ANSWER KEY WITH EXPLANATIONS

Active-Passive Voice, Causatives Advanced Level Test – Quiz (Online Exercise With Answers) 1

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Explanations

1. Universities _____ a number of advantages by athletic teams.
✔ **D) are brought**
The agent phrase **by athletic teams** shows that the verb must be passive. The active sentence is **Athletic teams bring universities advantages**; when the indirect object (**universities**) becomes the subject, we get **Universities are brought advantages**. Present simple passive is used because this is a general fact. Not **can bring**: it is active and cannot be followed by a **by** agent here.

2. What _____ 'modern civilization' is the result of accumulated knowledge applied to practical life.
✔ **A) is called**
What is called 'X' means 'the thing that people call X'. A present simple passive fits because this is a general statement, and the main verb **is the result** is also present. Not **called**: **What called 'modern civilization'** has no finite verb, so the clause is incomplete.

3. The test book called "Advanced English Tests" _____ by two brilliant young men in 1990.
✔ **B) was written**
The book did not write itself, so we need the passive, and **in 1990** is a finished past time, so we use the past simple passive: **was written**. Not **had been written**: the past perfect needs another, later past event as a reference point, and there isn't one here.

4. The temple, which the archaeologists explored, _____ as a place of worship in the 15th century.
✔ **C) was used**
The temple was used by people, so the verb is passive. **In the 15th century** is a finished past period, so the past simple passive **was used** is correct. Not **had used**: it is active and would mean the temple used something.

5. The thieves _____ and left in a hurry.
✔ **B) were disturbed**
Someone disturbed the thieves, so we need the passive. The second verb **left** is past simple, so the first verb is past simple passive: **were disturbed** (plural to agree with **thieves**). Not **disturbed**: in the active, **disturb** needs an object (**disturbed whom?**).

6. He began shouting as though he _____ at what he _____.
✔ **B) was annoyed / saw**
Annoyed is a participle adjective used with **be**: **be annoyed at something**. After **began** (past), **as though** takes a past form, **he was annoyed**, and **saw** describes the thing he saw at that time. Not **annoyed / had seen**: **he annoyed at** is wrong, because the verb **annoy** needs an object.

7. Unfortunately, the same kind of food _____ every day by the patients in this hospital.
✔ **D) must be eaten**
Unfortunately shows that this is an unpleasant obligation: the patients have no choice. **Must be eaten** is a modal passive (modal + **be** + past participle) that expresses this obligation, and **by the patients** shows the passive. Not **should be eaten** or **can be eaten**: advice and possibility do not fit **unfortunately**.

8. Can you tell us what we _____ to do?
✔ **C) are supposed**
Be supposed to + infinitive means 'be expected or required to': **What are we supposed to do?** In an indirect question, normal word order is used: **what we are supposed to do**. Not **are supposing**: **suppose** in the active means 'think' or 'imagine', which does not fit here.

9. Every living creature _____ with some way to protect itself, by nature.
✔ **B) has been provided**
Nature provides creatures with protection, so the creature is the receiver and the verb is passive: **be provided with something**. The present perfect passive **has been provided** describes a past action with a result that still exists now. Not **provides**: it is active and would mean the creature gives something.

10. Once on the basketball court, Kareem Abdul-Jabbar _____ always _____ on to sink a hook shot or tip in a rebound.
✔ **C) could / be counted**
Count on someone means 'rely on someone'. In the passive it becomes **be counted on**, and **could always be counted on** describes past ability or reliability: people could always rely on him. Not **had always been counted on**: the past perfect needs a later past reference point, which the sentence does not give.

11. You _____ if you do not join us.
✓ **D) will be disappointed**
Disappointed (-ed adjective) describes how a person feels, while **disappointing** describes the thing that causes the feeling. In a first conditional, the result clause takes **will**: **You will be disappointed if you do not join us.** Not **will disappoint**: in the active, this verb needs an object (**disappoint someone**).

12. Acne _____ by inflammation of the small oil glands that surround the fine hairs on the face and chest.
✓ **D) is caused**
The sentence states a general medical fact, so we use the present simple. The agent phrase **by inflammation** shows the passive: **is caused by**. Not **was caused**: the past tense would refer to one past case, not a general truth.

