**The Passive Voice**

The passive voice is used to emphasize the action done to the subject rather than the subject performing the action. In passive voice sentences, the subject receives the action of the verb.

**Structure of the Passive Voice:**

***Form:***

The passive voice is formed using a form of the verb "to be" (such as "is," "are," "was," "were," "has been," "have been," "had been," etc.) followed by the past participle of the main verb.

The past participle is often formed by adding "-ed" to regular verbs or using the irregular past participle for irregular verbs.

***Examples:***

* **Active Voice:** "The cat chased the mouse."
* **Passive Voice:** "The mouse was chased by the cat."
* **Active Voice:** "They are painting the house."
* **Passive Voice:** "The house is being painted by them."
* **Active Voice:** "She has written a letter."
* **Passive Voice:** "A letter has been written by her."

**Uses of the Passive Voice:**

1. When the doer of the action is unknown or irrelevant: "The book was found on the table."
2. To focus on the action or the result of the action: "The cake was baked by Mary."
3. To emphasize the receiver of the action: "The project was completed on time by the team."

**Forming the Passive Voice:**

1. ***Simple Present:***

"is/are" + past participle (e.g., "The house is painted.")

1. ***Simple Past:***

"was/were" + past participle (e.g., "The letter was written.")

1. ***Present Continuous:***

"is/are being" + past participle (e.g., "The movie is being watched.")

1. ***Present Perfect:***

"has/have been" + past participle (e.g., "The report has been submitted.")

1. ***Past Perfect:***

"had been" + past participle (e.g., "The keys had been lost.")

**Exercise:** Rewrite each sentence in the passive voice:

"They are building a new bridge."

"She will finish the project by tomorrow."

"The chef has prepared a delicious meal."

"We clean the house every weekend."

"The company awarded him with a bonus."

**Answers:**

"A new bridge is being built by them."

"The project will be finished by her by tomorrow."

"A delicious meal has been prepared by the chef."

"The house is cleaned by us every weekend."

"He was awarded with a bonus by the company."