeal nerve palsy: the cough sounds really barking / hoarse / hollow.
- 9 Bronchitis: he's had this *productive* / mild / hollow cough for days now with some fever but no breathlessness.

**Speaking**

Work in pairs. Take turns explaining to the patient how to use the breath-activated inhaler and then ask the patient to explain it to you. The patient should make some mistakes. Correct the patient politely.

**USEFUL EXPRESSIONS**

- OK, that's fine, but try to do it like this.
- Do you want to show me again?
- Fine, just try doing it like this.
- OK, just see if you can do it like this.
- That's nearly it.
- Can you try it again for me?

