The Donkey's Shadow

Objectives

On completion of this unit you'll be able to identify and use the following structures and expressions in your reading, writing, listening and speaking:

- passive voice in present simple tense
- passive voice in past simple tense
- passive voice in present continuous, present perfect and future simple tenses

Overview

Lesson 1: The Winter Rice
Learning point: passive voice in present simple tense

Lesson 2: The Donkey's Shadow
Learning point: passive voice in past simple tense

Lesson 3: Bangladesh in the 21st Century
Learning point: passive voice in present continuous, present perfect and future simple tenses

Lesson 4: Revision and Test
Answer Key
Alim is studying agriculture at school. One day he found the term 'winter rice' in his book. He could not understand it. So he asked his father,

"Father, what is meant by the term 'winter rice'"

His father answered, "Rice is known by its harvest season; winter rice means the rice that is harvested in winter. Aman is the winter rice".

"Oh I see. Father, could you tell me how Aman rice is cultivated?"

"Sure. Listen to me carefully. Aman seeds are first sown in a seed-bed in the month of July. When the seedlings are one month old they are transplanted in the field. The land should be ploughed well and made wet before that.

"What fertilizers should be used?"

"Potash and TSP should be used in the soil at the time of ploughing. After transplantation Urea should be used three times – once after ten days, once after one month and the last time before flowering."
"What other steps should be taken for a good harvest?"

"The field should be kept free from weeds, insects and other pests. Standing water is necessary during the growth period. This should be ensured. If these steps are taken a good harvest can be expected."

**Read and note.**

harvest season: season for cutting of crops

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>English</th>
<th>Bengali</th>
<th>Spanish</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>cultivate (v)</td>
<td>চাষ করা</td>
<td>Past Participle (PP)-cultivated</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>sow (v)</td>
<td>বৃন্ধন করা</td>
<td>PP sown</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>seed-bed</td>
<td>বীজ তলা</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>seedling</td>
<td>young plant newly grown from a seed</td>
<td>চারা গাছ</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>transplant (v)</td>
<td>take up plants with roots and plant them in another place</td>
<td>PP. transplanted</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>plough (v)</td>
<td>till with a plough</td>
<td>PP. ploughed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>potash</td>
<td>পটাশ সার</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TSP</td>
<td>Triple Super Phosphate</td>
<td>ফসফরাস সমূহ এক ধরনের সার</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Urea</td>
<td>ইউরিয়া সার</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>step</td>
<td>measure</td>
<td>উপায়</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>weed</td>
<td>useless plant</td>
<td>আগাছা</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>insect</td>
<td>পোকামাকড়ু</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>pest</td>
<td>ক্ষতিকারক বস্তু বা গ্রাহী</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ensure (v)</td>
<td>make sure</td>
<td>PP. ensured</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>a good harvest</td>
<td>ভালো ফসল</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>expect (v)</td>
<td>প্রত্যাশা করা</td>
<td>PP. expected</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Choose the correct answer.**

1. Aman rice is harvested in
   A July  B Summer  C Winter  D Spring

2. Seeds of Aman rice are first sown in
   A the field       B the seed-bed
   C back yard       D the hill

3. The Aman seedlings are transplanted
   A when they are ten days old.
SSC Programme

B when they are one month old.
C when they are two months old.
D before flowering.

4 What fertilizer should be used in the soil at the time of ploughing?
   A Potash B TSP
   C Urea D Both Potash and TSP

5 How many times should Urea be used?
   A Three times B One time
   C Four times D Two times

Refer to the passage at A and answer the following questions.
1 What is called the 'winter rice'?
2 What fertilizers are used for cultivation of 'Aman'?
3 What should be ensured during the growth period of 'Aman'?

Look at the following sentences.
1 Farmers grow rice.
2 Rice is grown by farmers.

These two sentences mean the same thing. In sentence 1 farmers do something. This is called the active voice. Normally we use sentences like this.

In sentence 2 something is done. The action is getting importance. This is called the passive voice. We use the passive voice when
a) we do not know who does the action, and/or
b) the action is more important than the agent (i.e. doer of the action).

That is why quite often the agent is not mentioned in the passive voice. For example
1 Aman rice is harvested in winter.
2 The seeds are sown in a seed-bed.
3 Potash and TSP should be used.

Note that in the passive voice 'be' verb is used followed by the past participle (PP) form of the verb.

Now complete the following sentences. Use the passive form of the given verbs in the blanks. Use present simple tense only. The first two are done for you.

1 Rice (grow) in Bangladesh.
   Ans. Rice is grown in Bangladesh.
2 These rooms (clean) regularly.
   Ans. These rooms are cleaned regularly.
3 Football (play) in many countries.
4 Butter (make) from milk.
5 English (speak) all over the world.
6 Urea should (use) three times.
7 The field should (plough) well before transplantation.
8 If these steps (take) a good harvest can (expect).
A

Alim was reading a book named *Aesop's Fable*. He found the following story in that book. Read the story and answer the questions at C.

