

6A

the passive: be + past participle

- 1 A lot of movies **are shot** on location. (3 31))
 Our car **is being repaired** today.
 Andy's bike **has been stolen**.
 The director died when the movie **was being made**.
 You'll **be picked up** at the airport by one of our staff.
 This bill **has to be paid** tomorrow.
- 2 *Batman Begins* **was directed by** Christopher Nolan.



A lot of movies are shot on location.

- 1 We often use the passive when it's not said, known, or important who does an action.
Andy's bike has been stolen. (= Somebody has stolen Andy's bike. We don't know who.)
- 2 If you want to say who did the action, use *by*.
- We can often say things in two ways, in the active or in the passive. Compare:
Batman Begins was directed by Christopher Nolan. (= the focus is more on the movie)
Christopher Nolan directed Batman Begins in 2005. (= the focus is more on Nolan)
 - We form negatives and questions in the same way as in active sentences.
Some movies aren't shot on location.
Is your car being repaired today?
 - We often use the passive to talk about processes, for example scientific processes, and in formal writing, such as newspaper reports.
Then the water is heated to 100 degrees...
Many buildings in the city have been damaged by the earthquake.

- a Circle the correct form, active or passive.
- The college *built* (was built) in the 18th century.
- The costumes for the show *are making* | *are being made* by hand.
 - The landscape *inspired* | *was inspired* him to write a poem.
 - This castle *hasn't inhabited* | *hasn't been inhabited* for almost a century.
 - The director's last movie *set* | *is set* in the present.
 - The movie *will shoot* | *will be shot* in the fall.
 - The actors *aren't recording* | *aren't being recorded* the dialogue until next week.
 - The house *wasn't using* | *wasn't being used* by the owners during the winter.
 - The makeup artist *has transformed* | *has been transformed* the actor into a monster.
 - They *hadn't owned* | *hadn't been owned* the company for very long before they went bankrupt.
 - The photo *took* | *was taken* by my husband on the balcony of our hotel.

- b Rewrite the sentences with the passive. Only use *by* if necessary.
- People don't use this room very often. *This room isn't used very often.*
- They subtitle a lot of foreign movies.
 A lot of foreign movies _____.
 - García Márquez wrote *Love in the Time of Cholera*.
Love in the Time of Cholera _____.
 - Someone is repairing my laptop.
 My laptop _____.
 - They haven't released the DVD of the movie yet.
 The DVD of the movie _____.
 - They won't finish the movie until the spring.
 The movie _____.
 - You have to pick up the tickets from the box office.
 The tickets _____.
 - They hadn't told the actor about the changes in the script.
 The actor _____.
 - James Cameron directed *Avatar*.
Avatar _____.
 - They've already recorded the soundtrack.
 The soundtrack _____.
 - They were interviewing the director about the movie.
 The director _____.