

The passive (present simple and past simple)

I can use the present and past passive to talk about technology.

1 Complete the sentences below with the present simple passive form of the verbs in brackets.

- Millions of mobile phones _____ every year. (sell)
- American football _____ very much in the UK. (not play)
- _____ tablets _____ in your school? (use)
- Most crimes _____ in big cities. (commit)
- Rubber trees _____ in cold countries. (not grow)
- _____ Samsung televisions _____ in Korea? (make)

2 Make the active sentences passive. Include the word *by*.

- Millions of people watched the 2014 World Cup Final on TV.
The 2014 World Cup Final was watched by millions of people on TV.
- Alexander Fleming discovered penicillin.

- Rafa Nadal didn't win the match.

- Robots made that car.

- Did Suzanne Collins write the *Hunger Games* books?

- Peter Jackson directed the *Hobbit* films.

3 Put the words below in the correct order. (Remember where to put the adverb.)

- satnavs. / are / Phones / used as / sometimes

- Was / Bob Dylan? / *Make you feel my love* / first / by / sung

- invented / The wheel / about 5,000 years ago. / probably / was

- quickly / was / The suspect / arrested.

- the missing jewellery / ever / found? / Was

4 Complete the fact file below with the past simple passive form of the verbs in brackets.

COMPUTERS: a short history

- The first computer ¹ _____ (invent) by Charles Babbage in the early 19th century. It ² _____ (not power) by electricity – it was mechanical.
- The first electronic digital computer ³ _____ (build) in 1943 in Britain. It ⁴ _____ (call) 'Colossus' and it ⁵ _____ (use) for decoding enemy messages in the war.
- Businesses began to use computers in the 1950s, but computers ⁶ _____ (not sell) in shops until the early 1970s.



- The first desktop computers ⁷ _____ (develop) in the late 1970s.
- Internet access via a modem ⁸ _____ (add) in the 1990s, but wireless access ⁹ _____ (not add) to most computers until about 2000.



- For the first time, in 2015, more tablets and smartphones ¹⁰ _____ (sell) than laptops and desktops. Will computers eventually disappear from our homes and schools?

