is done was done (passive 1)

A

Compare active and passive:

Somebody cleans the office every day. (active)

The office is cleaned every day. (passive)

Somebody cleaned the office yesterday. (active)

The office was cleaned yesterday. (passive)

B

The passive is:

\[
\begin{array}{c|cc|}
\text{past participle} & \text{cleaned} & \text{done} \\
\text{am/is/are} & \text{invented} & \text{built} \\
\text{was/were} & \text{injured} & \text{taken} \text{ etc.}
\end{array}
\]

The past participle of regular verbs is -ed (cleaned/damaged etc.).

For a list of irregular past participles (done/built/taken etc.), see Appendix 2–3.

- Butter is made from milk.
- Oranges are imported into Britain.
- How often are these rooms cleaned?
- I am never invited to parties.
- This house was built 100 years ago.
- These houses were built 100 years ago.
- When was the telephone invented?
- We weren't invited to the party last week.
- 'Was anybody injured in the accident?' 'Yes, two people were taken to hospital.'

C

was/were born

- I was born in London in 1962. (not 'I am born')
- Where were you born?

D

Passive + by ...

- We were woken up by a loud noise. (= The noise woke us up.)
- The telephone was invented by Alexander Bell in 1876.
- My brother was bitten by a dog last week.
EXERCISES

21.1 Write sentences from the words in brackets (...). Sentences 1-7 are present.
1 (the office / clean / every day) The office is cleaned every day.
2 (these rooms / clean / every day?) Are these rooms cleaned every day?
3 (glass / make / from sand) Glass
4 (stamps / sell / in a post office)
5 (this room / not / use / very often)
6 (we / allow / to park here?)
7 (how / this word / pronounce?)

Sentences 8-15 are past.
8 (the office / clean / yesterday) The office was cleaned yesterday.
9 (the house / paint / last month) The house
10 (three people / injure / in the accident)
11 (my bicycle / steal / a few days ago)
12 (when / this bridge / build?)
13 (you / invite / to the party last week?)
14 (how / these windows / break?)
15 (I / not / wake up / by the noise)

21.2 Correct these sentences.
1 (This house built) 100 years ago. This house was built...
2 Football plays in most countries of the world.
3 Why did the letter send to the wrong address?
4 A garage is a place where cars repair.
5 Where are you born?
6 How many languages are speaking in Switzerland?
7 Somebody broke into our house but nothing stolen.
8 When was invented the bicycle?

21.3 Complete the sentences. Use the passive (present or past) of these verbs:

**clean** damage find give invite make make show steal take

1 The room is cleaned... every day.
2 I saw an accident yesterday. Two people were taken to hospital.
3 Paper is made from wood.
4 There was a fire at the hotel last week. Two of the rooms...
5 ‘Where did you get this picture?’ ‘It was given to me by a friend of mine.’
6 Many American programmes are shown on British television.
7 ‘Did Jim and Sue go to the wedding?’ ‘No. They went but they didn’t go.’
8 ‘How old is this film?’ ‘It was made in 1965.’
9 My car was taken last week but the next day it was returned by the police.

21.4 Where were they born?
1 (Ian / Edinburgh) Ian was born in Edinburgh.
2 (Sally / Birmingham)
3 (her parents / Ireland)
4 (you / ???)
5 (your mother / ???)
is being done  has been done
(passive 2)

A  is/are being ... (present continuous passive)

- My car is at the garage. It is being repaired. (= somebody is repairing it)
- Some new houses are being built opposite the park. (= somebody is building them)

Compare the present continuous and present simple:
- The office is being cleaned at the moment. (continuous)
  The office is cleaned every day. (simple)
- In Britain football matches are usually played on Saturday, but
  no matches are being played next Saturday.

For the present continuous and present simple, see Units 8 and 26.

B  has/have been ... (present perfect passive)

- My key has been stolen. (= somebody has stolen it)
- My keys have been stolen. (= somebody has stolen them)
- I’m not going to the party. I haven’t been invited. (= nobody has invited me)
- Has this shirt been washed? (= Has somebody washed it?)

Compare the present perfect and past simple:
- The room is clean now. It has been cleaned. (present perfect)
  The room was cleaned yesterday. (past simple)
- I can’t find my keys. I think they’ve been stolen. (present perfect)
  My keys were stolen last week. (past simple)

For the present perfect and past simple, see Unit 20.
EXERCISES

22.1 What's happening?
1 The car is being repaired.
2 A bridge
3 The windows
4 The grass

22.2 Look at the pictures. What is happening or what has happened? Use the present continuous (is/are being ...) or the present perfect (has/have been ...).
1 (the office / clean) The office is being cleaned.
2 (the shirts / iron) The shirts have been ironed.
3 (the window / break) The window ...
4 (the roof / repair) The roof ...
5 (the car / damage) ...
6 (the houses / knock / down) ...
7 (the trees / cut / down) ...
8 (they / invite / to a party) ...

22.3 Use the words in brackets (...) to complete the sentences. (Units 21 and 22)
1 I can't use my office at the moment. It is being painted. (paint).
2 We didn't go to the party. We weren't invited. (not/invite).
3 The washing machine was broken but it's OK now. It was repaired. (repair).
4 The washing machine was repaired yesterday afternoon.
5 A factory is a place where things are made. (make).
6 How old are these houses? When were they built? (they/build)?
7 A: What do you use at the moment? (the computer / use)
   B: Yes, Jim is using it.
8 I've never seen these flowers before. What were they called? (they/call)?
9 Some trees were blown down in the storm last night.
10 The bridge is closed at the moment. It was damaged last week. (damage)