Aesop was born long ago in ancient Greece. At that time people were sold in market like cattle. Those sold people were called slaves. Aesop was a slave. He was owned by a man who liked to hear stories. Aesop used to tell him stories. His stories were very interesting. They were liked by everybody. Even today people like them. These stories are known as Aesop's fables. Here is a fable by Aesop.

**Aesop's Fable**

Once a man hired a donkey of another man to go to a distant place. The donkey's owner went with him to bring back the donkey. He walked while the other man rode the donkey.

At mid day they decided to stop and have lunch. It was a hot day and they were in the middle of a desert. There was no shadow anywhere. The only shadow was that of the donkey. The donkey's owner sat there.
The other man pushed him and said, "Why are you sitting here? This donkey has been hired by me. So its shadow belongs to me. I'll sit here, not you."
The other man answered, "you hired my donkey, but not its shadow. The shadow belongs to me. I'll sit here."
They pushed each other. Then they began to fight. The donkey was frightened and it ran away. The two men were left in the hot desert sun.

*Moral : It is foolish to fight for a small thing.*

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**Read and note.**

| was born | জন্ম হয়েছিল | born is PP. of bear (প্রসব করা) |
| ancient | very old | প্রাচীন |
| cattle | bulls, cows etc. | গবাদি পশু |
| own (v) | possess | অধিকার করা |
| hire (v) | তাড়া করা | PP. hired |
| donkey | ass | গায় |
| owner | one who owns | মালিক |
| desert | গৃহ মুখ | |
| shadow | ছায়া | |
| belong (v) | অধিকারভূক হওয়া | PP. belonged |
| leave (v) | ত্যাগ করা | PP. left |

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**Refer to the story and answer the following questions.**

1. Where was Aesop born?
2. What was he?
3. Why did he tell stories?
4. Who liked his stories?
5. Why did a man hire a donkey?
6. Why did the donkey's owner go with him?
7. What did they decide to do at mid day?
8. Who sat in the donkey's shadow?
9. Why did the other man push him?
10. Why did they fight?
11. What happened as a result?
12. What is the moral of the story?

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**Note the following sentences.**

1. Aesop was born long ago in ancient Greece.
2. At that time people were sold in the market like cattle.

To use the passive voice in the past simple tense we use past form of 'be' verb (i.e. was/were) followed by past participle form of the main verb. This is used to describe past actions.
Use the words given below to make sentence in the passive voice. Use past simple tense (was/were + PP. of verb). The first two have been done for you.

1 This building (build) many years ago.
Ans. This building was built many years ago.
2 They (invite) to the party.
Ans. They were invited to the party.
3 My glasses (break) last week.
4 Many people (injure) in the accident.
5 The letter (send) to a wrong address.
6 Jute (grow) in this field last year.
7 His bicycle (steal) last month.
8 Telephone (invent) by Alexander Graham Bell.
9 He (bite) by a dog last month.
10 He (give) injections.

Note the following expression.
was/were born
Aesop was born in Ancient Greece.

Now complete the following sentences with the given hints. Use 'was/were born'. One is done for you.

1 Hasan/Chittagong/1949.
   Hasan was born in Chittagong in 1949.
2 Ratan/Bagerhat.
   Ratan was born in Bagerhat.
3 Habib/1935
   Habib was born in 1935.
4 Rehana/Khulna/1960
   Rehana was born in Khulna in 1960.
5 You/Pabna/1968
   You were born in Pabna in 1968.

Answer the following questions about yourself.
1 Where were you born?
2 In which year were you born?
3 Where and when was your father born?
The next day Alim was reading a newspaper. He found a very interesting sub-editorial. Read the sub-editorial and answer the questions at C.

The Coming Century

The 20th century is coming to an end. Very soon we will enter the 21st century. What kind of life do we expect in the coming century?

Bangladesh is a small over-populated country. Our main problem, population explosion, has been checked to some extent. We hope it will be fully checked in the next century.

Another problem is lack of education. Most of our people are illiterate. Steps are being taken to eradicate illiteracy. We hope it will be completely eradicated in the 21st century.

Free education upto primary level is now being provided. We hope this will be raised upto secondary level.

Poverty and lack of employment are our serious problems. Some steps have already been taken to solve them. But greater effort is necessary. We hope that in the 21st century nobody will remain unemployed. All men and women will find suitable jobs.
What will be the condition of women? Will they be free to make decisions for themselves. We hope that all women will be educated and economically independent.

Now-a-days modern facilities, such as electricity, telephone, gas, water and sanitation are provided only for people of cities and towns. We hope that in the 21st century these facilities will be provided for everybody. Everybody will enjoy a healthy, happy and prosperous life.

