

La voz pasiva

Active construction emphasize the person or thing that carries out an action. In contrast, passive constructions emphasize the action itself, rather than the agent. The passive voice states that a subject is *receiving* the action, rather than *doing* the action.

Spanish has two ways that express passive actions: the passive voice (*la voz pasiva*) and passive constructions with **se** (*voz pasiva con se*).

Los aztecas **fundaron** Tenochtitlán. (active voice)

Tenochtitlan **fue fundada** por los aztecas. (passive voice)

¿Sabes en qué año **se fundó** Tenochtitlan? (passive voice with se)

Voz pasiva con ser y estar

| ser + participio pasado (por) (emphasis on action) | estar + participio pasado (emphasis on condition) |
|--|--|
| Fue escrito por Pablo Neruda. <i>It was written by Pable Neruda.</i> Not describing it as being written, but instead focusing on who wrote it. | La casa está pintada. <i>The house is painted.</i> Describing the condition or state of the house. |
| Las casas son construidas (por los carpinteros). <i>The houses get built (by the carpenters.)</i> | Las casas están construidas con madera. <i>The houses are built with wood.</i> |
| El problema ha sido resuelto (por los estudiantes) <i>The problem has been solved. (by the students).</i> | El problema está resuelto. <i>The problem is solved.</i> |

Los participios pasados son ADJETIVOS y necesitan tener concordancia en número y género.

La casa **está pintada**.

The house is painted.

Hemos pintado la casa. (NO es un adjetivo.)

We have painted the house.

Voz activa:

Yo pinté la casa.

Voz pasiva.

La casa fue pintada por mí. (The house was painted by me.)

La casa está pintada. (The house is painted.)

Se pinta la casa. (The house is painted.)