

Grammar tables

Continuous passives

Passive sentences focus on the noun that is the receiver or result of an action, rather than the noun that is performing the action (the agent).

Present continuous passive - positive

passive subject	'to be'	being	past participle	
The bridge	is	being	painted	this year.
The interviews	are	being	held	in the office.

Present continuous passive - negative

passive subject	'to be'	being	past participle	
The bridge	isn't	being	painted	next year.
The interviews	aren't	being	held	in the canteen.

Present continuous passive - questions

'to be'	passive subject	being	past participle		
Is	the bridge	being	painted	next year	?
Are	the interviews	being	held	in the canteen	?

Past continuous passive - positive

passive subject	'to be'	being	past participle	
The bridge	was	being	painted	last year.
The interviews	were	being	held	in the office.

Past continuous passive - negative

passive subject	'to be'	being	past participle	
The bridge	wasn't	being	painted	in 1968.
The interviews	weren't	being	held	in the canteen.

BBC Learning English

Grammar Challenge



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Past continuous passive – questions

'to be'	passive subject	being	past participle		
Was	the bridge	being	opened	in 1977	?
Were	the interviews	being	held	in the canteen	?