

The Stolen Car

A. Reading

Last month, John's car was stolen in Toronto. The front window was smashed by the thief, and the car was driven out of the city. It was kept in an abandoned lot for a week. Finally, the window was repaired, and it was sold on the black market to a used car dealership. After that, it was bought by a young man who drove it out west to visit his family. In Alberta, the young man was pulled over for speeding. The car was seized by police because the license plate indicated it was stolen. Finally, the car was returned to John. He couldn't believe all the crazy things that had happened to his car.

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The Stolen Car cont.

B. Questions

1. When was John's car stolen?

2. How was it stolen?

3. Where was it kept for a week?

4. What was done to the car before it was sold on the black market?

5. How did the car end up in Alberta?

6. How did the police end up finding the car?

7. Did John ever get his car back?

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The Tornado

A. Reading

Last month, the Johnsons' house was destroyed by a tornado. Their roof was ripped off during the storm. Their car was picked up by strong winds and dropped two miles from their house. Most of their possessions were lost in the storm. The Johnsons were housed and fed during the ordeal by family and friends. Luckily, the Johnsons' house was insured. Now the house is being renovated. The walls are being repaired, the roof is being rebuilt, and all of the rooms are being painted. The entire house is being refurnished. A lot of money is being spent to repair the house, but at least the family wasn't killed by the storm.

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The Tornado cont.

B. Questions

1. What happened to the Johnsons' house?

2. What happened to their roof?

3. Where was their car dropped by the wind?

4. Who were the Johnsons helped out by during their ordeal?

5. Was the house insured?

6. What kind of renovations are being done to the house?

7. What is the downside to this situation, and what is the upside?

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Janie's New School

A. Reading

Janie hated her old school. She was bullied by the other kids in her class. She was made fun of, she was taunted, and she was laughed at. She was often yelled at by her teacher. Janie's parents were worried about her, so they moved her to a new school. On her first day at the new school, she was welcomed by the entire class. She was shown around the school by a nice girl named Samantha. She was even given a desk in the front row. In art class, she was complimented by the teacher on her beautiful drawing. At recess, she was invited by a group of kids to play baseball. Janie is respected at her new school, and she is much happier!

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Janie's New School cont.

B. Questions

1. How was Janie treated at her old school by the other kids?

2. What did they do to her?

3. How was she treated by her teacher?

4. What was done by Janie's parents to help her?

5. How was she treated by her class on her first day?

6. What were three nice things that happened to Janie on the first day?

7. Why is Janie much happier at the new school?

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About You

A. Questions

Answer the following questions using the passive voice.

1. Has a possession of yours ever been stolen? How was it taken?

2. Where is your car kept? Where is your wallet kept?

3. Imagine that your car was taken in for repairs yesterday.
   Explain what was done to your car by the mechanic.

4. Were you complimented by someone recently?
   Who were you complimented by, and what did they say to you?

5. Were you ever helped out by someone? How did they help you?

6. How are you treated by the other students in your class / your coworkers?

7. What were you given by your family for your last birthday?

8. Were you ever bullied by anyone? How were you bullied?

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About You cont.

B. Drawing

Draw a picture of yourself in the box, or paste in a photograph.

C. Writing

Now use the questions and answers on page 7 to write a short paragraph about yourself.

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Your Own Story

A. Drawing

Draw a picture in the box, or paste in a photograph.

B. Writing

Using the passive voice, write a short paragraph about the picture in the box. Use your notebook if you don't have enough space below.

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Your Own Story cont.

C. Questions

Write five questions about your paragraph.

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____

D. Answers

Give your story and questions to a classmate.
Have them read your story and answer your questions below.

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____

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Answer Key

LESSON DESCRIPTION:

In this lesson, students read three stories that use the passive voice in context. They answer comprehension questions and write two paragraphs of their own using the passive voice.

LEVEL: Int

TIME: 1.5–2 hours

TAGS: grammar in context, passive, passive voice, passive verbs, past participles

The Stolen Car

1. John's car was stolen last month.
2. The front window was smashed by the thief, and the car was driven out of Toronto.
3. It was kept in an abandoned lot for a week.
4. Before it was sold on the black market, the window was repaired.
5. The car was sold to a used car dealership and then bought by a young man who drove it to Alberta to visit his family.
6. The police found the car when the young man was pulled over for speeding, and the license plate indicated that it was stolen.
7. Yes, John did get his car back.

The Tornado

1. The Johnsons' house was destroyed by a tornado.
2. Their roof was ripped off during the storm.
3. Their car was dropped two miles away by the wind.
4. The Johnsons were helped out by family and friends.
5. Yes, the house was insured.
6. The walls are being repaired, the roof is being rebuilt, and all of the rooms are being painted.
7. The downside is that a lot of money is being spent to repair the house. The upside is that the family wasn't killed by the storm.

Janie's New School

1. Janie was treated poorly at her old school by the other kids.
2. They bullied her. She was made fun of, taunted, and laughed at.
3. She was often yelled at by her teacher.
4. Janie's parents moved her to a new school.
5. On the first day, she was welcomed by the entire class.
6. She was shown around the school by a nice girl, she was given a desk in the front row, she was complimented by the teacher on her drawing, and she was invited by a group of kids to play baseball.
7. Janie is much happier because she is respected at her new school.

About You

Individual answers.

Your Own Story

Individual answers.

SPELLING NOTE:

This lesson shows the American spelling of the *License*. Most other English-speaking countries spell it this way: *Licence*. Make it a challenge for your students to find this word in the lesson and see if they know the alternate spelling.

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