Do you think these are possible or are they dreams? If we all try can't we make these dreams come true?

Read and note.

| Century | 100 years শতাব্দী |
| Population explosion | জনসংখ্যা বিস্তারণ, জনসংখ্যার অভ্যন্তরীণ বৃদ্ধি |
| check (v) | restrain নিয়ন্ত্রণ প্রদান |
| eradicate (v) | root out সমূহের উপর শূন্য করা |
| illiteracy | নিঃসংস্কার প্রয়োজন |
| provide (v) | supply যোগানো |
| primary level | প্রাথমিক স্তর |
| raise (v) | lift up উত্তোলন করা |
| secondary level | মাধ্যমিক স্তর |
| poverty | state of being poor দায়িত্ব ১ |
| lack | want, shortage অভাব |
| employment | job opportunities চারিদিক |
| effort | attempt চেষ্টা |
| unemployed | without employment বেকার |
| suitable | appropriate উপযোগী, যথার্থ |
| make decision | নিশ্চয় গ্রহণ করা |
| facilities | সুযোগ সুবিধা |
| prosperous | rich and successful সমৃদ্ধ |

Note that the writer expects some changes to take place in the 21st century. Write against each sector mentioned below the expected changes. Two have been done for you.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sector</th>
<th>Expected Changes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 Population</td>
<td>Population explosion will be fully checked.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 Literacy</td>
<td>Illiteracy will be completely eradicated.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 Education</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 Employment</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 Women</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 Modern</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>facilities</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Read the following sentences.
1. Population explosion has been checked to some extent.
2. Steps are being taken to eradicate illiteracy.
3. Illiteracy will be completely eradicated in the 21st century.

In sentence 1 present perfect tense has been used. The form is:
has / have + been + PP. of verb.

In sentence 2 present continuous tense has been used. The form is:
am/is/are + being + PP. of verb.

In sentence 3 future simple tense has been used. The form is:
shall/will + be + PP. of verb.

Now fill in the blanks with the suitable passive forms of the given verbs.
Two have been done for you.
1. Don't enter the room. It ______ now. (clean)
   Ans. Don't enter the room. It is being cleaned now.

2. I can't find my purse. I think it ______ . (steal)
   Ans. I can't find my purse. I think it has been stolen.

3. We hope that poverty ______ in the coming century. (remove)

4. Free education up to secondary level ______ for girls now. (provide)

5. We hope soon it ______ for both boys and girls. (provide)

6. A decision ______ already ______ to check population explosion.
   (make)

7. Electricity ______ already ______ to some villages. (supply)

8. We hope that in near future it ______ to all villages. (supply)

9. At present steps ______ ______ to improve the condition of women. (take)

10. When ______ health and happiness ______ by everybody? (enjoy)

C

You want to make a pen-friend in Australia and you you've found Roger's address from a magazine. Roger wants to know about his pen-friend. Write a letter to him providing the following information about yourself:

Your name, the year and place of your birth, your occupation, the place you live in, the facilities you enjoy and lack, your dream for the future.

You can begin like this -

Dear Roger,

I've found your address in a magazine and I would like to be your pen-friend. Here is a short account of myself:

My name is ________________ I was born in (place) __________ in the year ________________ ...
Revision and Test

**A**

In this unit you have learnt the use of the passive voice. Why is the passive voice used? It is used when the action is more important than the doer of the action. That is why in passive sentences the agent (i.e. the doer of the action) is quite often not mentioned.

**B**

Remember the forms of the passive.

1. **Present Simple Tense**
   am/is/are/be + PP. of verb
   e.g. I am always invited to their parties.
   Aman rice is harvested in winter.
   The seeds are sown in July.
   Urea should be applied three times.
   If these steps are taken a good harvest can be expected.

2. **Past Simple Tense**
   was/were + PP. of verb
   e.g. My purse was stolen yesterday.
These buildings were built many years ago.

3 **Present Continuous Tense**
   am/is/are + being PP. of verb
   e.g. I am being disturbed by the noise.
   The room is being cleaned now.
   Steps are being taken to remove poverty.

4 **Present Perfect Tense**
   has/have + been + PP. of verb
   e.g. A decision has been made to eradicate illiteracy.
   I have been invited to the party.

5 **Future Simple Tense**
   shall/will + be + PP. of verb
   e.g. Shall we be invited to the party?
   All modern facilities will be provided for everybody in the 21st century.

