

Practising the active and passive voice

Exercise A: Change the following passive sentences to active

1. The plane was flown by an experienced pilot.
2. The flowers were picked by the children.
3. The car was crashed by me.
4. The new law has been passed by the politicians.
5. The apartment was cleaned by Christopher.
6. The oil spill was caused by negligence.

Exercise B: Change the following active sentences to passive

1. We conducted the experiment in a controlled environment.
2. Heather filed the law suit in August.
3. I wrote the book three years ago.
4. I have marked the essays.
5. Omar picked the children up from school.
6. Jane stacked the boxes in the front room.



Answers

Exercise A

1. An experienced pilot flew the plane.
2. The children picked the flowers.
3. I crashed the car.
4. The politicians have passed the new law.
5. Christopher cleaned the apartment.
6. Negligence caused the oil spill.

Exercise B

Since passive voice doesn't require the 'doer' in the sentence, it is optional and is therefore in square brackets.

1. The experiment was conducted [by us] in a controlled environment.
2. The law suit was filed in August [by Heather].
3. The book was written three years ago [by me].
4. The essays have been marked [by me].
5. The children were picked up from school [by Omar].
6. The boxes were stacked in the front room [by Jane].