

## Year 2 Term 3 Week 2 Day 1

### Grammar: Verbs: The Passive Voice

*Latin Without Tears* gives up on grammar after page 244 and concludes with some lines selected at random from *Aesop's Fables* and an interlinear selection from the Vulgate translation of the Gospel of John. Perhaps this is as far as Mrs Mortimer's little boys ever got with her in Latin grammar. She was quite an old lady by the time she finished writing the book and the last few pages of grammar do seem to have been put together rather hastily. However, for IGCSE we still have to tackle verbs in the passive voice and the related subject of deponent verbs.

Fortunately this is not as difficult as it seems. The passive form of verbs is simply that where the action is done **to** the subject rather than **by** the subject as in the active voice. Compare for instance:

**The boy hit the ball.**      Subject “the boy” **active** verb “hit”      object “the ball”  
and  
**The ball was hit.**      Subject “the ball” **passive** verb “was hit”

That is really all there is to it.

Passive verbs are not difficult to recognise in Latin. Especially easy are the third person singular and plural (he/she/it/they) forms in the present, imperfect and future simple. They are the same as the active voice (which you know already) but with *ur* added to the end of the word. For instance

<i>amatur</i>	“He is loved”
<i>amabatur</i>	“He was (being) loved”
<i>amabitur</i>	“He will be loved”
<i>amantur</i>	“They are loved”
<i>amabantur</i>	“They were (being) loved”
<i>amabuntur</i>	“They will be loved”
<i>monetur</i>	“he is advised”
<i>regitur</i>	“He is ruled”
<i>auditur</i>	“he is heard”

For this lesson do not learn any new chants simply learn to recognise this *ur* ending and translate it.

Bible examples:

*Caeci visum recipiunt, et claudi ambulant, leprosi mundantur, et surdi audiunt, mortui suscitantur, et pauperibus evangelizatur* Matthew 11:5

*Caeci* “blind” *claudi* “lame” *mundare* “to clean/cleanse” *surdi* “deaf” *suscitare* “to awaken/stir up”  
*pauperibus* (dative plural) *evangelizare* “to preach the gospel.”

This verse illustrates the difference between active verbs such as *recipiunt, ambulant, and audiunt*, and passive verbs such as *mundantur, suscitantur, evangelizatur* very well.

*dixit eis Jesus, Futurum est ut Filius hominis tradatur in manus hominum; Et trucidabunt eum; sed tertio die suscitabitur.* Matthew 17:22b-24a

Notice the (determinative) pronouns *eis* and *eum*. We learned about these in last week's grammar lesson (Term 3 Week 1 Day 3) and the table listing them is found on p. 244 of *Latin Without Tears*. *Futurum est* “it will be.” Notice *hominis* and *hominum* and consider how to translate them. *Trādere* “to hand over” *trucidāre* “to kill in a cruel way/slaughter”.

Check today's lesson for any new words that are in the IGCSE vocabulary and add them to your notebook in the usual way.