

What are Passive Voice with Modal Verbs?

Worksheet

Passive with modals is formed as 'modal + be + past participle' (e.g. 'The report must be submitted by Friday'). It expresses what must/can/should happen to the object, emphasizing the action's requirement or possibility.

Questions

1. Passive with modal: 'The meeting could be rescheduled'— which modal?

- A) could
- B) must
- C) should
- D) will

2. Active: 'You should follow the guidelines.' Passive is:

- A) Guidelines should be follow.
- B) The guidelines should be followed.
- C) Following should be the guidelines.
- D) You should be following guidelines.

3. 'Research must be conducted ethically.' Modal here means:

- A) permission
- B) necessity/obligation
- C) ability
- D) suggestion

4. Which is correct passive with modal?

- A) The email could write by her.
- B) The email could be written by her.
- C) The email could written.
- D) She could write the email passive.

5. Active: Students must complete the homework by Friday.

6. Active: The company can expand to three countries.

7. Active: We should discuss the proposal.

8. Define: Passive voice with modals structure?

9. Define: When to use passive with modals?

10. Define: Example with 'can'?

Answer Key

1. A) could — 'Could be' forms the passive with modal 'could', expressing possibility.
2. B) The guidelines should be followed. — Passive: modal (should) + be + past participle (followed).
3. B) necessity/obligation — 'Must' expresses obligation — research is required to meet the standard.
4. B) The email could be written by her. — Modal (could) + be + past participle (written).
5. Shift focus to the homework (object), not students (doer). Modal: must Passive form: 'be + past participle' (completed) Result: The homework must be completed by Friday. Note: 'by Friday' now emphasizes the deadline for the task itself.
6. Modal: can (possibility) Active emphasizes the company's ability. Passive emphasizes the expansion. Passive: Three countries can be expanded to by the company. Or (more natural, omitting agent): The expansion can be completed in three countries.
7. Modal: should (advice) Passive: The proposal should be discussed. Usage: In formal meetings, 'The proposal should be discussed by next week' is more formal than 'We should discuss...'
8. Modal + be + past participle. Example: The document must be signed.
9. To express obligation, necessity, possibility, or permission on the action itself, rather than the doer. Common in formal/academic writing.
10. Active: 'You can download the file.' Passive: 'The file can be downloaded.'

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