

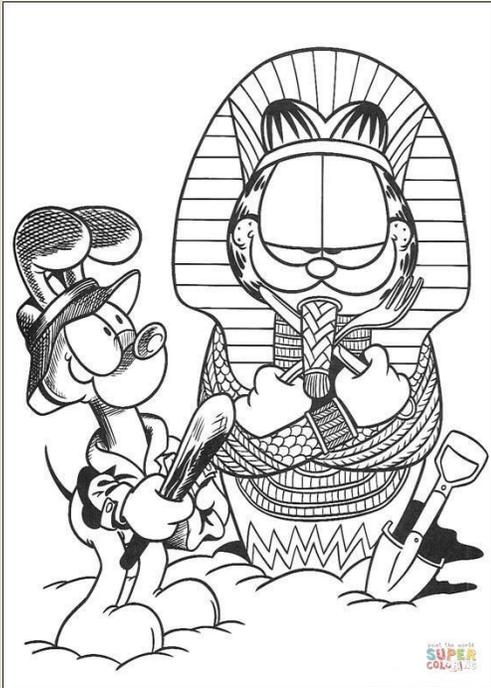
# THE PASSIVE VOICE



**PASSIVE**  
**ACTIVE**  
**VOICE**  
at [pppst.com](http://pppst.com)

# When to use passive voice?

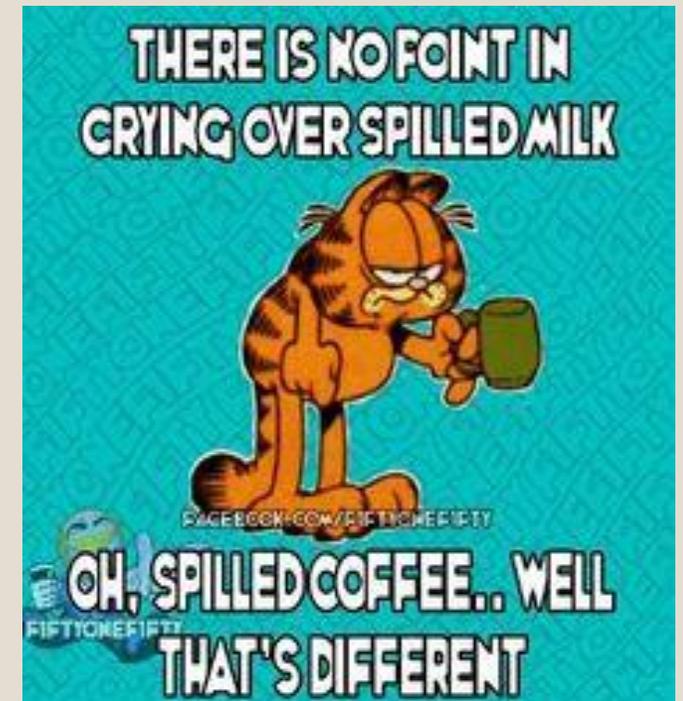
- When it's **NOT** important or unknown **WHO** has done something.



## *Examples:*

- The pyramids were built thousands of years ago.  
Do we know who built them? Well, there must have been a
  - lot of people working there.
- This shirt was made in Italy.  
Do we know who made it? No. Somebody made it and now I can wear it.

- The Word order in the passive is:
  - *Subject + verb to be + past participle.*
- It is commonly used when something happened to the subject or when we describe how something is made.
  - **Examples:**
    - *They are grown in Chile.*
    - *Blue rays aren't sold in that shop*
    - *Is English spoken in Guyana?*



- To form **the past passive**, we use the past of to be (was / were) and the past participle.

- **Examples:**



- It was made in china
- It was written by monks hundred of years ago
- I was fired
- Why are you given detention?

- We sometimes use **by** with the passive to say who did the action, although the agent is often unknown or not important.
  - My Laptop was stolen by two men
  - Machu Picchu was built by the Incas.



*Change the following sentences in the active voice into the passive voice.*

1. He helped us.

2. Doctors treated patients.

3. Teachers teach students.

4. Parents bring up children.

5. We loved our country.

6. Masons built houses.

7. Carpenters made furniture.

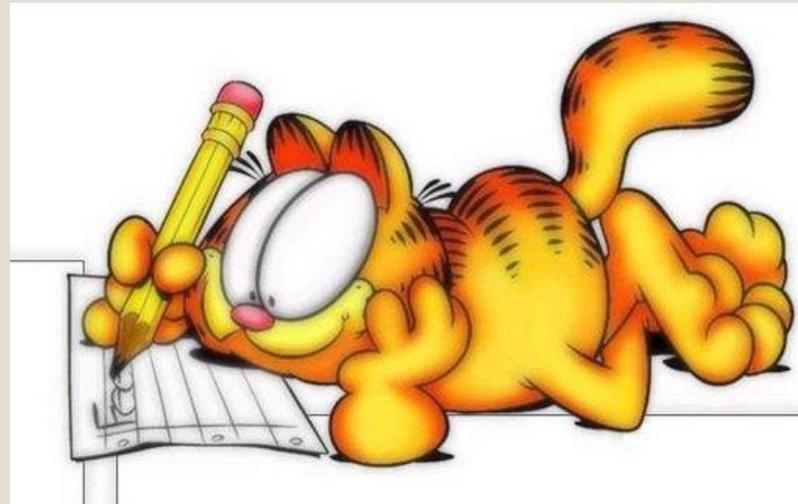
8. Mechanics repair cars.



*Change the following sentences in the active voice into the passive voice.*

- 1. We were helped by him.*
- 2. Patients were treated by doctors.*
- 3. Students are taught by teachers.*
- 4. Children are brought up by parents.*

- 5. Our country was loved by us.*
- 6. Houses were built by masons.*
- 7. Furniture was made by carpenters*
- 8. Cars are repaired by mechanics.*



- <http://www.myenglishteacher.eu/blog/the-passive-voice/>
- <http://www.englishgrammar.org/changing-sentences-simple-present-tense-passive/>