Use the correct form of the verbs given below to fill in the blanks. Use the passive voice. The first one has been done for you.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>clean</th>
<th>bite</th>
<th>build</th>
<th>transplant</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>play</td>
<td>use</td>
<td>remove</td>
<td>sell</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>sow</td>
<td>harvest</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1 This building is very old. It was built many years ago.
2 This room looks nice. It ___ just now.
3 Last week he ___ by a dog. Now he ___ injections.
4 Aman seeds ___ in July.
5 Seedlings of Aman rice ___ in August.
6 Potash and TSP should ___ in the soil at the time of ploughing.
7 Aman rice ___ in winter.
8 We hope that poverty ___ completely from Bangladesh in the next century.
9 In ancient Greece people ___ in market like cattle.
10 Cricket ___ in many countries of the world.
Match the sentence parts in column **A** with those in column **B** to make meaningful sentences. Try orally first and then write the sentences.

### D1

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>A</th>
<th>B</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 Aman seeds are</td>
<td>a) used three times</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 The seedlings are</td>
<td>b) sown in a seed bed in July</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 Potash and TSP are</td>
<td>c) transplanted one month later</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 Urea should be</td>
<td>d) harvested in winter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 Aman rice is</td>
<td>e) used at the time of ploughing</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

eg 1/b Aman seeds are sown in a seed bed in July.

### D2

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>A</th>
<th>B</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 Aesop was born</td>
<td>a) in market like cattle.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 At that time people were sold</td>
<td>b) as Aesop's fables.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 Aesop was</td>
<td>c) stories to his master.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 He used to tell</td>
<td>d) a slave.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 These stories are known</td>
<td>e) in ancient Greece.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

eg 1/e Aesop was born in ancient Greece.

### D3

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>A</th>
<th>B</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 In the 21st century illiteracy</td>
<td>a) will be alleviated.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 Free education</td>
<td>b) will enjoy a healthy, happy and prosperous life.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 All men and women</td>
<td>c) will be provided for everybody.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 Modern facilities</td>
<td>d) will be completely eradicated.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 Poverty</td>
<td>e) will be provided upto secondary level.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

eg 1/d In the 21st century illiteracy will be completely eradicated.
**LESSON : 1**

1 Aman is called the winter rice.
2 Potash, TSP and Urea are used for cultivation of 'Aman'.
3 Standing water should be ensured during the growth period of 'Aman'.

**LESSON : 2**

1 Aesop was born in ancient Greece.
2 He was a slave.
3 He told stories because his owner liked to hear stories.
4 Everybody liked his stories. Even today people like them.

5 A man hired a donkey to go to a distant place.
6 The donkey's owner went with him to bring back his donkey.
7 At mid day they decided to stop and eat lunch.
8 The donkey's owner sat in the donkey's shadow.
9 The other man pushed him because he wanted to sit there.
10 They fought because both of them wanted to sit in the donkey's shadow.
11 As a result the donkey was frightened and it ran away.
12 The moral of the story is that it is foolish to fight for a small thing.

3 My glasses were broken last week.
4 Many people were injured in the accident.
5. The letter was sent to a wrong address.
6. Jute was grown in this field last year.
7. His bicycle was stolen last month.
8. Telephone was invented by Alexander Graham Bell.
9. He was bitten by a dog last month.
10. He was given injections.

\[\begin{array}{ll}
2. & \text{Ratan was born in Bagerhat.}
3. & \text{Habib was born in 1935.}
4. & \text{Rehana was born in Khulna in 1960.}
5. & \text{You were born in Pabna in 1968.}
\end{array}\]

\[\textit{Try yourself and show your answer to your tutor.}\]

\[\text{LESSON : 3}\]

\[\begin{array}{ll}
3. & \text{Free education upto secondary level will be provided.}
4. & \text{All men and women will find suitable employment.}
5. & \text{All women will be educated and made economically independent.}
6. & \text{Modern facilities, such as electricity, telephone, gas, water and sanitation will be provided for everybody.}
\end{array}\]

\[\begin{array}{ll}
3. & \text{will be removed}
4. & \text{is being provided}
5. & \text{will be provided}
6. & \text{has, been made}
7. & \text{has, been supplied}
8. & \text{will be supplied}
9. & \text{are being taken, (or have been taken)}
10. & \text{will, be enjoyed}
\end{array}\]

\[\textit{Try yourself and show your writing to your tutor.}\]
LESSON : 4

C
2 has been cleaned
3 was bitten; is being given/has been given
4 are sown
5 are transplanted
6 be used
7 is harvested
8 will be removed
9 were sold
10 is played

D1
2/c The seedlings are transplanted one month later.
3/e Potash and TSP are used at the time of ploughing.
4/a Urea should be used three times.
5/d Aman rice in harvested in winter.

D2
2/a At that time people were sold in market like cattle.
3/d Aesop was a slave.
4/c He used to tell stories to his master.
5/b These stories are known as Aesop's fables.

D3
2/e Free education will be provided upto secondary level.
3/b All men and women will enjoy a healthy, happy and prosperous life.
4/c Modern facilities will be provided for everybody.
5/a Poverty will be alleviated.