ENGLISH GRAMMAR TESTS

Passives for Flow Quiz: Active or Passive in Writing

15 questions · Choose the correct answer. Online test and answer key with explanations:
https://englishtestsonline.com/passives-for-flow-quiz-active-or-passive-in-writing/

Name: _____ Date: _____ Score: _____ / 15

1. Which second sentence keeps the topic and flows best? “The castle is over 800 years old. ___”
A) A local family now owns it.
B) It now owns a local family.
C) It is now owned by a local family.
D) A local family now owns.

2. Which sentence avoids I / we in the impersonal style of a formal report?
A) We heated the water to 100°C.
B) I heated the water to 100°C.
C) The water was heated by us to 100°C.
D) The water was heated to 100°C.

3. Which sentence puts the new, interesting information at the end?
A) A young nurse from Leeds won the competition.
B) The competition, a young nurse from Leeds won it.
C) The competition was won by a young nurse from Leeds.
D) It was the competition that a young nurse from Leeds won.

4. Which sentence should keep the by + agent?
A) My bike was stolen by a thief.
B) This bridge was designed by a famous Italian engineer.
C) The letters were delivered by a postman.
D) The suspect was arrested by the police.

5. Choose the better version: “The window was broken by someone.”
A) The window was broken by somebody.
B) The window was broken.
C) The window was broken by a person.
D) By someone the window was broken.

6. Choose the correct sentence.
A) It is talked that the factory will close.
B) It is said that the factory will close.
C) It is spoken that the factory will close.
D) It is told that the factory will close.

7. Choose the correct sentence.
A) Parking is not allowed here.
B) It is not allowed to park here.
C) It is not parked here.
D) Here is not parked.

8. A company has made a serious error and wants to sound honest and responsible. Which sentence is best?
A) Mistakes were made.
B) Errors have been made.
C) We made a serious mistake, and we apologise.
D) A serious mistake was made.

9. Complete the process description: First, the grapes ___ and crushed.
A) are picked **B)** are picking
C) picked **D)** have picked

10. “Our new app is very popular. ___ by students and teachers.” Choose the best continuation.
A) It is mainly used **B)** They mainly use it
C) Mainly it uses **D)** It mainly uses

11. Why is the passive a good choice in “The village hall was built in 1920 and has been used for weddings ever since”?
A) It keeps the same subject (the hall) through the sentence.
B) It hides who is responsible.
C) It makes the sentence shorter.
D) It is more polite.

12. Which sentence has the same meaning and keeps the topic first? “Millions of people watched the final.” (topic: the final)
A) The final has watched by millions of people.
B) The final watched millions of people.
C) Millions of people were watched by the final.
D) The final was watched by millions of people.

13. Which sentence uses the passive with no good reason?
A) The results were checked twice.
B) The novel was translated into ten languages.
C) The road was closed after the accident.
D) A lovely time was had by us at the beach.

14. Complete the paragraph: “House prices rose by 10% last year. ___ was mostly caused by low interest rates.”
A) Prices increase **B)** This increase
C) It increased **D)** Who

15. My wallet ___ on the bus yesterday. I have no idea who took it.
A) was stealing **B)** has been stealing
C) stole **D)** was stolen

Finished? Your score and the answer key with explanations:
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