

# GRAMMAR

## THE PASSIVE AND THE CAUSATIVE



**A** Read the excerpt from a guidebook below. What is emphasised in the passive form – the action or the person performing the action?

### JAPAN GuideBook

Sumo wrestling **has been practised** for thousands of years, and it is **considered to be** Japan's national sport. That's why going to a sumo tournament is an experience that **shouldn't be missed!**

Six tournaments **are held** every year, so there's a good chance you'll be able to see one. Tickets **can be bought** in advance.

**B** Continue reading the guidebook. In the causative, does the subject of the sentence perform the action?

If you want to go to the tournament, you **can get** your trip **arranged** by a tour company. When you book online, you **will be sent** instructions to your e-mail explaining how to get to the stadium.



Grammar Basics Rules and Basic Practice, page 101

**1** Complete the sentences with a suitable verb below. Use the active or passive.

broadcast | compete | repair | not discuss  
invent | score

- In what year ... the game of basketball ... ?
- We ... the problem yet.
- Turn on the TV. The match ... live!
- ... any goals ... before the game ended?
- We couldn't practise yesterday because the gym floor ...
- Laura ... in the next race.

**2** Complete the extracts from two blogs about wall climbing. Use the active or passive forms of the verbs in brackets.

#### extract from Blog 1

In the sport of wall climbing, many muscles <sup>1</sup> ... (use) and balance is very important. In addition, climbers <sup>2</sup> ... (must / plan) their routes carefully. When you climb, think of the wall as a puzzle that you <sup>3</sup> ... (give) to solve.

#### extract from Blog 2

While I <sup>4</sup> ... (climb), I began to worry that my harness <sup>5</sup> ... (not attach) correctly. Fortunately, I <sup>6</sup> ... (make) it to the top of the wall without falling, so the harness <sup>7</sup> ... (not need)!

**3** Which extract in Exercise 2 do you think was written by a ... ?

- climbing instructor
- first-time climber

**4** Complete the sentences with the verbs in brackets. Use the causative.

- Gyms ... their equipment ... regularly. (must / check)
- This year, the team ... its uniforms ... by Adidas. (design)
- The club ... the players ... to the tournament next week. (fly)
- The runner ... his leg muscles ... every week. (massage)
- Pat ... his basketball ... by LeBron James last year. (sign)

**5** Read the sentences and write sentences in the causative form with the words given.

- We can't play basketball today.  
they / the court / repair / by the builder / .
- The coach gave us all sandwiches after the match.  
he / them / prepare / by the parents / .
- Your school sports hall looks great.  
they / just / it / renovate / ?
- My football doesn't have enough air.  
I / it / inflate / at the sport centre / tomorrow / .
- The new bats are arriving today.  
we / them / deliver / to the school / .
- That looks like a sprain.  
you / should / it / see / by a doctor / .

**6 Complete the sentences. Use only one word.**

- 1 A new sports hall is ... built at our school now.
- 2 These exercises can't ... done by beginners.
- 3 It ... thought that sumo may soon be in the Olympics.
- 4 You should ... your computer repaired by a professional.
- 5 ... the new basketballs delivered yesterday?
- 6 Their best player has just ... injured.
- 7 Sorry, I can't talk. I'm ... my hair done.

**GRAMMAR IN CONTEXT**

**7 Complete the passage with the verbs in brackets. Use the active, passive or causative form. Then listen and check your answers.**

The Sports Tribune June 2020

**Better than Nothing?**

Watching football matches on TV <sup>1</sup> ... (become) a bit strange lately because stadiums are empty due to COVID-19 restrictions. However, a new way <sup>2</sup> ... (recently / find) to help solve this problem. Last week, networks <sup>3</sup> ... (begin) to broadcast matches with artificial crowd noises – voices that <sup>4</sup> ... (record) at real matches in the past. This collection of sounds <sup>5</sup> ... (now / use) to create the atmosphere of a live sports experience. The networks <sup>6</sup> ... these sounds ... (integrate) into the game by sound engineers, but it's difficult to coordinate the live action with the recorded sounds. Some viewers complain that it <sup>7</sup> ... (sound) fake, while others feel that it's better than silence. Everyone hopes that the virus <sup>8</sup> ... (soon / bring) under control so that people can attend live matches again!



**8 Write active or passive questions with the words below. Then answer them according to the information in Exercise 7.**

- 1 why / spectators / ban / from football stadiums / ?
- 2 what sounds / networks / use / in the 2020 football broadcasts / ?
- 3 where / the voices / previously record / ?



**YOUR OUTLOOK  
CRITICAL THINKING**

The players at the matches couldn't hear the artificial crowd noise. How do you think playing in an empty stadium affects players? Do you think it might have advantages, or only disadvantages?

**9 Complete the sentences. Do not change the original meaning.**

- 1 They're going to build a new stadium here.  
A new ... .
- 2 No one has ever broken that high jump record.  
That high jump record ... .
- 3 Many fans think that she is a positive role model.  
She is ... .
- 4 Did a professional coach train their son?  
Did they have ... ?
- 5 All the basketballs have to be inflated.  
We have to get ... .
- 6 Did they give the runner-up a reward?  
Was the ... ?



**LOOK OUT!**

Common verbs such as *give, send, tell, show, sell, offer* and *pay* can take two objects in the passive form and, therefore, can be written in two different ways.

Was **the runner-up** given an award?

Was **an award** given to **the runner-up**?

**GRAMMAR IN USE**

**10 Tell your partner about a sport that you like and ask him / her to guess what it is. Use the passive as much as possible.**

- Where is it played? (*indoors / stadium / field*)
- How is it played? (*throw / kick / catch*)
- What are one or two rules? (*penalty / bench / touch*)
- What equipment is used? (*ball / racquet / net*)

*The sport can be played indoors or outdoors. The ball may not be caught or held.*

