

2D Passive forms – A myth or not?

Aim

to review passive forms

Activity type

a sentence completion activity using passive forms

Classroom dynamics

pairwork and groups of four

Time taken

25 minutes

Preparation

You will need one copy of the activity sheet per pair, cut into halves.

Procedure

- 1 Divide the class into pairs and give each pair a copy of the activity sheet. Tell students they are going to read some gapped sentences which they will later discuss in groups.
- 2 Firstly, ask students to complete each statement with a passive form. Give them around 5 or 10 minutes to do this stage. Go through the answers as a class and make sure they are correct.
- 3 Then, give students a few minutes in their pairs to consider the sentences and decide whether they agree with them or not.
- 4 Put pairs together to create groups of four. Pair A starts by reading out sentence 1 from their activity sheet. As a group, the students discuss what they know about the statement, and whether they agree with it or not. Students should give their own opinion and listen carefully to what other members of the groups say in order to respond appropriately.
- 5 This process is then repeated with sentence 1 from Pair B's activity sheet. Pairs take turns until all the sentences have been discussed. Monitor carefully, but do not intervene. Make a note of any errors (especially with the passive forms) in order to give feedback after the class.

Answer key

Pair A

- 1 is said, can be influenced
- 2 have been referred to
- 3 is sought / is being sought
- 4 are taken, have been painted

Pair B

- 1 are regularly told, should be given
- 2 are thought
- 3 were targeted, aren't shown / aren't being shown
- 4 is believed

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Pair A

- 1 It _____ (say) that your mood _____ (can/influence) by your diet, especially if you limit yourself to eating only healthy food.
- 2 Dogs _____ (refer to) as 'man's best friend' for centuries because they are loyal and loving companions.
- 3 These days people get less enjoyment out of more common forms of entertainment, and for that reason it _____ (seek) through more extreme activities.
- 4 Millions of selfies _____ (take) around the world daily, and this is considered to be the sign of a new modern-day narcissism. However, self-portraits _____ (paint) since ancient times, and they aren't much different.



Pair B

- 1 Employees _____ (regularly/tell) what to wear and what not to wear. This isn't fair since they _____ (should/give) the opportunity to express themselves and their personalities through the way they dress.
- 2 The youth nowadays _____ (think) to spend too much time using their mobile devices.
- 3 In the past, as potential customers we _____ (target) at random with products. Nowadays, with the advent of social media, advertisers can analyse our personalities and interests just by monitoring our search histories and online behaviour. This is a good thing because it means we _____ (not show) items that don't interest us.
- 4 It _____ (believe) that suddenly coming into a lot of money tends to change people's lives for the worse.