13. Higher levels of physical activity _____ among girls who _____ near small parks and running tracks.
✓ **C) are seen / live**
This reports a general finding, so both verbs are in the present simple. The levels of activity are observed by researchers, giving the passive **are seen**, and the girls actively live near parks, giving the active **live**. Not **have seen**: it is active and would mean the levels saw something.

14. You are supposed _____ the cake.
✓ **A) to have made**
Be supposed to + perfect infinitive (**to have** + past participle) refers to something that was expected to be done already, or that people say you did: **You are supposed to have made the cake.** Not **to be made** or **to have been made**: these are passive, but **you** are the person making the cake, not the thing being made.

15. The building, dating from the late 1200s or early 1300s, _____ to be the palace of the emperor.
✓ **D) is thought**
Be thought to be is an impersonal passive used to report what people generally believe now: **The building is thought to be the palace.** The belief is a present one, so the present simple passive is used. Not **had been thought**: the past perfect would need another past event as a reference point.

16. When population _____ by artificial means, it _____ and puts more strain on limited natural resources.
✓ **A) isn't checked / increases**
This is a general truth, so both clauses use the present simple, matching **puts** in the second clause. Population is controlled by something else, giving the passive **isn't checked**, and population grows by itself, giving the active **increases**. Not **not checked**: the auxiliary **is** is missing.

17. If you visited my country, my people _____ probably _____ to have some very strange customs.
✓ **D) would / be thought**
If you visited is a second conditional, so the result clause uses **would** + base form. People (you) would think this about my people, so we need the passive: **would probably be thought to have strange customs**. Not **would have been thought**: that form belongs to the third conditional, about the past.

18. The bridge I know best _____ the Bosporus Bridge.
✓ **D) is called**
People give the bridge its name, so the verb is passive: **be called** + name. The name is still true now, so the present simple passive **is called** is correct. Not **calls**: it is active and would mean the bridge calls someone.

19. When a blind person _____, he _____ by taking his arm and guiding him.
✓ **B) is seen / should be helped**
This is general advice, so the time clause uses the present simple passive **is seen**. The main clause uses a modal passive for advice: **should be helped**. Not **were seen / must be helped**: **were** does not agree with the singular **a blind person** and does not fit a general present situation.

20. A school _____, on the model of those at Alexandria, in which astronomy and logic _____, mostly from Greek texts.
✓ **A) was set up / were taught**
The reference to the ancient schools at Alexandria shows that this is a historical event, so both verbs are in the past simple passive. Someone set up the school, giving **was set up**, and the subjects were taught by teachers, giving **were taught**. Not **set up / were being taught**: **set up** without **was** would make the school the doer of the action.

21. The young officer _____ with a knighthood in 1644.
✓ **B) was honoured**
The king honoured the officer, so the officer is the receiver and the verb is passive: **be honoured with something**. **In 1644** is a finished past time, so we need the past simple passive **was honoured**. Not **has honoured**: it is active, and the present perfect cannot be used with a finished past date.

22. The injured fan _____ to the hospital after he _____ in a seated area of the stadium before the start of the game.
✓ **E) was taken / was attacked**
Both actions were done to the fan in the past, so both verbs are in the past simple passive: he **was taken** to hospital after he **was attacked**. **After** already makes the order of events clear. Not **was taken / was attacking**: the fan was the victim, not the attacker.

23. Despite many obstacles, a history of victories _____ at impressive tennis tournaments, including Wimbledon and the French Open.
✓ **A) has been achieved**
Victories are achieved by a player, so the verb is passive. The present perfect passive **has been achieved** describes a record built up over time up to now, and **despite many obstacles** and **a history of** point to past experience with present relevance. Not **has achieved**: it is active and would mean the history itself achieved something.

24. After years of running three miles in 21 minutes, his knees _____ from the high-impact exercise.
✓ **C) have been ruined**
The knees were damaged by the exercise; they did not ruin anything themselves, so the verb is passive. The present perfect passive **have been ruined** shows a present result of years of activity. Not **have ruined**: it is active and would need an object.

25. A lot of people _____ early yesterday morning in a car crash that _____ outside my office.

✓ B) were killed / happened

Yesterday morning is a finished time, so both verbs are in the past simple. The people were victims, giving the passive **were killed**. **Happen** is intransitive, so it is never passive: **the crash happened**, not **was happened**. Not **have been killed**: the present perfect cannot be used with **yesterday**.

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