

17 Passive Voice

Practice Run *Change these sentences around so that the highlighted element is the one the new sentence focuses on.*

1. Our children can't have taken the rubbish to the dump.	The rubbish can't have been taken to the dump by our children.
2. Somebody broke into the house last summer.	The house was broken into last summer.
3. You need to get someone to paint the front of the house .	The front of the house needs painting.
4. The government gave the banks a loan of 50 billion.	The banks were given a loan of 50 billion (by the government).
5. The government gave the banks a loan of 50 billion .	A loan of 50 billion was given to the banks (by the government)
6. Everbody loves Lucy .	Lucy is loved (by everybody/ well-loved)
7. Somebody has been telling him about the affair.	He has been (being) told about the affair.
8. We will inform you as soon as we have the goods in th shop.	You will be informed as soon as the goods have been delivered to our shop.
9. Nobody had passed the information on to John.	The information had not been passed on to John.
10. We really should inform the parents of this development.	The parents (need to be) should have been informed of this development.
11. As every year somebody stole his bike. (he)	As every year he had his bike stolen.
12. We or someone around here has lost your order . (formal and informal)	Your order has been lost. (formal) Your order has got lost. (informal)
13. These stupid lies fool nobody .	Nobody is fooled by these stupid lies.
14. It seems that someone have left a script behind in my office.	A script has been/got left behind in my office.
15. My grandmother got someone in and he fixed the boiler.	My grandmother had the boiler fixed.
16. The constant bickering of her flatmates annoys her more by the day.	She gets more annoyed by the day by the constant bickering of her flatmates